

# Unit Outline (Higher Education)

**Institute / School:** Institute of Education, Arts & Community

**Unit Title:** Sociology of Health and Illness

**Unit ID:** SOCIO2200

**Credit Points:** 15.00

**Prerequisite(s):** (BAXDC1003 or SOCIO1001 or SOSCI1002)

**Co-requisite(s):** Nil

**Exclusion(s):** (SOCIO3200)

**ASCED:** 090301

**Description of the Unit:**

Health and illness are culturally salient topics, both within Australia and globally. This course provides a sociological perspective on how the experience of health and illness are culturally constructed. In doing so, it will explore a range of issues relevant to understanding health and illness including the construction of medicine as a social institution, the cultural conditions that shape health and illness regionally and globally. This course will also examine the social patterning of health and illness including political and economic constraints, lay and expert health knowledge, the monitoring and surveillance of health and illness and the role of new technologies in health and health care.

**Grade Scheme:** Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

**Work Experience:**

No work experience

**Placement Component:** No

**Supplementary Assessment:** Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment

**Course Level:**

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	✓	■	■	■
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

### Learning Outcomes:

#### Knowledge:

- K1.** Appraise an array of issues in the sociology of health and illness at an intermediate level
- K2.** Examine how health and illness are culturally constructed
- K3.** Appraise the conceptual and theoretical frameworks for understanding the social structure of determinants of health and illness at an intermediate level.

#### Skills:

- S1.** Summarise, review and contextualise personal experiences of health and illness
- S2.** Critique at an intermediate level relevant key approaches, issues and debates regarding the nature and production of health and illness in contemporary societies
- S3.** Summarise key themes, theories and debate relevant to the sociology of health and illness.

#### Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply critical thinking skills to key debates regarding health and illness
- A2.** Utilise sociological theories to analyse health and illness in contemporary society
- A3.** Identify links and tensions between issues, debates, concepts and perspectives relating to health and illness.

#### Unit Content:

Topics may include:

Topics may include:

- Defining health, illness and disease
- Theoretical approaches the health and illness
- Contemporary medicine
- Diagnosis and medicalization
- Health, individualization and risk
- Inequality and health
- Gender and health
- Health and the market
- Mental health
- Place and health
- Politics, power and health
- New technologies and health
- Addiction and substance abuse.

#### FEDTASKS

Federation University Federation recognises that students require key transferable employability skills to prepare them for their future workplace and society. FEDTASKS (**T**ransferable **A**tttributes **S**kills and **K**nowledge)

provide a targeted focus on five key transferable Attributes, Skills, and Knowledge that are embedded within curriculum, developed gradually towards successful measures and interlinked with cross-discipline and Co-operative Learning opportunities. *One or more FEDTASK, transferable Attributes, Skills or Knowledge must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni Unit, and all must be directly assessed in each Course.*

FEDTASK attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of FEDTASKS in the Unit	
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
FEDTASK 1 Interpersonal	Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate, inter-act and work with others both individually and in groups. Students will be required to display skills in-person and/or online in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using effective verbal and non-verbal communication</li> <li>Listening for meaning and influencing via active listening</li> <li>Showing empathy for others</li> <li>Negotiating and demonstrating conflict resolution skills</li> <li>Working respectfully in cross-cultural and diverse teams.</li> </ul>	S1	Not applicable
FEDTASK 2 Leadership	Students will demonstrate the ability to apply professional skills and behaviours in leading others. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating a collegial environment</li> <li>Showing self-awareness and the ability to self-reflect</li> <li>Inspiring and convincing others</li> <li>Making informed decisions</li> <li>Displaying initiative</li> </ul>	S1	Not applicable
FEDTASK 3 Critical Thinking and Creativity	Students will demonstrate an ability to work in complexity and ambiguity using the imagination to create new ideas. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflecting critically</li> <li>Evaluating ideas, concepts and information</li> <li>Considering alternative perspectives to refine ideas</li> <li>Challenging conventional thinking to clarify concepts</li> <li>Forming creative solutions in problem solving.</li> </ul>	K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
FEDTASK 4 Digital Literacy	Students will demonstrate the ability to work fluently across a range of tools, platforms and applications to achieve a range of tasks. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finding, evaluating, managing, curating, organising and sharing digital information</li> <li>Collating, managing, accessing and using digital data securely</li> <li>Receiving and responding to messages in a range of digital media</li> <li>Contributing actively to digital teams and working groups</li> <li>Participating in and benefiting from digital learning opportunities.</li> </ul>	K1	AT1, AT2, AT3

FEDTASK attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of FEDTASKS in the Unit	
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
FEDTASK 5 Sustainable and Ethical Mindset	Students will demonstrate the ability to consider and assess the consequences and impact of ideas and actions in enacting ethical and sustainable decisions. Students will be required to display skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making informed judgments that consider the impact of devising solutions in global economic environmental and societal contexts</li> <li>• Committing to social responsibility as a professional and a citizen</li> <li>• Evaluating ethical, socially responsible and/or sustainable challenges and generating and articulating responses</li> <li>• Embracing lifelong, life-wide and life-deep learning to be open to diverse others</li> <li>• Implementing required actions to foster sustainability in their professional and personal life.</li> </ul>	S2, A1, A2, A3	Not applicable

### Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K3, S1, S2, A1	Research and writing skills, construction of an informed and substantiated argument, using relevant evidence.	Critical review	20-30%
K1, K2, K3, S2, S3, A1, A2	Student develop skills in independent research and analysis of key resources and the construction of an informed and substantiated argument.	Research essay	30-40%
K1, K2, K3, S2, S3, A3	Examination tests understanding of the course content and includes essay style answers and writing techniques.	Intermediate level exam	30-40%

### Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)