

**The University of Texas at El Paso
Department of Public Health Sciences
Syllabus FALL 2025**

COURSE INFORMATION

HSCI 1301: Foundations of Health Science and Health Promotion
 CRN: 16967
 Term: Fall 2025
 Undergraduate credit hrs: 3
 Delivery Method: In-person
 Meeting Day and Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
 (8/26/2025 to 12/04/2025)
 Location: Bell Hall, room 143

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION






Jeannie B. Concha, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor
 Teaching Assistant: TBD
 Written Communication: You can email me at jeannie@utep.edu
 Phone Number: (915)747-8308
 Office Location: HSSN CHS, Room 414
 Office Hours:
 • Face-to-Face: Mondays 4:30-5:00 pm or by Appointment







***COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides information essential to understanding factors that affect human health. Factors related to health in society are explored. Emphasizes roles and functions of various members of the interdisciplinary health care team and explores the ethics of health and health care. Visits to community health care sites may be required.

***COURSE OBJECTIVES AND UNIVERSITY LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

<u>Student Learning Objective</u>	<u>Outcome</u>
1. Develop a personal philosophy of health education.	 Critical Thinking Skills
2. Understand the history of health education and public health.	 Problem-Solving
3. Explain how health education occurs within society.	 Communication Skills
4. Identify and provide examples of significant roles and work settings of health educators.	 Social Responsibility
.	 Problem-Solving

5. Describe ethical issues relating to health education.	 Teamwork
6. Identify roles, responsibilities, certifications, and advanced study of health education.	 Social Responsibility
7. Discuss several professional health education organizations' functions, literature, focus, and programming.	 Problem-Solving
8. Identify the skills necessary to be a health educator	 Critical Thinking Skills
9. Describe future trends in health education	 Global Awareness
10. Discuss the role of a practicing health educator	 Social Responsibility

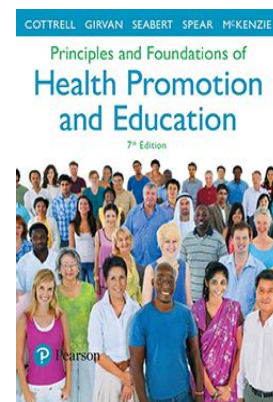
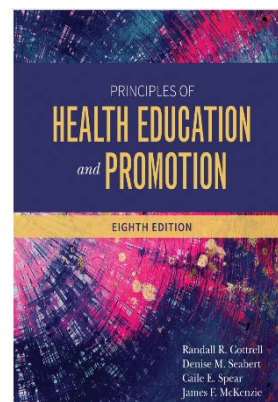
Required Reading Materials

Principles and Foundations of Health Promotion and Education 7th or 8th edition

ISBN:0134517652

ISBN-13:9780134517650

Authors: [Peter N Stearns](#) [Randall R Cottrell](#) [James T Girvan](#) [James F McKenzie](#) [Denise Seabert](#)



Required Media

You will need to watch the following movie for one of our assignments. You may purchase a copy online at Amazon.com or Netflix, etc. I will also place a copy in Campbell Hall, ILC-1101 N. Campbell St. for you to screen.

And the Band Played On - Matthew Modine, Alan Alda, Patrick Bauchau, and Nathalie Baye (DVD - June 5, 2001)

* ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Assessments

Attendance: All HSCI 1301 Foundations of Health Sciences and Health Promotion students are expected to participate in all instructional activities. Participation must be defined

accordingly. Students must be present and sign a sign-in sheet for each class. Courses will have at a minimum, a weekly mechanism for student participation, which can be documented by any or all of the following methods:

1. Student participation in the overall course
2. Student participation in discussion break-out groups.
3. Submission/completion of assignments and evaluations
4. Communication with the instructor

Students who do not attend the course within the drop/add period for the course will be dropped from the course. Students who fail to maintain active participation in an online course as defined in the course syllabus will be processed by the university's current attendance policy. (Total = 28 at 1 point each = 28 points)

Assignments - Individual exercises will be assigned throughout the semester. No late assignments will be accepted. (Total = 8 @ 15 points = 120 points).

Quizzes—Quizzes will be administered at the end of each module. They will cover the content addressed in that class session (10 @ 25 = 250 points).

