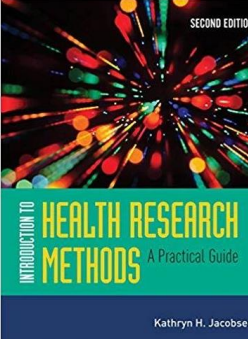




**College of Health Sciences
Department of Public Health Sciences
Health Promotion Program Syllabus**

Course name:	Research for the Health Professional
Course no.:	HSCI 3315
Course CRN:	18168
Semester/year	Fall 2021
Undergraduate credit hours:	3
Class location:	Online (asynchronous) – Blackboard®
Class meeting time:	N/A
Class instructor:	Silvia Salinas Lopez, MD, MPH
Contact methods:	Email, Blackboard messages, conference through Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, or ask the instructor to schedule a meeting through Zoom (Meeting ID: 951 2975 4055).
Email:	ssalinaslopez@miners.utep.edu
Online Office:	Virtual office hours through Blackboard Collaborate Ultra every Wednesday from 11:30 pm to 1:30 pm, or by appointment.
Preferred contact method:	Email
Assigned TA:	TBD
Course description:	This course addresses the importance of planning for research in health related fields, and although it is mainly intended for students pursuing a health related degree, its multidisciplinary approach can fit most degree plans. It will introduce students to the fundamentals of research study design, methods, and collection of data, as well as ethical issues when conducting research, always under a public health perspective.
Course pre-requisites:	To enroll for this course, you will need to meet the following pre-requisites: must have already completed and passed with at least a grade of C or better “HSCI 3301”, and an undergraduate statistics course “PSYC 1303” or equivalent.
Required textbooks:	<p>Introduction to Health Research Methods: A Practical Guide – 2nd edition By Kathryn H. Jacobsen, Jones & Bartlett ISBN: 1284094383 ISBN-13: 978-1284094381</p> 
Required and Supplemental readings:	Most, if not all, textbook chapters will be covered, and to successfully pass this course students will be required to complete reading the assigned book chapters. Additionally, students will be required to go over supplementary posted materials on Blackboard Learn®.
Course format:	This course is offered as a full, online course using an asynchronous format , meaning that no traditional classroom face-to-face meetings will take place during the semester and students can schedule their own time to access the course through the Blackboard® Learn platform during the specified times periods. In addition, both individual and group coursework will be fundamental for this course . Even though this is an online course, learning techniques will emphasize a critical thinking approach to learning. A critical thinking approach takes the view that a student's knowledge is not passively absorbed from the instructor. In contrast with other learning techniques, critical thinking assumes students will create knowledge in their own mind by actively thinking

