INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Cecilia Benoit

Mondays and Thursdays from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Classroom: Comett A317
Instructor: Dr. Cecilia Benoit
Email: cbenoit@uvic.ca
Office phone: (250) 853-3132

Course Description and Objectives
Health equity encompasses concepts of social justice such as fairness, equity and human rights. Health inequities are considered unjust because they reflect an unfair distribution of the social determinants of health across social groups. In this seminar, we will learn to think critically about the fundamental causes of health inequities in Canada and internationally, assess research frameworks and methodologies for studying major health issues through an equity lens, and evaluate various policies and practices for reducing health inequities.

Skills Development
This course aims to increase students’ understanding of the root causes of health inequities and their ability to critically assess the effectiveness of various policies and interventions aimed at reducing inequalities in health and health care.

Course Organization & Requirements
This is a seminar course which involves careful reading of the required articles/chapters (posted on CourseSpaces) and class discussion of the issues/concerns raised by these materials. Each student is expected to study all of the required readings before the weekly seminar and come to class prepared to discuss them. In addition, each student will be required to prepare a short type-written weekly critical assessment of one of the weekly required readings and present it in class.

Evaluation
1. Ten type-written critical commentaries (10 x 5% = 50%)
2. Term paper outline (20%)
3. Term paper (30%)

Course Pre-requisites
Minimum third-year standing; declared Honours or Major in Sociology; or permission of the Department. Recommendation(s): SOCI 285 and one of SOCI 345 or SOCI 385 recommended prior to taking SOCI 432

* A more detailed course outline will be distributed to students during the first week of classes.