Sociocultural Transformations and Health

**Goal**
Public health interventions take place in a social, cultural and political context which shapes attitudes and behaviours around health. Through the transformation of values, images of the body, conceptions of risk, illness and health, socio-cultural change is influencing globally health issues in contemporary societies. With this interdisciplinary module, students will develop competencies which allow them to integrate and apply a social science perspective in public health activities.

After the module, students will be able
- to integrate social theory concepts in their practice of public health
- to assess the impact of these social theory concepts on health law, policy, management etc.
- to take into account socio-cultural change when designing and assessing public health strategies and interventions
- to anticipate and monitor a population's reception of public health strategies

**Contents**
The module will be focused on social theory concepts which are most relevant for health issues, including medicalization, risk, empowerment and reflexivity. Sociocultural change will be approached with concepts and methods used in the social sciences (sociology, anthropology, social psychology).

**Methods**
The module will combine lectures, discussion of texts, group work and the development of a case study relating to one specific health issue.

**Exam**
Group work during the module and personal essay at the end of the module

**Preparation and postprocessing**
7 hours preparation, 8 hours postprocessing

**ECTS Credits**
2 ECTS credits

**Target audience**
Health professionals with basic knowledge of public health

**Organisation**
Département de Sociologie, Université de Genève
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin der Universität Bern

**Coordination of module**
Prof. Dr. Claudine Burton-Jeangros, Département de Sociologie, Université de Genève

**Lecturers and tutors**
Prof. Dr. Claudine Burton-Jeangros and invited speakers

**Dates**
16, 23 and 30 April 2021 + 7 May 2021

**Location**
Bern or online

**Fees**
CHF 1'600.-

**Additional information**
The teaching language is English.

Lessons (16, 23, 30 April and 7 May 2021)
from 12:30 h – 17:30 h

The module will be taught in distance education mode if required by COVID-19 regulations.