	<p>about the material. It will be crucial that you study for each lesson independently, reading and reviewing the material before engaging in lessons, online discussions, and assignments. To learn more about what critical thinking really is, visit the “The Critical Thinking Community” website.</p> <p>In this course, students will apply the gained knowledge to solve common and practical problems related to the research process. Because the course is designed to challenge you intellectually, you may be required to cover additional materials and conduct activities to complete assessment and assignment. Supplementary readings and assignments will be used for activities and discussions, and ALL course materials are testable. Additional, but not all resources, course material, readings, etc. will be made available through Blackboard® Learn platform.</p> <p>Group work will be an integral part of the course. Groups will be formed during the first two week of the course. During this time period students will be given the option of freely assembling and joining one group until a set deadline; however, if a student does not join a group by the set date, the instructor will assign the student at random to any available group. More details on group work can be found in the ‘Grading Criteria’ section.</p>
<p>Course requirements:</p>	<p>Time commitment is essential to complete the course requirements. Usually, an online course will require the student to spend more time reading and learning than the typical face-to-face course. A time commitment of at least 9 hours per week is required. Online “attendance” is determined by the students’ quantity and quality of weekly participation, time spent on accessing material posted on Blackboard®, and all online materials and assignments are expected to be completed by all the students.</p> <p>Since this is an online course, all students are required to have access to a computer with webcam and microphone that connects to the internet and a working e-mail account (@miners.utep.edu). Other e-mail systems should not be used for this course. If you do not own a computer, you can make use of several computer labs on campus or apply for a long-term laptop loan at the library. The course is only accessible online by logging in to your “My UTEP” portal (my.utep.edu) and accessing through Blackboard® Learn platform. Therefore, students must be able and have the means of accessing the UTEP online course through Blackboard®, as well as, to connect to GlobalProtect VPN (sites will 'think' you're at UTEP when you're connected) when necessary. For information on how to log in or connect to the VPNnet you can contact the UTEP Help Desk at (915) 747-4357 (HELP) or helpdesk@utep.edu, or check their information page https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport/learningremotely.html. Students are expected to be able to use Blackboard® email, chats, and discussion boards, as well as, to perform internet searches, study independently, and have good time management skills. Similarly, is anticipated that students have knowledge on how to use word processing, spreadsheet, visual media software, as well as capability to open pdf-type files, store all course assignments and, if necessary, submit them electronically through Blackboard® Learn platform. Download Lockdown Browser (www.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=586140509). It is the student responsibility to make sure that they have all the software and connectivity requirements.</p> <p>Students will not be allowed to re-submit an assignment or quiz because of internet connectivity issues, NO EXCEPTIONS.</p>
<p>Major learning objectives (must be numbered)¹:</p>	<p>After completing the course, the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acquire and/or increase, and demonstrate scientific writing skills through writing assignments. 2. Apply and practice his/her critical thinking skills through individual and group work. 3. Practice his/her ability to critically review research-based materials related to public health/health promotion. 4. Acquire skills for interpreting research findings in the public health/health promotion field. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify a study problem, and structure a problem statement. b. Elaborate research questions and identify different appropriate research designs for public health/health promotion issues. c. Demonstrate knowledge on sample selection and measurement. d. Evaluate strengths and weaknesses of different research designs e. Describe and select appropriate research design methods associated to public health/health promotion problems.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Produce an undergraduate-level quality research protocol, including background, sampling, measurements, and data analysis plan; 6. Increase their skills and potential for group work and potentially help others to develop research and writing skills and protocols.
Course outcomes:/ competencies lined with NCHEC Health Education Specialist:	<p>After completing the course, the student will demonstrate the following learning outcomes/competencies (<u>under review</u>):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess needs, assets and capacity for health education. 2. Plan health education. 3. Conduct evaluation and research related to health education. 4. Serve as health education resource person. 5. Work individually and within a group-setting to produce an undergraduate-quality level report based on a systematic literature review. 6. Communicate effectively in written and electronic modes of communication.
Assessment strategies:	<p><u>Attendance:</u> The course week runs from Monday through Friday. The student must comply with at a minimum of 80% attendance translated as weekly participation in asynchronous online discussion. Total value for attendance is 10% of your final grade. Refer to the attendance criteria on “<i>discussion boards</i>” section for details.</p> <p><u>Online Examinations:</u> (1) Midterm Examination, and (1) Final Comprehensive Examination will be given for the Fall’s 2021 Semester. Examinations are scheduled for Wednesday 10/10 and Wednesday 12/8 respectively and will consist of combination of multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, and matching columns and will be available through Blackboard® on the scheduled date. The midterm examination is worth 15% and the final 20% of your final grade. The exams are conceptual in nature and based on covered reading materials, assignments, and discussions up to the week before examination date.</p> <p><u>Writing Assignments:</u> (1) Mini Systematic Review, and (1) Health Research Proposal.</p> <p>Writing Assignment #1: Mini Systematic Literature Review: For this project, you and your colleagues will be writing a <i>systematic review paper</i>, which will be worth 20% of your final grade. The deadline to complete and submit the project is Sunday 10/10 at the end of the day (11:59 PM MT). However, please refer to Appendix “Writing Assignment #1: Systematic Review” for further instructions.</p> <p>Writing Assignment #2: Health Research Proposal: For this project, you and your colleagues will be writing an undergraduate quality, <i>original research protocol</i>, which will be worth 20% of your final grade. The deadline to complete and submit the project is Sunday 12/5 at the end of the day (11:59 PM MT). However, please refer to Appendix “Writing Assignment #2: Primary Health Research Proposal” for further instructions. YOU WILL NOT NEED TO CARRY OUT THE PROJECT, JUST DEVELOP A RESEARCH PROTOCOL.</p> <p><u>Quizzes:</u> (10) The quizzes are OPEN BOOK and will be scheduled during some course weeks, and and they worth 10% of your final grade. All quizzes will be available from Monday to Friday through Blackboard® Learn platform on the scheduled dates (see Course Calendar). You will usually be given a limited time (i.e., 10 minutes) to complete them depending on the number and type of questions.</p> <p><u>Certificate:</u> For this assignment, you will have to complete the CITI -IRB training, which will be worth 5% of your final grade. The deadline to complete and submit the certificate is Sunday 09/12 at the end of the day (11:59 PM MT). Further instructions will be available at Blackboard® Learn platform.</p> <p><u>Discussion Boards:</u> To get attendance, each week the students MUST actively participate in the scheduled weekly discussion/question forum (available at Blackboard® Learn platform). Total value of weekly attendance 10% of your final grade. Each student will be required to enter a minimum of three (3) comments related to the topic at hand, according to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First entry comment: 150 word-minimum (Due on Thursdays at 11:59 PM) • Second and Third entry comments: 50-word minimum response to colleagues posting (Due on Saturdays at 11:59 PM)

