




Department of Public Health Sciences  
Health Promotion Program Syllabus

Course Name:	Community Health
Course No:	HSCI 3301-002
Course CRN:	13135
Semester/Year	Fall 2023
Undergraduate credit hrs:	3
Class location:	Online (100%)
Class meeting time:	Students will work independently at their own pace & submit work as per deadlines. Weekly folders will be available starting on Saturday following the 1 <sup>st</sup> week of Instruction.
Class instructor:	Cynthia Wittenburg, M.S., DrPh
Office Location:	Room 411 HSSN or via virtual by zoom://utepedu.zoom.us/my/cwittenburgzoommeetings
Phone:	915-747-7237
Email:	cwittenburg@utep.edu
Office hours:	Virtually via Zoom or in person Thursdays & Fridays 9:30 am-11 am (MST)
Preferred contact method:	Via email to <a href="mailto:cwittenburg@utep.edu">cwittenburg@utep.edu</a>
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. Independent student visits to local community health work sites may be required o complete several assignments.
Course pre-requisites:	none
Required textbooks:	 <p>Authors: Denise M. Seabert, James F. McKenzie, Robert R. Pinger Title: McKenzie's An Introduction to Community &amp; Public Health Copyright: 2022 <b>Edition: 10th</b> ISBN: 9781284202687 (paperback)</p>
Supplemental reading & material:	Please NOTE, weekly material will be made available via blackboard to students beginning on <b>Saturday mornings at 6 am starting after the 1<sup>st</sup> week of class</b> . 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. <b>All Assignments, Tests, and mini projects will be due Thursday at midnight (MST)</b> . Grading of these items will be done Fridays and Saturdays.
Course format & Requirements:	This is an on-Line course which will include lectures in power point format, educational videos, on-line discussions, assignments, and quizzes. Computer Requirements: Make sure your computer has the necessary plug-ins you will need to access all the content in this course. Access the Browser Checker test page that will inform you if the computer you are using has the latest software available.
Major learning objectives:	This course introduces principles of community health history, concepts, and future directions that have an impact in human health focused on diversity and disparities providing students a comprehensive knowledge of what community health is and what the role of community health educators is. By the end of this course, students will be able to: Course Objectives 1. Upon completion of the course the student will be able to: 2. Describe the history of community/public health. 3. List organizations that help shape community health. 4. Understand various epidemiological concepts as related to human health. 5. Identify the stages of community organization. 6. Explain the issues of maternal, infant and child health. 7. Discuss community health as it relates to minorities. 8. Identify and describe issues related to community mental health. 9. Describe the structure and function of the health care system.

Assessment strategies:	<p>Exams – Four (4) exams will be administered during the semester. Exams will include fill-in-the-blank, listing, matching, multiple choice and true/false.</p> <p>Quizzes - weekly quizzes will be administered via blackboard covering the assigned reading for the week. Assessments will include multiple choice, true/false, matching, and open-ended.</p> <p>Assignments – Multiple assignments throughout the semester to assess your knowledge and comprehension of the material will be required to complete.</p>								
Grading scale & criteria	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Exams (4)</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Quizzes (12)</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignments (4)</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>100%</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>A=100-90%. B=89%-80% C=79%-70% D=69%-60%, F=59% and below</p>	Exams (4)	40%	Quizzes (12)	20%	Assignments (4)	40%	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>
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Incomplete policy:	<p>An “I” (incomplete grade) can only be considered only if requested by the student in advance: weeks before the end of the of the conclusion of the course and only for legitimate, documented emergencies. Failure to request and negotiate the terms of an “Incomplete” grade before the conclusion of the course will result in a denial except in the most extraordinary circumstances. To meet “Incomplete eligibility, the student must be passing standards with a B or better and have completed at least half of the assignments. This petition will be reviewed by the professor and program chair. It is NOT a guarantee that an Incomplete will be granted.</p>								
Attendance	<p>When a student registers for a course, it is assumed that she/he has made arrangements to avoid such conflicts. Students are responsible for any information or activities presented in class discussions, lectures, assignments, and/or readings. If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor before the respective class session.</p> <p>Students may be administratively withdrawn for excessive non-completion or submission of assignments <b>(4 or more assignments)</b>. Compliance to due dates, in class presentations, homework, exams and other activities is mandatory. All emergency-related absences must be verified.</p>								
Guidelines and Recommendations	<p>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.</p>								
Class Participation:	<p>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.</p>								
Writing standards:	<p>Effective public health leaders and practitioners are also effective written as well as oral communicators. Written communication is a critical element of the communication process. Our Health Promotion Undergraduate and MPH graduate programs both recognizes and expects good writing to be the norm for course work. Please feel free to seek out assistance from the UTEP Writing Center. It is free and they are very helpful.</p>								
Policy for late assignments:	<p>Due dates for homework, exams, presentations and other assignments are designed for fairness to all students. No exceptions to those dates will be made excepting in cases of university-designated closures. All assignments are due as per the indicated deadline</p>								
Permission to record lectures & discussions:	<p>Not permitted without express permission of the instructor</p>								
Being Successful in an Online Class:	<p>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:</p> <p><b>Ask questions:</b> If you are uncertain about an assignment or a task, as questions directly to the instructor. The discussion board is the area for asking questions</p>								

