Sociology 426: Gender & Mental Health
Winter Term 2018

REQUIRED TEXT
1. Terrence Real: I Don’t Want to Talk About It
2. Roxy Gay: Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body

SUGGESTED READINGS
1. Anne Rogers & David Pilgrim: A Sociology of Mental Health and Illness
2. Michel Foucault: Madness and Civilization: A History of Insanity in the Age of Reason
3. Erving Goffman: Asylums: Essays on the Social Situation of Mental Patients and Other Inmates

COURSE OBJECTIVES
“Madness is the false punishment of a false solution, but by its own virtue it brings to light the real problem, which can then be truly resolved.” --M. Foucault, 1988

1. Understand sociological approaches to mental health and illness
2. Become familiar with dialectic history of “mental illness” and its treatment
3. Evaluate the origins and consequences of social policies toward mental health
4. Develop a critical framework to evaluate the relationship between power and definitions of “mental illness”
5. Learn how to situate the self in the historical and cultural contexts in which it is constructed

REQUIRED WORK
1. Exams: There will be two 50-point exams: one midterm and a final exam. You need to bring a Scantron 882 form, a number 2 pencil and a yellow highlighter to take exams. The test format will include multiple choice and short answers (no blue book required). 100 total points

2. Research Paper: Case Study & GENOGRAM: Students will be responsible two, 3-page research paper (See “Requirements for all Writing Assignments” for guidelines). Specifics for this writing assignment will be handed out in class on a later date. 50 total points (25 points each)

3. Pop-Quizzes: throughout the course there will be quizzes covering assigned reading and in-class material. Each quiz is worth 10 points. You will be allowed to drop the lowest score. Be sure to do the readings prior to lecture, as quizzes may cover those materials. You cannot make up missed quizzes—that is why only five count towards your grade. 50 total points

Grading Scale (total of 200 points)

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COURSE OUTLINE
All required work and readings are posted on the class D2L page. If assigned readings are not from one of the required books, then students may click on the article title to download a PDF file for that reading. Please use one of the PSU computer labs to print online readings if you do not have a personal computer or printer.

IMPORTANT DUE DATES (dues dates are subject to change. Changes will be posted on D2L)
- NO CLASS: MLK Day 1/15/18
- Midterm: 2/9/18
- First Research paper: 2/19/18
- Second Research Paper: 3/12/18
- Final: 3/19/18

(Please note: The final is on Tuesday from 12:30 to 2:20)

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PAPERS
All written assignments must be typed in 12-point font, double-spaced, using one inch margins on all sides. Each paper should only have your name, the date, and the title of the assignment (this should be single-spaced at the top left-hand corner of the paper). The actual assignment should begin after this information with one space between. Each assignment has a minimum page length requirement. If papers are not formatted as specified, you will lose points. Example below:

(Example of Formatting)
Matthew J. Geraths
1/30/16
My Genogram: How History, Culture, and Intergenerational Legacy Shape my Family

My thesis is …

Through out the night, I found myself feeling uncomfortable with the way people looked at me…

In conclusion …

Late Work
I do not accept late papers. You need to bring a hard copy to class for full credit; emailed papers will be considered late.

Title IX Reporting Obligations
As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment for my students and for the campus as a whole. We expect a culture of professionalism and mutual respect in our department and class. You may report any incident of discrimination or discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, to either the Office of Equity and Compliance or the Office of the Dean of Student Life.

Please be aware that as a faculty member, I have the responsibility to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. If you would rather share information about sexual harassment or sexual violence to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of those individuals. For more information about Title IX please complete the required student module Creating a Safe Campus in your D2L.