Discussion Questions - Discussion questions will be posted (see schedule). There is a minimum required length of the post of 300 words, and it should be long enough to answer the questions in a clear, organized, and thoughtful manner (8 @ 15 points = 120 points total)

GRADING SCALE AND CRITERIA

Student performance

Work must be **neatly and professionally** typed; points will be deducted for unacceptable written assignments. Additional instructions and necessary forms for each assignment can be found on Blackboard.

* To obtain all points, work must be clean, professional, and creative

- In Class Attendance starting August 26th to December 4th (excluding Thanksgiving day)= 29 points
- Assignments = 120 points
- Quizzes = 250 points
- Discussion Questions/Videos = 120 points
- **TOTAL POINTS = 519 points**

Grade Scale :

A = 519 - 467 B = 466 - 415 C = 414 - 363, D = 362 - 312, F = 311 or less

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Some course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is functioning properly and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop. You must download or update the software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course. You will also use UTEP's QuestionPro application.

If you do not have word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about [Microsoft Office 365](#) and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP [Help Desk](#), as they are trained specifically in assisting with the technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

COURSE COMMUNICATION: How we will stay in contact with each other

Here are the ways we can keep the communication channels open:

- Office Hours: I will have office hours for your questions and comments about the course. My office hours are in-person; however, you can request a virtual meeting, and I will send you a Zoom link. Please see the days and times at the top of this syllabus.
- Email: UTEP e-mail is the best way to contact me. I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24 hours of receipt. When emailing me, be sure to email from your UTEP student e-mail account, and please put the course number in the subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state your question. At the end of your e-mail, put your first and last name and university identification number.
- Announcements: Check the Blackboard announcements frequently for any updates, deadlines, or other important messages.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Our class meetings are in person at Bell Hall Room 143, every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm, beginning August 26th, through December 4th.

Attendance in the course is determined by participation. Your participation in the course is important for your learning and success and for creating a community of learners. The completion of the following activities determines participation:

- Reading/Viewing all course materials to ensure understanding of assignment requirements.
- Participating in engaging discussions with your peers
- Other activities are indicated in the weekly modules.

Because these activities are designed to contribute to your learning each week, they cannot be made up after their due date has passed.

ILLNESS PRECAUTIONS

Please stay home if you have symptoms of a communicable illness. If you feel unwell, please let me know as soon as possible so we can work on appropriate accommodation.

***EXCUSED ABSENCES AND/OR COURSE DROP POLICY**

UTEP Catalog states, "At the instructor's discretion, a student can be dropped from a course because of excessive absences or lack of effort. A grade of "W" will be assigned before the course drop deadline and a grade of "F" after the course drop deadline." See Policies and Regulations in the UTEP Undergraduate Catalog for a list of excused absences. Therefore, if I find that, due to non-performance in the course, you are at risk of failing, I will drop you from the course. I will provide 24-hour advance notice via email.

DEADLINES, LATE WORK, AND ABSENCE POLICY

Assignments

Due dates for homework, exams, and other assignments are designed to be fair to all students. No exceptions will be made to those dates except in cases of university-designated closures. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the due date. Five (5) points will be deducted each day an assignment is late.

MAKE-UP WORK

Make-up work will be given *only* in the case of a *documented* emergency. Note that make-up work may be in a different format than the original work, require more intensive preparation, and may be graded with penalty points. You will receive a zero if you miss an assignment and the reason is not considered excusable. It is, therefore, important to reach out to me—in advance if possible—and explain with proper documentation why you missed a given course requirement.

ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SUBMITTING WORK IN CASE OF TECHNICAL ISSUES

I strongly suggest you submit your work with plenty of time to spare if 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 backup. 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 Blackboard, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email me your backup document as a last resort.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Incomplete "I" grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you

believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract to complete the work with deadlines.

***ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services, and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodation will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship for the University. Students requesting accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodation online via the CASS portal.

***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 one's 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, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

***GUIDANCE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

This course does not permit the use of generative AI tools such as Chat GPT.

