

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: CONTEMPORARY HEALTH CARE ISSUES
Status: Definitive
Code: **4503EDSP** (116164)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2016

Owning School/Faculty: Education
Teaching School/Faculty: St Helens College

Team	Leader
Mark Meadows	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ4
Credit Value: 24
Total Delivered Hours: 62
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 178

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	36
Tutorial	16
Workshop	10

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Test	AS1	Structured Data Response exercise	20	
Presentation	AS2	Presentation with a supporting paper, research and planning materials	30	
Essay	AS3	2500 word essay	50	

Aims

To develop a critical understanding of the historical, ideological and political underpinnings of the modern health service and a range of contemporary issues relating to health care.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Critically explore the emergence of bio-medicine as the dominant Western medical approach and challenges to it.
- 2 Critically explore society's response to mental illness taking into account the historical, social, ideological and legislative context.
- 3 Demonstrate an understanding of the origins of the NHS and an evaluation of whether its original aims can be realized, in the light of competing political ideologies and priorities, current policy and changing health initiatives.
- 4 Analyse the evidence for and reasons why inequalities persist in relation to health outcomes.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Data response	1	
Presentation	2	
2500 word essay	3	4

Outline Syllabus

An analysis of why bio-medicine emerged as the dominant Western medical approach, and how its continuation has been challenged by the increase in alternative therapies, medical negligence, litigation and the concept of clinical autonomy; concerns regarding iatrogenic disease; discourses around power and influence of pharmaceutical organizations & medical professionals. The rationale for the implementation of the NHS to the current political, economic and ideological issues concerning its future. Inequalities and problems regarding health care and issues around differential life chances relating to social class, ethnicity & gender. Mental illness in society and the issues that have informed our understanding of it, including historical context, changing forms of treatment and policy.

Learning Activities

Lectures & seminars; group workshop activities; tutorials.

Notes

This module will allow students to trace the emergence and consolidation of bio-

medicine and to contextualize its current dominance as the rational approach to medicine in western societies. There will also be an analysis of mental illness in society: historical themes around treatment and understand will be considered, as well as more contemporary themes regarding society's response to it. Building on this premise, an exploration of the implementation of the modern health system will be reviewed considering the rationale for its introduction, the original principles that underpinned it and the current political, economic, ideological and demographic factors which inform present day practice and policy. Within this, the extent of structural inequality will be analyzed, in terms of health outcomes relating to social class, gender, ethnicity and geographical location.