Important for entries in discussion boards: Availability to enter comments is limited. Forums will open at 8:00 MT every Monday, and will close at 23:59 on Saturdays. **NOT** complying with at least the minimum 3 required entries as specified above will result in an **ABSENCE**. **Extra credit** will be granted to all those entries in the weekly discussion forum that comply with the minimum and observe quality criteria as specified in the “**Discussion Participation Rubric**.” Complying with the specified 3 entries will only grant your attendance for the week.

No extensions, re-scheduling or re-taking of examinations, quizzes and other assessments will be allowed without a University approved excuse.

Grading scale & criteria:

Completion of the course will require that the student fulfills the following:

1. Completing weekly discussion boards (15 Attendances).*
2. Certificate CITI-IRB training.*
3. Completing 10 quizzes.*
4. Completing 2 main writing assignments*:
 - a. Systematic Literature Review (1)
 - b. Health Research Proposal (1)
5. Completing 2 online examinations*:
 - a. Midterm (1)
 - b. Comprehensive-Final Exam (1)

(*). See correspondent sections for details.

Grading Scale:

- >90 % = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- <60% = F

Grading Components:

Coursework & Examinations:	Weighted Value
CITI – IRB training	5%
Discussion Boards & Weekly Assistance	10%
Quizzes	10%
Midterm Examination	15%
Final Examination	20%
Systematic Review -Writing Assignment #1	20%
Research Proposal - Writing Assignment #2	20%
Extra Credit	2.5%

Dropping & Grading policies for dropping the course, withdrawals, and incomplete:

Students may drop individual courses or completely withdraw from the university and grades are based on when the actions are taken. Refer to the online Academic Calendar at www.utep.edu/calendar or the “Important Dates” section to be aware of the specific deadline dates.

- a) **Student-initiated Drops:** It is the student’s responsibility to officially drop a course that she/he no longer wishes to take. Failure to do so may result in a grade of “F” on the student’s academic record. Athletes must receive permission from the Miner Athletic Advising Center before dropping a course. International students with F or J visas must receive permission from the Office of International Programs before dropping a course.
- b) **Administration Drops:** During registration periods for upcoming semesters, students will be dropped from registered courses for failure to meet prerequisites or co-requisites after final grades have been posted for the current semester and before the beginning of late registration for next semester. A student may petition the department chair of the course in question for a prerequisite or co-requisite waiver.
At the discretion of the instructor, a student may be dropped from a course because of excessive absences or lack of effort. Students may also be administratively withdrawn from a course during the semester for other reasons, with the concurrence of the academic dean

or department chair. A grade of “W” will be assigned before the course drop deadline and a grade of “F” after the course drop deadline. A grade of “F” received due to disciplinary action imposed by the University overrides a grade of “W” received through a student-initiated or faculty drop. Students will be notified of their drop through their UTEP e-mail account.

- c) **Grade Assignment for Drops and Withdrawals:** Grades will be assigned as follows when a student drops a course or completely withdraws from the University:
1. If a student drops a course before the official census date of a semester, neither the course nor a grade will appear on the student’s academic record.
 2. If a student drops from a course after the census date but before the student-initiated course drop deadline listed in the Class Schedule, a grade of “W” will be assigned.
 3. If the student drops after the student-initiated course drop deadline, instructors will determine a grade of “W” or “F” for each course. A grade of “W” is considered only under exceptional circumstances and must be approved by the instructor and department chair for the course. A student may petition for a grade of “W” in writing with the necessary supporting documentation.

Incomplete course work: An “I” (incomplete grade) can only be considered only if requested by the student in advance of the conclusion of the course and only for legitimate, documented exceptional circumstances/emergencies after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. 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.

Course/Instructor & Institutional Policies

Attendance:

The online course using an asynchronous format and the course week runs from Monday through Friday. **The University requires that students comply with at a minimum of 80% attendance.** Attendance is mandatory and an important component of this course and determined by class participation online. In this regard, online courses are no different than other face-to-face traditional courses; however attendance must be considered differently.

