

University of Texas at El Paso
Interdisciplinary Health Sciences PhD Program
CHSC 6303 – Proseminar in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences I
Fall 2021

General Information

Instructor: Jeff Eggleston, Ph.D.
Office: My home
Email: jdeggleston@utep.edu
Office Hours: by appointment only
Classroom: Your home
Class time: Wednesdays 1:00pm – 3:50pm
Zoom Link: <https://utep-edu.zoom.us/j/82622046092?pwd=RnllQ3NSaG8vVUVlS1dOb3lIQk52Zz09>
Password: y#77Kap8

Course Description

Students will be given the opportunity to hear from experts in a variety of fields surrounding health sciences gain a sense of the broad reaches of health sciences and the underpinnings of historical and theoretical foundations. Students will also be challenged with providing a literature-based review of their area’s historical and theoretical foundation.

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Discuss how health sciences, as a collective area have evolved through knowledge obtainment and investigation
- Critically evaluate the literature and understand theoretical perspectives within the student’s area of expertise
- Understand how theoretical and historical perspectives have shaped the manner in which research methodologies have evolved
- Describe the theoretical framework for their prospective dissertation work

Course Evaluation

Theoretical Literature Review & Presentation	30%
Health Disparities Literature Review & Presentation	30%
Self-reflections	20%
Participation	20%

Theoretical Literature Review

Students will be required to complete a theoretical literature review on their area of study. The literature review will need to cover and evaluate research papers that are considered seminal in their area, comparing and contrasting how those works developed current-era research and methodologies. In the literature review, students should also critically evaluate how various theories, as they relate to health, shifted paradigms throughout history and how various local, national, or global issues may have influenced time-current theories. This assignment should be no longer than 10 pages in length, double-spaced with all citations (in-text and references) following the current APA format. The written document is worth 100 points. Your literature review document will be submitted to Blackboard via SafeAssign.

Health Disparities Literature Review

Similar to the theoretical literature review, this review should focus on the health aspects from the students' area of study. The research used for this review may be similar to that use in the theoretical, but students need to delineate where theory and health either converge or were dissimilar historically. Students should critically evaluate how knowledge surrounding health disparities have evolved within their areas of expertise. This review should be no longer than 10 pages in length, double-spaced with all citations (in-text and references) following APA format. The written document is worth 100 points. Your literature review document will be submitted to Blackboard via SafeAssign.

Presentations

Students will be required to present the findings of their theoretical and health disparities literature reviews to the class. Presentations will last no longer than 15 minutes with students presenting the essentials of their review of the literature. 15 minutes will be strictly enforced. Both presentations will be worth 100 points and will be graded based upon the rubric posted on Blackboard.

Participation

While participation is the smallest percentage of students' overall grade, it may be the most important aspect of this course. Doctoral students should be actively engaged listeners for speakers and their peers, and should also actively engage in class discussions and Q&A sessions with speakers.

Course Communication

Office Hours

We will not be able to meet on campus, but I will still have office hours for your questions and comments about the course. My office hours will be on zoom and are by appointment only. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, issues, or concerns you have with the course.

Email

UTEP email is the best way to contact me. I will make every attempt to respond to your emails within 24-48 hours during the workweek. Please ensure you email me from your UTEP email student account

Announcements

Throughout the semester I will post announcements with any updates on the course. With COVID, things will likely be very fluid, so please keep an eye out for announcements. I will always send emails with each announcement

Discussion Board

Several instances throughout the semester you will communicate with your fellow students via Blackboard discussion boards. Please ensure you follow the discussion board threads when appropriate

Attendance Policy

Attendance will not be taken. This is graduate school, you should be in class every week. If you have to miss class, ensure you obtain materials from a classmate.

Netiquette

As we know, sometimes communication online can be challenging. It's possible to miscommunicate what we mean or to misunderstand what our classmates mean given the lack of body language and immediate feedback. Therefore, please keep these netiquette (network etiquette) guidelines in mind. Failure to observe them may result in disciplinary action.

- Always consider audience. This is a college-level course; therefore, all communication should reflect polite consideration of other's ideas
- Respect and courtesy must be provided to classmates and to the instructor at all times. No harassment or inappropriate postings will be tolerated

- When reacting to someone else's message, address the ideas, not the person. Post only what anyone would comfortably state in a face-to-face situation.
- Blackboard is not a public internet venue; all postings to it should be considered private and confidential. Whatever is posted on in these online spaces is intended for classmates and professor only. Please do not copy documents

Excused Absences and/or Course Drop Policy

I will not drop you from the course. However, if you feel that you are unable to complete the course successfully, please let me know and then contact the Registrar's Office to initiate the drop process. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

Alternative Means of Submitting Work in Case of Technical Issues

I strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. I also suggest you save all your work (answers to discussion points, quizzes, exams, and essays) in a separate Word document as a back-up. This way, you will have evidence that you completed the work and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your back-up document as a last resort.

