## Fall 2017

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 11:00-11:50 in CCC 330

# **Syllabus**

# SOC 301 sec 6 subtitle Sociology of Mental Health

#### **Course Description and Expectations**

This class will introduce students to the sociology of mental health and illness. The sociology of mental health and illness focuses on collective behavior that is attributed to the general organization of society. In this class we will:

- (1) define and discuss the problem of mental disorders from a sociological perspective,
- (2) become familiar with the major issues and research findings in the sociological literature on mental disorders,
- (3) develop an understanding of underlying sociological theories and conceptual models that help to explain the social factors associated with mental disorders,
- (4) explore the patients' perspectives of mental illness -- a perspective typically ignored in the professional literature, and
- (5) examine organizations and community resources available to the mentally ill and their families.

This is a blended class, which means some of the class will require students to complete class work online instead of in a traditional classroom. This includes but is not limited to videos, assignments, discussions, and exams. All out of class activities and assignments will be submitted on D2L. I will not accept any assignments completed outside of class in any other form (no paper or e-mail submissions). Approximately one-third of the course is online.

# Writing Emphasis (GDR) and Communication in the Major Class (GEP)

This is a writing emphasis class and a communication in the major course—thus instruction on writing and presenting in Sociology (both academic and applied) will be incorporated in all aspects of the course. Specifically, we will discuss the kinds of writing done in scholarly journals and research reports in the area of sociology of mental health. Students will be placed in peer editing groups early in the semester. The peer editing group members will work together to assist with general writing improvement. We will spend a substantial amount of time discussing the role of peer editors early in the semester. Please note that while peer editing will be used in this class, I am also willing to work with each student on his or her writing and will give written feedback for all major written and oral assignments.

Students will present their work and ideas to their classmates. Upon completing this class, students will be able to:

- Apply discipline-specific standards of oral and written communication to compose an articulate, grammatically correct, and organized presentation/piece of writing with properly documented and supported ideas, evidence, and information suitable to the topic, purpose, and audience.
- Critique their own and others' writing/oral presentations to provide effective and useful feedback to improve their communication.



### **Student Engagement Expectation**

Attend Class: Due to the active role students play in this course, regular attendance is strongly encouraged. While attendance may not be checked daily, excessive absences will negatively impact your final grade. There will be random attendance days where points will be given. Students who are not in class will not receive these points. Students are responsible for all information and assignments missed during their absences—including announcements concerning any changes in the course schedule.

Complete Assigned Reading: Students are expected to have completed the assigned readings prior to coming to class. Come to class prepared to ask questions and to discuss the readings for the day.

Participate: Student engagement is directly linked to success in the classroom, and when you are engaged in the classroom, you become a full participant in what you're learning. A large portion of this class will be devoted to discussion and group activity. Students are expected to contribute their viewpoints regarding assigned readings and topics during class discussion.

#### Dorothy R. De Boer, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology

**Department of Sociology & Social Work** 

**Criminal Justice Coordinator** 

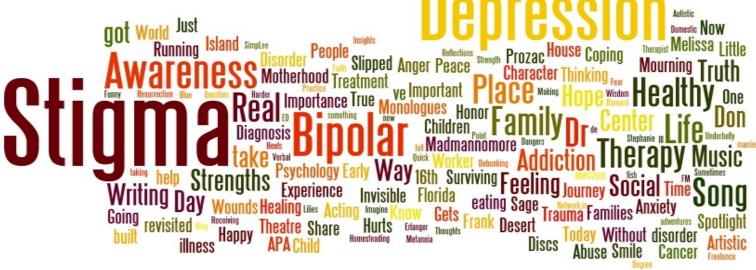
Office: 450 Collins Classroom Center

E-mail: ddeboer@uwsp.edu

## Office Hours

10:00 am-10:50 am Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday or by appointment

Each student is strongly encouraged to meet with me individually at least once during the semester to discuss their status in the class, review notes, and address questions, etc. In addition to regular scheduled office hours, students are also welcome to make appointments for other times. Occasionally, I may have to cancel office hours, and I will make every effort to announce this in class. If I cannot make it in on a day when I have a scheduled appointment I will make every effort to call you so that we can reschedule. It is, therefore, important that you give me your current phone number when making appointments, especially if it differs from what is listed in the student directory.



E-mail Policy: E-Mail is an excellent resource and I welcome students to use e-mail to ask questions regarding class material or for clarification of assignments. I will try to respond to your email as soon as I can; however, students should be aware that I do not necessarily check my e-mail every day, and thus there is no guarantee that I will respond in a timely fashion. If you have a question or concern in need of an immediate response you should call my office and/or come to office hours. In addition, please be advised that I will **NOT** discuss your grades via e-mail and any questions of this nature must be discussed with me during my office hours. I DO NOT ACCEPT class assignments (paper, exams, etc.) through e-mail. Rather, they are to be turned in during class or put in the appropriate D2L drop box. If a student misses a handout they should go to D2L or come to my office to collect one. If a student misses a class lecture, they should get the notes from a classmate; if they are unable to do so, they can come to my office hours and look at my notes. I will not make copies of my notes for students nor will I e-mail students copies of my notes.

#### **Grades**

Letter grades will be assigned based on the percentage of the possible points that are earned. The point system may be revised. Bring your syllabus and reading schedule to class so you can note any changes.

Grade	Percent
Α	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
В	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
С	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	60-66
F	59 & below

**Student Folders**: I will keep an individual file folder for each student in this class. At any point you are welcome to come and pick up the items collected in your folder (assignments, quizzes, or exams you did not pick up). I will bring these folders to class prior to finals week to be sure that everyone has had an opportunity to pick up all assignments. These folders will be kept in my office until the second week of the following semester. After that point, anything not picked up will be recycled. If there are items you want back but are unable to pick up before this deadline, you must call me and let me know that you want me to save your materials to be picked up at a lat-

## **Student Rights and Responsibilities**

This class will adhere to all guidelines established in the UWSP Community Rights and Responsibilities. If you are not fully aware of these rights and responsibilities please see the Student Rights and Responsibilities available in PDF format at http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx, specifically you may wish to examine Chapter 14—Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures .



Cell Phones and all other devices (tablets, laptops, etc.) are to be off or silenced during class. Please be sure these devices are put away out of view during class; there is no text messaging, web browsing, etc., during class.

**Quizzes:** (100 points) Up to four quizzes may be given in class or online. Except for documented emergencies, no make up quizzes will be given.

**Exams:** (200 points) Two exams, a midterm and a final, will be given during the semester. Each of these exams is worth 100 points. The exams will cover information from class lectures, audiovisual materials, and the readings indicated on the class D2L calendar. You are responsible for all readings even if they are not discussed specifically in class. Both exams will be online in the D2L quiz area.

The midterm will be available in D2L quiz section by **9 AM Monday 10/23** and closes at Friday **10/27 at 9 PM**. The final exam will be available in the D2L quiz area by **9 AM 12/18** and closes Thursday **12/21 at 9 PM**.

**Collaborative Contribution**: (50-150 points) There will be several individual and group in-class assignments given. These assignments will be completed in class. Students not in class on these days will not receive these points.

**Blended Class Expectations & Essays**: (100-160 points) There will be eight blended classes. Each blended class will require students to complete work online instead of in the classroom. All blended class expectations are posted by 9 AM on the day of the blended class. The D2L class calendar will list all blended classes.

**Panel Presentation:** (50 points) each students will be part of a panel presentation near the end of the semester. Much of the semester work will assist student in preparing for this end of the semester presentation.