For this course, attendance will be comprised of active online participation. The requirement for weekly attendance each students **MUST** participate in the scheduled weekly discussion/question forum available at Blackboard® Learn platform. **Each student will be required to enter a minimum of three (3) comments related to the topic at hand, according to the following: First entry comment: 150 word-minimum (Due on Thursdays at 11:59 PM), and Second and Third entry comments: 50-word minimum response to colleagues posting (Due on Saturdays at 11:59 PM).** NOT complying with at least the minimum 3 required entries and the required number of words as specified will result in an **ABSENCE**.

Student engagement will be tracked using Blackboard® Lear’s Retention Center tool. It is expected that students interact with Blackboard for an average of 3 hours per week. Students will get automated messages when performance is considered unsatisfactory. If a student does not log on to the course within the drop/add period for the course he/she will be dropped from the course. The instructor and/or TA can tell if students are visiting the course site. Failing to maintain active weekly participation and not completing all weekly assigned activities in this online course (not login on, not completing and/or not submitting assignments or quizzes, not participating in posted activities, no contact with the instructor) can and will be defined as an absence for the week. **Absences will affect your final score/grade. You are required at least 12 out of 15 attendances in this course, including the first week of class.**

Furthermore, for each absence you will be deducted 5 points or ~1% from your final grade. **You are allowed three unexcused absences; a fourth absence means that there is the risk of being dropped from the course at any time and regardless of your current performance, even if it occurs in the final week of class.** Exceptions will be made in the case of University excused absences (sponsored activities approved by the Dean of students). You will only be able to make up for activities, exams, or assignments (scheduled or

	<p>unscheduled) in the case of University excused absences (sponsored activities approved by the Dean of students).</p>
<p>Alternative means of submitting work in case of technical issues:</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Course netiquette:</p>	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 and paste them to a publicly accessible website, blog, or other space. <p>Words in print may seem harmless, but they could emotionally injure us when working at a distance. It is important that we all keep this in mind as we communicate. 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. Often, excitement can be misinterpreted as anger or insult.</p> <p>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. More information on Netiquette, the etiquette of internet communication, can be found at: www.albion.com/netiquette.</p>
<p>Communication and feedback plan:</p>	<p>Because this is an online class, we won't see each other in the ways you may be accustomed to: during class time, small group meetings, and office hours. However, there are a number of ways we can keep the communication channels open:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Email: <u>UTEP Blackboard e-mail is the best way to contact me.</u> I will make every attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours of receipt. When e-mailing me, be sure to email from your UTEP account and CHSI 3315: "matter/concern" in the subject line. In the body of your e-mail, clearly state and explain in complete sentences your question or problem you may have. At the end of your e-mail, be sure to put your first and last name, and your university identification number. If you consider that your email requires my urgent attention, you may type "URGENT HSCI 3315" in the subject line, but please save such messages for real urgent cases. ▪ Office Hours: We will not be able to meet on campus, but I will still have virtual office hours for your questions and comments about the course. My online office hours will be held on Blackboard Collaborate Ultra on Wednesdays (11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. - MT) ▪ Discussion Board: If you have a question that you believe other students may also have, please post it in the Help Board of the discussion boards inside of Blackboard. I will respond to your questions within 24-48 hours. Please respond to other students' questions if you have a helpful response. ▪ Announcements: Check the Blackboard announcements frequently for any updates, deadlines, or other important messages.
<p>Student progress:</p>	<p>Grades and feedback on grades will be available through Blackboard® Learn Grade Center and additional feedback may be sent from the instructor or TA by email.</p>