COVID-19 Accommodations

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

Scholastic Integrity

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 as ones' own. 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. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, visit the HOOP Student Conduct and Discipline.

Plagiarism Detecting Software

Some of your course work and assessments may submitted to SafeAssign, a plagiarism detecting software. SafeAssign is used review assignment submissions for originality and will help you learn how to properly attribute sources rather than paraphrase

Copyright Statement for Course Materials

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated

COVID-19 Precautions

You must STAY AT HOME and REPORT if you (1) have been diagnosed with COVID-19, (2) are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or (3) have had recent contact with a person who has received a positive coronavirus test. Reports should be made at screening.utep.edu. If you know of anyone who should report any of these three criteria, you should encourage them to report. If the individual cannot report, you can report on their behalf by sending an email to COVIDaction@utep.edu.

For each day that you attend campus—for any reason—you must complete the questions on the UTEP screening website (screening.utep.edu) prior to arriving on campus. The website will verify if you are permitted to come to campus. Under no circumstances should anyone come to class when feeling ill or exhibiting any of the known COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, and alternative instruction will be provided. Students are advised to minimize the number of encounters with others to avoid infection.

Wear face coverings when in common areas of campus or when others are present. You must wear a face covering over your nose and mouth at all times in this class. If you choose not to wear a face covering, you may not enter the classroom. If you remove your face covering, you will be asked to put it on or leave the classroom. Students who refuse to wear a face covering and follow preventive COVID-19 guidelines will be dismissed from the class and will be subject to disciplinary action according to Section 1.2.3 *Health and Safety* and Section 1.2.2.5 *Disruptions* in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures.

Grade Policy

A	≥ 90.0%
B	80.0%-89.9%
C	70.0%-79.9%
D	60.0%-69.9%
F	<59.9%

Attendance Policy

As doctoral students, students should be present for every synchronous meeting. If a meeting must be missed, please contact the instructor prior.

The ‘Life Happens’ Clause

The Life Happens Clause is referring to the fact that life happens to each of us throughout the course of a semester and you may not be able to attend class for an unforeseen circumstance. Specifically, you can invoke this clause **once** during the semester by simply emailing me within one day of a class meeting and state that you would like to invoke the clause. The clause states that you will receive a two-day extension on any activity with no questions asked from the instructor (i.e. you do not have to tell the instructor why, just state you would like to invoke the clause).

University Policies and Resources

Changes to this syllabus – The course schedule may be altered by the instructor, with sufficient notice being provided to students.

Cheating, Plagiarism, Scholastic Dishonesty, and Student Discipline – Cheating is obtaining a reward for ability by dishonest means. It is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism occurs whenever a student quotes, paraphrases or summarizes another person's work without providing correct citation. Plagiarism occurs whether the work quoted is a book, article, website, reader's guide like Cliffs Notes or SparkNotes, another student's paper, or any other source. An entire essay is fraudulent even if only a single sentence is plagiarized. *Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself, ever.* You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you cheated or plagiarized, you will be subject to disciplinary action as stated in the UTEP graduate catalog policy.

“Scholastic dishonesty (which includes the attempt of any student to present the work of another as his or her own, or any work which s(he) has not honestly performed, or attempting to pass any examination by improper means) is a serious offense and will subject the student to disciplinary action. The aiding and abetting of a student in any dishonesty is held to be an equally serious offense. All alleged acts of scholastic dishonesty should be reported to the Dean of Students for disposition. It is the Dean of Students’ responsibility to investigate each

allegation, dismiss the allegation, or proceed with disciplinary action in a manner which provides the accused student his or her rights of due process.” Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information.

Deadline Policy and Late Assignments – It is essential that you regularly visit the class Blackboard website prepared to work. Once a deadline has passed, you can no longer turn in your work for credit. Plan carefully to ensure you meet the deadlines. If you wait until the last minute, things that can go wrong often do. Start early so you have time to deal with problems and are still able turn in your assignments on time. Do not procrastinate!

Students in Need of Assistance – UTEP seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified individuals who need accommodations or support for their learning. This university adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required, affording equal educational opportunity. It is the *student's responsibility* to register with the **Center for Accommodations and**

Support Services – <http://sa.utep.edu/cass/> in the UTEP Union Bldg. East Wing, Room 106 *within the first two weeks of classes*, and inform the faculty member to arrange for appropriate accommodations or support. The CASS Office can also be reached in the following ways: Web: <http://cass.utep.edu/>; Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY; Fax: (915) 747-8712; E-Mail: cass@utep.edu

Campus Safety and Emergencies Notifications – Information Technology at UTEP provides emergency notification via your mobile phone. Visit <http://www.utep.edu/it> for more information and registration. Check the UTEP website for health-related information and updates.