You may not use AI tools to complete the following activities:

Group activities and the Final Report

Students must cite any borrowed content sources to comply with all applicable citation guidelines and copyright law and avoid plagiarism. Instances that violate these guidelines will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

PLAGIARISM DETECTING SOFTWARE

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

***COURSE RESOURCES:** Where you can go for assistance

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

Technology Resources

- [Help Desk](#): Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

Academic Resources

- [UTEP Library](#): Access a wide range of resources, including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks, plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#): Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help, and explore other writing resources.
- [Math Tutoring Center \(MaRCS\)](#): Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- [History Tutoring Center \(HTC\)](#): Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor, and explore other history resources.
- [RefWorks](#): A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial, Fact Sheet, and Quick-Start Guide.
- [The Miner Learning Center](#): Join peer-led study sessions in person or online to review content and discover study strategies in core curriculum courses.
- [UTEP Edge](#): UTEP's cross-campus framework for student success and empowerment – develops students' assets through high-impact experiences made possible by the expertise and dedication of faculty, staff, alumni, and community partners.

Individual Resources

- [Student Success Help Desk \(SSHD\)](#): Students experiencing challenges or obstacles to academic success including registration, financial, food, housing, and transportation resources may submit a ticket request assistance to studentsuccess@utep.edu
- [Military Student Success Center](#): Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- [Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#): Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#): Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.
- [UTEP Food Pantry](#): Non-perishable food items are available to students who are currently enrolled in classes. Bring a Miner Gold Card to Memorial Gym, Room 105, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

COURSE RESOURCES: Where you can go for assistance

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Please refer to the QR code below for a listing of campus resources or visit https://www.utep.edu/advising/student_resources/student-success-resource-hub.html.



HSCI 1301: Foundations of Health Science and Health Promotion

Schedule / In-Person Course

Fall 2025

This is a tentative course outline and is subject to change pending notification by the instructor.

Topic	Dates	Activities and Assignments
Introduction	Week 1 August 26 - 28	Course Orientation/Review of Syllabus and Schedule/FAQs Introduction to Public Health Syllabus Quiz (25 pts)
The Literature of Health Education	Week 2 September 2 - 4	Assignment: What is Public Health (15 pts) Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 9 Discussion Question: Video: Unnatural Causes - In Sickness and in Wealth (15 points)
The Literature of Health Education	Week 3 September 9 - 11	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 9 Quiz: Chapter 9 (25 pts) Discussion Question: Video Weight of the Nation - (Pts. 15)
History of Health and Health Education	Week 4 September 16 - 18	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 2 Quiz: Chapter 2 (25 pts)

		Discussion Question: Video: Weight of the Nation - Pt. 2 (15 pts) Assignment: Timeline Assignment (15 pts)
Background of the Profession	Week 5 September 23 – 25	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 1 Quiz: Chapter 1 (25 pts)
Background of the Profession	Week 6 September 30 – October 2	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 1 Discussion Question: Video Weight of the Nation (15 pts)
Agencies/Associations/Organization associated with Health Education	Week 7 October 7 – 9	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 8 Quiz: Chapter 8 (25 pts) Discussion Question: Video Weight of the Nation - Pt. 4 (15 pts) Assignment: Article summary politics and public health(15 pts)
Agencies/Associations/Organizations associated with Health Education	Week 8 October 14 - 16	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 8 Assignment: Poster (15 pts)
Philosophical Foundations	Week 9 October 21 - 23	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapters 3 Quiz: Chapter 3 (25 pts) Discussion: What is Public Health/APHA (15 pts)
Ethical Foundations	Week 10 October 28 - 30	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 5 Quiz: Chapter 5 (25 pts) Assignment: Ethical Dilemmas (15 pts)

The Health Educator: Roles, Responsibilities, Certifications, Advanced Study	Week 11 November 4 - 6	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 6 Assignment: Mnemonic Device (15 pts)
The Health Educator: Roles, Responsibilities, Certifications, Advanced Study	Week 12 November 11 - 14	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 6 Quiz: Chapter 6 (25 pts) Discussion CHES (15 pts)
The Settings for Health Education	Week 13 November 18 - 20	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 7 Quiz: Chapter 7 (25 points) Discussion - professional organizations (15 pts)
The Settings for Health Education	Week 14 November 25 - 27 th Thanksgiving Day No class	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 7 Assignment: Settings and Employment (15 points)
Future Trends in Health Education	Week 15 December 2 – 4	Readings: Cottrell Text - Chapter 10 Quiz: Chapter 10 (25 points) Assignment: Final Assignment! Future Trends (15 points)
This is a tentative course outline and is subject to change pending notification by the instructor.		