

**New Mexico State University  
Health and Human Services  
Department of Health Sciences**

**HLS 380G & WS 381G-Women's Health Issues**

**Fall 2007**

**Instructor:** Judy B. Hensley, MS

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**Phone or Voice Mail:** (505) 642-2284

**Response Times:** Voicemail-48 hours (M-F)  
E-Mail-24 hours (M-F)

**Office Hours:** Feel free to call for an audio conference. If you get voicemail please leave me your contact information. Physical office hours are not available.

**Course Time:** No set meeting times. New topics will begin approximately every week.

**Required Texts and Materials:**

Alexander, LL; LaRosa, JH.; Bader, H.; Garfield, S. (2007) *New Dimensions in Women's Health*, Fourth Edition. Jones and Bartlett Publishers. Sudbury, Mass.

**Course Description:** This course will focus on the unique issues and problems that confront women today and how those issues affect a woman's health. Special attention will be given to emerging and significant health issues affecting women such as violence, addictions, STD's (including HIV), and mental health issues, including depression and eating disorders.

**Course Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be expected to:

- Recognize the need to focus on women's health
- Compare and contrast between health concerns of men and women and their health seeking behaviors.
- Describe the importance of lifestyles and socio-demographic factors on women's health.
- Understand emerging health issues (such as HIV/AIDS, violence, addictions and mental health) and how they affect women.
- Document ways of reducing the risks of cancer, cardio-vascular disease and other chronic diseases.

**Delivery Mechanisms:** This course will be taught as a WebCT course meaning that the web will be the major tool for course participation for both the instructor and the students. The schedule in WebCT will indicate the type of activity planned for each week.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**Examinations:** There will be no examinations.

**Article Abstracts:** Locate two *journal articles* pertaining to some aspect of Women’s Health. The articles should be no older than 10 years. Post the citations with a synopsis to the “Discussions” site. I would like other students to benefit from your research. The citation **MUST** include: 1) Title, 2) Author(s), 3) Publication, 4) Date, 5) Volume, and 6) Pages. Then provide a brief synopsis of the article. If the article is *research based*, include: Purpose of Research, Methodology, Results, Implications for Women’s Health, and your conclusions about the research/article. Abstracts can be no longer than one page. The articles should not be on the same topic. You **MUST** abstract two articles to receive credit for this assignment. No partial credit (example: if only one is submitted) will be given. The articles must come from *professional* journals. I will provide an example of what the abstract should look like.

**Discussion Requirements:** You will be expected to participate in group discussions. You are required to provide an initial response to at least one of the discussion questions for each week. In your initial response, references must be cited to receive full credit for the response. In addition, you must respond to a minimum of **four** other postings from the other students on a date other than your initial response (response to two posting will earn a 50 for the Topic, response to three postings will earn a 75, and **more** than three postings will receive a 100 for that topic, {Considering content}). Responses to other postings must be substantive, i.e. consist of more than “I agree”, etc. Every effort should be made to consistently use appropriate grammar, etc. in discussion postings.

**PLEASE make sure you understand what is expected here. In order to receive full credit, you should have at least 5 postings; one to address the topic (with citations), and at least 4 responses to classmates. If this is not clear, ASK.**

**\*\*If you do not provide a formal response with references to one of the questions each week, regardless of how many times you respond to other students, you will not receive credit for that week.**

An additional note here: in surveying past classes, the overwhelming feeling is that students learned more and enjoyed most, the weekly discussion topics. I hope you will feel the same.

**Assessment Criteria:** Your work in this class will be assessed based on the following percentages:

Grading follows the traditional grading scale:

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

Grading points and emphasis will be scored as follows:

ITEM POINTS	
Introduction Assignment	10
Discussions	100 per assignment
Article Abstracts	100

**Grade Availability:** Grades will be available via the My Grades tool in WebCT.

**Incomplete Grades:** Incomplete grades may be given only if a student has passed the first half of the course, and provides evidence of a documented illness or family crisis that the instructor believes genuinely precluded successful completion of the course.

**Attendance Policy:** This class will be taught on-line. It is very important to participate in all on-line discussions. Missing online activities will negatively impact the participation aspect of your grade. It is the student's responsibility to obtain any information that is missed.

**Withdrawals:** It is the responsibility of the student to know important dates such as University drop dates. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the student to officially withdraw from any class that he or she intends to drop.

Students with Disabilities:

“If you have or believe you have a disability, you may wish to self-identify. You can do so by providing documentation to the Office for Services for Students with Disabilities, located at Garcia Annex (telephone 646-6840). Appropriate accommodations can then be provided for you. If you have a condition which may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency or which may cause an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of Disabled Student Programs. If you have general questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) call 646-3333.”

NOTE: I have tried to sprinkle a little humor here and there. No classroom (real or virtual) should be void of humor. It is good for the soul. May we all experience the Joy of learning.