	<p>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.</p> <p><b>Be appropriate:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Be diplomatic:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Stay focused:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Consequently, interpreting emotions</b> 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>The standard practice</b> ("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 <a href="http://www.albion.com/netiquette">www.albion.com/netiquette</a>.</p> <p><b>Time Management</b> 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. <b>For a 3 credit course, course you should expect to spend:</b> <b>3 hours of class time + 9 hours of study and prep time = 12 hours per week.</b></p>
Academic Integrity:	<p>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).</p>
Technical Assistance:	<p>UTEP offers complete technical information and help desk support at: <a href="http://issweb.utep.edu/techsupport/">http://issweb.utep.edu/techsupport/</a> 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.</p>
<b>GUIDANCE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE</b>	<p>* The use of generative AI tools such as Chat GPT is permitted in this course for the following activities, <b>which must be noted or cited:</b> [Assignments only but may not be copied and pasted directly from Chat GTP. Students that take the AI material directly and submit it will receive no credit for the assignment.] However, you may not use AI tools to complete the following activities: [EXAMS]</p>

**Commented [blb1]:** You should be clear about the acceptable and prohibited uses of AI in the class in order to avoid confusion and frustration for students and faculty. In this rapidly changing landscape, but sure to have frequent conversations with students about its appropriate use.

	Students must cite any borrowed content sources to comply with all applicable citation guidelines, copyright law, and avoid plagiarism. Instances that violate these guidelines will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
BLACKBOARD COLLABORATE SESSIONS/ZOOM	This class may require that you participate in scheduled Blackboard Collaborate sessions/zoom meetings in the event instruction needs to be offered via ZOOM. The purpose of these sessions is for you to view live demonstrations of the course material and/or to participate in small discussion groups with your classmates. These sessions will be held at the agreed team scheduled dates to be announced at a later time. Students are expected to participate in these sessions with a webcam and microphone. Students must download the ZOOM app on their phones or laptops, computers. <a href="https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials">https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials</a>
Special accommodations:	If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to <a href="mailto:cass@utep.edu">cass@utep.edu</a> , or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at <a href="http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass">www.sa.utep.edu/cass</a>
SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES	Save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate Word document as a back-up so that you do not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. All work must be uploaded to blackboard by the due date. <b>ASSIGNMENT LINKS WILL CLOSE BY THE DEADLINE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUBMIT WORK.</b>
Student conduct:	Students are expected to be above reproach in all scholastic activities. Students who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the university. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another student, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." Regent's Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3.2, Subdivision 3.22. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. From the UTEP Dean of Student Affairs ( <a href="http://studentaffairs.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=4386">http://studentaffairs.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=4386</a> ) "It is an official policy of university that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts". Examples of "cheating" include: Copying from the homework, in-class work or exam paper of another student, engaging in written, oral, or any other means of communication with another student during an exam or homework assignment, or giving aid to or seeking aid from another student during a test; Possession and/or use during an exam or home test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes, books, or specifically designed "crib notes"; Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program; using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters but which will be used again either in whole or in part without permission of the instructor; or accessing a test bank without instructor permission; Collaborating with or seeking aid from another student for an assignment without authority; Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one's self, to take a test;

	<p>Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit.</p> <p>“Plagiarism” means the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own academic work offered for credit, or using work in a paper or assignment for which the student had received credit in another course without direct permission of all involved instructors. NOTE: This includes cutting-and pasting and photocopying from on-line and other material.</p> <p>“Collusion” means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.</p>
COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS	<p>Please follow the necessary precaution measures if you have been diagnosed with Covid-19. More information may be found at UTEP’s main page for further instructions and information pertinent to class attendance.</p>