



Foundations of Public Health
HLS 395 M70
(3 CR HRS)
Online - WebCT
Spring 2008

Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Susan L. Wilson
Phone: 575.646.4097
Email: wilsonsl@nmsu.edu
Office: HSS 309
Office Hours: M 1130 – 1230; T 1100 – 1300; W 1030 – 1130 or by appointment

Course Description

Principles and major areas of Public Health: ecological concepts and total person concept of health care systems, using basic epidemiological statistics.

Prerequisites

None

Requirements

Set up account on <http://salsa.nmsu.edu> and log-in a minimum of once per week and complete assignments and tests as assigned.

Required Textbook

“Introduction to Public Health, 2nd Edition”, by Mary-Jane Schneider.

Published by Jones and Bartlett. ISBN# 0-7637-3000-9

To order your textbook, please go to: <http://www.nmsubookstore.com/nmsu/> or any other book dealer of your choice.

Course Objectives:

After completing this course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the basic characteristics of communicable, chronic, mental, and environmental health problems.
2. Identify and describe the major specific health problems facing a community.
3. Identify the major issues concerning health problems and their solutions.
4. Describe the basic characteristics of community organizations which deal with community health problems.
5. Explain the various methods for dealing with community health problems.
6. Describe and evaluate the effects of local community organizations on local community health problems.
7. Assess community health education needs in relation to national and state health objectives.
8. Search online databases, Internet resources, and print-sources of research and program literature.

Course Requirements:

1. Specifics for all assignments are listed on the course webpage.
2. There will be eleven (11) assignments throughout the semester.
3. Each assignment must be completed by the posted due date, as no late assignments will be accepted.
4. Assignments may be turned in early.
5. Assignments are to be turned in via the assignment drop-box on the course website.
6. For complete assignment instructions please click on “Assignments” on the HLS 395 M70 Homepage.

Grading

Each student’s course grade will be determined by a series of assignments and two exams (a mid-term and a final).

Point Distribution

#	Type	Points Each	Total Points
10	Assignments	50	500
1	Assignment (spreadsheet)	100	100
1	Mid-term exam	200	200
1	Final exam (not comprehensive)	200	200
	Total Course points		1,000

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Percent</i>
A+	970 - 1000	97 - 100	C+	770 - 799	77 - 79
A	930 - 969	93 - 96	C	730 - 769	73 - 76
A-	900 - 929	90 - 92	C-	700 - 729	70 - 72
B+	870 - 899	87 - 89	D+	670 - 699	67 - 69
B	830 - 869	83 - 86	D	600 - 669	60 - 66
B-	800 - 829	80 - 82	F	<600	<60

Extra Credit

I do not technically give extra credit, i.e., I do not set up specific extra credit assignments. On the other hand, at the end of the semester, I will review students’ participation in online discussions. Occasionally, I may post a discussion question or topic and students may or may not respond – you are not required to participate in discussions. However, if you are borderline on a higher letter grade, your performance on the discussion boards will be considered. No guarantees and no promises.

Helpful Websites:

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: www.cdc.gov

Central Intelligence Agency: <https://www.cia.gov>

Healthy People 2010: <http://www.healthypeople.gov>

U.S. Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov>

Jones & Bartlett Publishers: <http://health.jbpub.com>

The Rules:

- Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.
- Any student accused of a specific act stated in the previous paragraph is subject to NMSU academic procedures relating or pertaining to violations of the student code of conduct for academic integrity.
- You may not take exams with someone else helping you!
- You may use your textbook and notes for exams.

Other Important Notes:

- ✓ Assignments are due by 11:55 pm on the due date via WebCT.
- ✓ I do not except emailed assignments.
- ✓ All communications associated with this course will be via your official NMSU e-mail account. Please be sure to check that account every week prior to class for important messages, handouts, etc.
- ✓ All assignments must be spell-checked and proofread. You should also run grammar check.

