

<b>Faculty</b>	Arts and Humanities
<b>Home Department</b>	Sociology
<b>Module Topic</b>	Sociology of Health and Technology
<b>Generic Module Name</b>	Sociology 324
<b>Alpha-numeric Code</b>	<b>SOC324</b>
<b>NQF Level</b>	7
<b>NQF Credit Value</b>	20
<b>Duration</b>	Semester
<b>Proposed semester to be offered.</b>	Second Semester
<b>Programmes in which the module will be offered.</b>	BA (2101); BA Extended (2612), B Comm Dev (8415), BTh (2013), BLIS (2201)
<b>Year Level</b>	3
<b>Main Outcomes</b>	<p>On completion of this module students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critically analyse different sociological perspectives of health and health care models.</li> <li>• Reflect on the relationship between the sociological context of healthcare and its impact on wellbeing and the social construction of illness.</li> <li>• Apply sociological thinking to understand the distribution of diseases and illnesses across sociological categories such as class, ethnicity, gender and sexuality.</li> <li>• Evaluate theoretical frameworks of technology to probe the medicalization of society and its impact on health and disease.</li> <li>• Explore the connections between information technologies and the social construction of health, disease and related social movements.</li> <li>• Examine the relationship between bio-technologies and bio-politics in the context of epidemics and pandemics</li> </ul>
<b>Main Content</b>	<p>Specific topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biomedical, bio-social-psychological and social construction perspectives on health and illness.</li> <li>• The political economy of health care, social construction and distribution of health and illness across class, ethnicity, gender and sexuality.</li> <li>• Technological determinism, cultural materialism and critical theory of technology frameworks, role of pharmaceutical conglomerates, advances in bio-medical technologies and democratising access to health care.</li> <li>• Virtual communities and health care support groups, social network sites and internet self-diagnoses and its impact on health.</li> <li>• Bio-technologies and vaccines, state regulation and mandatory medical interventions, democratising health care, civic responsibility and constitutional rights.</li> <li>• The effects of technology on the social construct and practice of healthcare and its impact on the reconfiguration of human bodies.</li> <li>• The connections between technoscientific identities and embodied health movements.</li> <li>• The relationship between medical technology and the process of policy-making.</li> </ul>
<b>Pre-requisite modules</b>	SOC234
<b>Co-requisite modules</b>	None
<b>Prohibited module</b>	None

<b>Combination</b>				
<b>Breakdown of Learning Time</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Timetable Requirement per week</b>		<b>Other teaching modes that does not require time-table</b>
<i>Contact with lecturer / tutor:</i>	42	<i>Lectures p.w.</i>	2	
<i>Assignments &amp; tasks:</i>	72	<i>Practicals p.w.</i>	0	
<i>Practicals:</i>	0	<i>Tutorials p.w.</i>	1	
<i>Assessments:</i>	12			
<i>Selfstudy:</i>	74			
<i>Other:</i>	0			
<b>Total Learning Time</b>	<b>200</b>			
<b>Methods of Student Assessment</b>	Continuous Assessment (CA): 60%			
	Final Assessment (FA): 40%			
<b>Assessment Module type</b>	Continuous and Final Assessment (CFA)			