

University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology

077:366 Sociology of Mental Disorder

LO1 Term 2: January 3 – April 6, 2006, 3 credit hours
(Tues/Thurs: 2:30-3:45 p.m. in Room 215 Tier)

Instructor: Mary-Anne Kandrack
Phone: 474-9665

Office: 334 Isbister Building
Office hours: Tues/Thurs 10:00-11:00

Objectives of the course:

This course examines the social processes involved in becoming and being mentally ill. Topics such as gender and mental disorder, images of madness, and decision-making rules in the psy-professions will be considered.

Required text:

Busfield, Joan. Men, Women and Madness: Understanding Gender and Mental Disorder, New York University Press, New York: 1996.

Course requirements:

The final grade for the course will be based on three (3) equally weighted requirements:

- 1) In-class test (1/3 of final grade): Thursday, February 9/06
- 2) Take home assignment (1/3 of final grade): due Thursday, March 23/06
- 3) Take home exam (1/3 of final grade): due April 13/06 by 4:30 pm.

Study questions for the in-class test and take home exam will be distributed in advance. The take home assignment will be detailed in a separate handout. **Late submissions will be penalized 5 points per day including weekends.**

*The course requirements will be based on the readings, lectures and class discussions. Students are expected to attend class and to complete the readings in advance of the lectures so that any problems, concerns or issues can be raised for discussion in class. Participation in class discussion is both welcomed and encouraged.

Students should familiarize themselves with the regulations regarding academic integrity, as plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Please familiarize yourself with the policies in Section 7 on page 27-28 of the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar 2005-06.

The voluntary withdrawal date for second term half courses is **Friday, March 17, 2006.**

Grade distribution:

A+ 90-100	B+ 75-84	C+ 65-69	D 50-59
A 85-89	B 70-74	C 60-64	F <50

Class Schedule:

This is a tentative class schedule and may be modified as we proceed. Our progress through the course materials will be monitored to determine whether any changes are appropriate.

January 3: Introduction and overview of the course

January 10 – February 7:

The first section of the course examines issues that are critical to a Sociology of Mental Disorder including the role of social factors in the construction and 'diagnosis' of mental illness, the methods used to study mental disorders and the social control of deviance.

Readings: Busfield, Men, Women and Madness, Introduction and Part I.

Thursday, February 9: In-class test (1/3 of final grade)

February 13–17 Mid-term break: no classes

February 21 – April 6:

The second section of the course engages a focused analysis of the various accounts of the origins of mental disorder, including for example, biological explanations, feminist psychologies and socio-political processes. These attempts to 'explain' mental disorder will be scrutinized in relation to the regulation of normality.

Readings: Busfield, Men, Women and Madness, Part II.

Thursday, March 23: Take-home assignment (1/3 final grade): due in class

Take home Exam (1/3 of final grade): due by 4:30 p.m. April 13 in my office or at Sociology dept.