SOCI 545 - Current Issues in the Sociology of Health and Aging: Inequalities in Health and Health Care (Fall, 2018 – CRN 12965)

Note: This course is also cross-listed with SOCI 432 – Issues in Health and Aging: Inequalities in Health and Health Care

Wednesdays: 4:30 p.m. - 7:20 p.m.
Classroom: Cornett A317
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Course Description and Objectives
Health equity encompasses concepts of social justice such as fairness, equality 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 critically assess the fundamental causes of health inequities in Canada and, to some extent 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 that 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 complete all of the required readings before the weekly seminar, prepare a brief type-written critical assessment of them, and come to class prepared to discuss them. Students will be asked to co-lead discussion of selected readings in class. Additional requirements include preparation and presentation of a term paper.

* This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.