Students with Disabilities. If you have or believe you have a disability and would benefit from any accommodations, you may wish to self-identify by contacting the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Office located at Garcia Annex (phone: 646-6840). If you have already registered, please make sure that your instructor receives a copy of the accommodation memorandum from SSD within the first two weeks of classes. It is your responsibility to inform either your instructor or SSD representative in a timely manner if services/accommodations provided are not meeting your needs. 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 any concerns with the instructor and/or Mr. Michael Armendariz, SSD Coordinator. Feel free to call Ms. Angela Velasco (Interim EEO/ADA and Employee Relations Director) at 646-3333 with any questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All medical information will be treated confidentially.

Topics, Content, and Reading Assignments:

Tentative Reading Assignments

HLS 395 – M70

Wk. #	Dates	Reading Assignment	Misc. & Pages
1	Jan 16-18	Prologue , pp. xxv - xli	pp. xxv – 48
2	Jan 21 – 25	Chapter 1: What is Public Health? Chapter 2: Why is PH Controversial? Chapter 3: Power & Responsibility of Gov't	<i>Classes begin Wed. 16 Jan</i> <i>MLK Holiday Mon. 21 Jan.</i>
3	Jan 28 – Feb 1	Chapter 4: Epidemiology – The Basic Science of Public Health Chapter 5: Epidemiologic Principles & Methods Chapter 6: Problems & Limits of Epidemiology	pp. 49 - 98
4	Feb 4 – 8		
5	Feb 11 – 15	Chapter 7: Statistics: Making Sense of Uncertainty Chapter 8: The Role of Data in Public Health Chapter 9: The “Conquest” of Infectious Diseases	pp. 99 - 155
6	Feb 18 – 22	Chapter 10: The Resurgence of Infectious Diseases Chapter 11: The Biomedical Basis of Chronic Diseases Chapter 12: Genetic Diseases and Other Inborn Errors	pp.157 - 213
7	Feb 25 – 29	Midterm Exam – 20% of grade 50 Questions: Multiple Choice, matching, multiple answer and/or true false; 90 Minutes	Chapters 1 – 12 & any supplemental materials provided by Professor
8	Mar 3 – 7	Chapter 13: Do People Choose Their Own Health? Chapter 14: How Psychosocial Factors Affect Health Behavior Chapter 15: Tobacco – Public Health Emergency Number One	pp. 215 - 268

Wk. #	Dates	Reading Assignment	Misc. & Pages
9	Mar 10 – 14	Chapter 16: Public Health Threat Number Two and Growing: Poor Diet & Physical Inactivity Chapter 17: Injuries Are Not Accidents	pp. 269 - 310
10	Mar 17 – 21	Chapter 18: Maternal & Child Health as a Social Problem Chapter 19: A Clean Environment: The Basis of Public Health	pp. 311 - 347 <i>Spring Holiday: Fri, 21 Mar</i>
11	Mar 24 – 28	Yeah!!!! Spring Break - No Classes	
12	Mar 31 – Apr 4	Chapter 20: Clean Air: Is it Safe to Breathe? Chapter 21: Clean Water: A Limited Resource Chapter 22: Solid & Hazardous Waste	pp. 351 - 393
13	Apr 7 – 11	Chapter 23: Safe Food & Drugs Chapter 24: Population – The Ultimate Environmental Health Issue Chapter 25: Is the Medical Care System a Public Health Issue?	pp. 395 - 447
14	Apr 14 – 25	Chapter 26: Why the U.S. Medical System Needs Reform Chapter 27: Health Services Research Chapter 28: Public Health and the Aging Population	pp. 451 - 509
15	Apr 28 – May 2	Chapter 29: Emergency Preparedness, Post-9/11 Chapter 30: Public Health in the 21 st Century	pp. 513 - 548
16	May 5 - 9	Final Exam Week Final Exam – 20% of grade; 60 Multiple Choice Questions; 120 Minutes	