<p>Online midterm and final examinations:</p>	<p>Exams will be accessible online using Blackboard platform and will be available on the scheduled day from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Mountain Time Zone) of the same day. You will need to download Respondus LookDown Browser to respond to the exam. You may access it at any time; however, once you begin the exam you will have a time limit to complete it. You will not be able to start the exam, stop, and then re-start again. You will usually have between 10-20 minutes to complete a quiz depending on the number of questions, and up to 1 hour to complete the partial and final comprehensive examinations. There will be no retaking of missed quizzes and examinations unless proven Blackboard® platform failures. If a student misses an exam, a written make-up exam may be taken only if the student has informed the instructor of the absence <i>prior</i> to the beginning of the examination (University excused absences only, i.e., sponsored activities approved by the Dean of students), and only if the absence is approved by the instructor. Only in rare instances will a student be excused from the examination.</p>
<p>Group work:</p>	<p>Group work will be an integral part of the course. However it is not mandatory, and you may select to work on your own. Groups will be formed during the first two weeks of the course. During this time period students will be given the option of freely assembling and joining one team until a set deadline; however, if a student does not join a group by the set date (9/5), the instructor will assign the student at random to a group. The maximum number of members allowed in each group is four (4) and five (5) might be allowed if needed. Blackboard's group sign-in section is set to not allow going over this number; groups can be of less than three members. Changing groups, dropping or joining others are allowed only under extraordinary situations. Group work should be equally distributed, and each team will select a group member who will be responsible of submitting the group work assignment as a Microsoft Word document to the specified site in the UTEP's Blackboard® Lear System before the deadline. Further instructions will be available for each of the assignments at Blackboard® Learn platform. When completing a group assignment, the score will be the same for all members; however, at the end of the course, each group member may complete a peer evaluation in which students will evaluate, and rank member's participation to receive proper merit in the form of extra credit points.</p>
<p>Writing standards:</p>	<p>Please check your work for misspelling, grammar, and sentence structure before submitting assignments. References in written reports should follow Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA Style) 6th ed. All written documents should follow APA formatting rules, be double spaced, 1 inch margins, and Times New Roman font size 12. Please feel free to seek out assistance from the UTEP Writing Center or other writing support. The UTEP Writing Center is free and they are always happy to help you.</p>
<p>Late assignments:</p>	<p>Homework and other assignments must be turned in when scheduled in order for 100% graded score points to be awarded. No extensions are granted for scheduled activities such as discussions, quizzes, examinations, or assignments. A 10% deduction on the graded score will be applied to for every 24 hours a writing assignment is overdue, including weekends. No writing assignments will be accepted if submitted more than one (1) week after the due date.</p>
<p>Instructor's and course evaluation:</p>	<p>The instructor will provide with more details on how the course will be evaluated. There is an internal evaluation and a University standard online evaluation in which you will have the opportunity to rate the instructor's performance and the course content. It is recommended that you complete these evaluations so that we continue improving the course.</p>
<p>Accommodations for individuals with disability:</p>	<p>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 accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and</p>

	Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu , or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal .
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.
Copyright and fair use requirements:	The University requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you on or assume any responsibility for a student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies.
Student conduct and scholastic integrity:	<p>Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. 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, 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, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” <u>Regent’s Rules and Regulations</u>, 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 (http://studentaffairs.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=4386).</p> <p>Examples of “cheating” include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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; ▪ Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit. <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>

<p>Student resources:</p>	<p>UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Familiarize yourself with the bookmarks on the right-hand side of the Blackboard student portal (visible before entering into a course) as well as the resources below.</p> <p>Academic Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide. <p>Individual Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. <p>Technology Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help Desk: Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Help desk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus. Phone: 915-747-4357 (HELP) Email: helpdesk@utep.edu 																						
<p>Important dates:</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Classes Begin</td> <td>Aug. 23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Labor Day (University Closed)</td> <td>Sep. 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Census Day</td> <td>Sep. 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Midterm Exams Week</td> <td>Oct. 11-15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Last Day for Complete Withdrawal</td> <td>Oct. 29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thanksgiving Holiday (University Closed)</td> <td>Nov. 25-26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Last Day of Classes</td> <td>Dec. 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dead Day</td> <td>Dec. 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exams Week</td> <td>Dec. 6-10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Grades due to the Records Office</td> <td>Dec. 15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Grades Available Online for Students</td> <td>Dec. 16</td> </tr> </table>	Classes Begin	Aug. 23	Labor Day (University Closed)	Sep. 6	Census Day	Sep. 8	Midterm Exams Week	Oct. 11-15	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal	Oct. 29	Thanksgiving Holiday (University Closed)	Nov. 25-26	Last Day of Classes	Dec. 2	Dead Day	Dec. 3	Final Exams Week	Dec. 6-10	Final Grades due to the Records Office	Dec. 15	Final Grades Available Online for Students	Dec. 16
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Labor Day (University Closed)	Sep. 6																						
Census Day	Sep. 8																						
Midterm Exams Week	Oct. 11-15																						
Last Day for Complete Withdrawal	Oct. 29																						
Thanksgiving Holiday (University Closed)	Nov. 25-26																						
Last Day of Classes	Dec. 2																						
Dead Day	Dec. 3																						
Final Exams Week	Dec. 6-10																						
Final Grades due to the Records Office	Dec. 15																						
Final Grades Available Online for Students	Dec. 16																						
<p>COVID-19 Precautions:</p>	<p>Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID-19 testing.</p> <p>The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.</p>																						

*Syllabus Fall 2020 adopted from Dr. Ibarra-Mejia, UTEP, College of Health Sciences, syllabus for Spring 2015.