

## **HSCI 3301: Community Health**

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Office: UTEP campus: Health Science and Nursing Building

Room 411

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12-1:20 or by appointment

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**Course Description** Provides information essential to understanding factors that affect human health: health determinants, health indices, ethical issues, and societal trends. Investigates professional practice settings, health professions, roles and functions of health professionals and professional health organizations. Visits to community health work sites may be required.

### **Course Objectives**

- Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:
- Describe the history of community/public health.
- List organizations that help shape community health.
- Understand various epidemiological concepts as related to human health.
- Identify the stages of community organization.
- Explain the issues of maternal, infant and child health.
- Discuss community health as it relates to minorities.
- Identify and describe issues related to community mental health.
- Describe the structure and function of the health care system.

**Required Text and Book** : McKenzie, J.F., Pinger, R.R., & Kotecki, J.E. (2012). An Introduction to Community Health. Brief Edition. Sudbury, Massachusetts: Jones and Bartlett Publishers. ISBN: 978-1-284-02689-4

**Required Media** :You will need to watch the movie "Contagion" in order to complete an assignment. You may purchase a copy online at Amazon.com, or rent it from Netflix, or various other sources. I have also placed a copy in the Campbell Hall ILC-1101 N. Campbell St. for you to screen.

**Required Movie**: Contagion--Matt Damon, Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow (DVD-September, 2011)

*Please NOTE*, weekly material will be made available via blackboard to students beginning on Mondays morning at 6 am. This will allow students ample time of a full week to read material, work on assignments and discussions, and post required materials as per the indicated due dates. Portals and assignments will close on Sundays at 7 pm.

**Assignments**: Individual exercises will be assigned throughout the semester. The assignments will challenge you to apply the material you are covering and offer a chance for you to practice your skills of using the material. No late assignments will be accepted **(Total = 160 points).**

**Discussion Questions** - Discussion questions will be posted (see schedule) There is not required length of the post, but it should be long enough to answer the question in a clear, organized, and thoughtful manner. Often times, you will be required to respond to a classmate. Please be academic, thoughtful and helpful in your replies. (Total = 35 points).

**Quizzes: Quizzes** will be administered at the end of each module. Quizzes will cover the material from the week, mainly the Chapter material. (Total = 240 points). Quizzes can only be taken once. Please read the quiz instructions on your course to fully understand how to take an online quiz.

### **Point Values**

Assignments 8 @ 20 points = 160

Quizzes 8 @ 30 points = 240

Discussions 7 @ 5 points = 35

**Total = 435**

### **Grading Scale**

A= 391-435

B= 348-390

C= 304- 347

D= 261-303

F=260- or below

**Guidelines/Recommendations** Students are responsible for studying assigned readings or handouts for each class session. Individual assignments must be turned in on time. Absolutely NO late assignments will be accepted. Individual activities must be completed on the assigned date. Individual activities may NOT be made up at a later date. Remember, students earn grades; professors do not give grades. Keep in mind that Life and computer glitches DO occur, so plan accordingly to ensure your assignment are submitted on TIME!

**Computer Requirements** First, let's make sure your computer has the necessary plug-ins you will need to access all the content in this course. You can click here to access the Browser Checker test page that will inform you if the computer you are using has the latest software available.

**Software Requirements:** You will need the following software on your computers to efficiently work in this course. In some cases your computer may already have some of these programs installed. Adobe Acrobat Reader. You can get the program by going to <http://www.adobe.com> and then clicking on the

icon on the center of the screen which says "Get Adobe Reader". Follow instructions to install the reader.

**Adobe Flash Player.** You can get the player by going to <http://www.adobe.com> and then clicking on "Get Adobe Flash Player". Follow instructions to install the player.

**Apple QuickTime Player.** You can get this player by going to <http://www.apple.com>. Once there, click on the "Downloads" tab on the top of the page and then click on QuickTime "Download" and follow instructions.

**Microsoft Office.** I recommend buying this if you do not have any word processing software or presentation software. As students, you can generally buy this whole package for about \$25, far less than the store price of approximately \$400.

**Class Participation** I strongly recommend that you check the course every other day, if not daily, to keep up. Email messages are sent to your UTEP email address, so you will want to check your UTEP email several times a week. There will be no incompletes offered in this course.

**Being Successful in an Online Class** Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone's responsibility to participate as fully as they can so everyone can get the most from the experience. Here are some simple rules to follow to ensure your participation and engagement in the learning process:

**Ask questions:** If you don't know the answer, someone else will. The discussion board is the area for asking questions related to content OR any problems (related to the class) you are having. Make sure that you have clearly indicated the subject of your message.

Reach out to others: Offer a fact, article, link, or other item that can help others learn something you can share.

**Be appropriate:** The online classroom is not the place for insulting or insensitive comments, attacks, or venting. Inappropriate behavior can be subject to disciplinary action, as well.

**Be diplomatic:** When sending messages on emotionally charged topics, I recommend that you write the message and then walk away for at least an hour before re-reading the message and then sending it. Re-reading emotionally charged messages ensures that they are constructive instead of destructive. Think of the person at the other end.

**Stay focused: Stay on topic to increase the efficiency of your learning.**

**Effective Electronic Communications** It is important to share a word of caution, so we can become wiser about interpersonal distance learning communications. When communicating electronically, many of the feelings or impressions that are transmitted via body language in face-to-face communications are lost. Consequently, interpreting emotions and innuendos is much more difficult. Only what is written, or drawn, carries the message. Often, excitement can be misinterpreted as anger or insult. It is important that we all keep this in mind as we communicate. Words in print may seem harmless, but

they could emotionally injure us when working at a distance. Hence, it is vitally important that we are conscious of how we communicate while working at a distance.

For example, avoid the use of caps in your electronic messages, as wording in caps comes across as shouting.

The standard practice ("Netiquette") for participation in networked discussion requires that all participation be focused on the topic at hand, not become personalized, and be substantive in nature. (Translation: you may certainly disagree with others, but you must do so respectfully; you may express strong beliefs or emotions, but you may not get so carried away that you lose all perspective on the course itself.)

More information on Netiquette, the etiquette of Internet communication, can be found at [www.albion.com/netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette).

### **Time Management**

The rule of thumb for time planning for a course is approximately three (3) hours for every credit hour taken. This is a standard figure recommended across the board by American universities. For a 3 credit course, course you should expect to spend:

**3 hours of class time + 9 hours of study and prep time = 12 hours per week.**

### **Academic Integrity**

Honesty and respect for your work and for the work of others are essential to your success in this course and in university life in general. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes cheating on quizzes, plagiarizing readings, and claiming others' work as your own. Use a consistent citation method for your written work. The Chicago Style of citation is preferred for your final paper (see Guidelines on citing according to the Chicago citation style on Blackboard).

### **Academic Dishonesty Statement**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as ones' own. And, collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University's educational

and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected that UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

### **Disabled Student Statement**

Special Accommodations: The instructor will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see the instructor before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) Office in the Union East Building Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. The CASS Office can also be reached in the following ways: Web: <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/>; Phone: (915)747-5148 voice or TTY; Fax: (915) 747-8712; email: [dss@utep.edu](mailto:dss@utep.edu)

### **Technical Assistance**

UTEP offers complete technical information and help desk support at: <http://issweb.utep.edu/techsupport/> Use the information and resources offered at this site to make sure your computer meets the requirements to take this online course, as well as to know the number for the Help Desk available 24/7.