MH903-20 Social Determinants of Health

26/27

Department
Warwick Medical School
Level
Taught Postgraduate Level
Module leader
Rebecca Johnson
Credit value
20
Module duration
11 weeks
Assessment
100% coursework
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

Income, education, poverty, social class, ethnicity, neighbourhood/built environment, gender and disability are key social influences on the health, and the key influencers of health inequalities. This five-day module explores these aspects through a mixture of lectures and discussion.

Module web page

Module aims

The module aims to give students a thorough theoretical grounding in the sociology of health and illness and health policy through analysis of concepts of health and illness, and debates concerning the social determinants of health inequality.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Indicative Content for this module may include:

1. Introduction to sociological perspective in health
2. Social patterns of health and inequalities
3. Social epidemiological theories: Introduction to the social production of disease, lifecourse, psychosocial, and ecosocial theories
4. Health inequalities and inequities: smoking, alcohol use, physical activity and inequalities in chronic diseases risk
5. Poverty, income, and health
6. Neighbourhood and health: impact of the built environment on physical activity and sedentary lifestyle
7. Addressing inequalities in education: parallels with health
8. The housing crisis and health
9. Disability and social exclusion
10. Social determinants of ethnic/racial inequalities in health
11. Gender inequalities in health and wellbeing
12. Digital exclusion

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of the current debate on the principal determinants of health and health inequalities
- Demonstrate an advanced and critical understanding of sociological concepts of health and illness
- Demonstrate an ability to use critical appraisal skills
- Demonstrate an ability to evaluate and use different sources of evidence appropriately
- Demonstrate an ability to use different communication methods (visual and written) to clearly explain complex ideas

Indicative reading list

Reading lists can be found in Talis

Subject specific skills

Sound understanding of subject,
Critically evaluate,
Reflection.

Transferable skills

Numeracy,
Thinking and problem solving,
written communication,
oral communication,

Teamwork,
Organisation & time management,
Use of tools and technology,
Commercial awareness,
Independence and initiative,
Adaptability/Flexibility.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	15 sessions of 1 hour (8%)
Seminars	15 sessions of 1 hour (8%)
Private study	70 hours (35%)
Assessment	100 hours (50%)
Total	200 hours

Private study description

To support extended and in-depth knowledge and understanding of the Learning Outcomes of the module.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group A3

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Academic Poster - Digital Submission	30%	30 hours	Yes (extension)

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Component 1: Academic poster - digital submission. Design an academic poster communicating a current debate on a principal social determinant of health and health inequalities.			
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Assignment (2000 words)	70%	70 hours	Yes (extension)
Component 2: Essay. Using a relevant theoretical framework, critically discuss the equity implications of policies/strategies in a chosen population to address a public health problem.			
Reassessment component is the same			

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback with the availability of face-to-face personalised feedback if requested.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TMHS-B923 Postgraduate Award in Sociology of Health, Health Policy and the Social Determinants of Health
- TMDS-B9C2 Postgraduate Taught Health Research
  - Year 1 of B902 Public Health
  - Year 1 of B902 Public Health
- TMHS-B902 Public Health
  - Year 1 of B902 Public Health
  - Year 1 of B902 Public Health

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 1 of TMDS-B9C2 Postgraduate Taught Health Research

- Year 1 of TMHS-B902 Public Health