

University of Florida
College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus
PHC 6937: Trauma Informed Approaches for Individuals, Communities, and Public Health
(3 credit hours)
Spring: 2019
Delivery Format: Online in Canvas

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College of Public Health and Health Professions
Email Address: linking@ufl.edu
Office Hours: By appointment only

Preferred Course Communications: Direct email. Email Policy: Outlook email is a safer means of communication than the email function within Canvas.

Prerequisites

Admission to program or approval of instructor

PURPOSE AND OUTCOME

Course Overview

This course will provide students (1) an overview of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), trauma, and the trauma-informed approach; (2) the opportunity to develop trauma-informed public health interventions to prevent ACEs and treat trauma using the social ecological model; and (4) practical instruction in the grant writing process.

Course Rationale

This course is needed because trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) represent a significant threat to public health. Trauma and ACEs are considered a public health epidemic and are associated with an increased risk of morbidity over the life course and early mortality. The CDC recommends the dissemination and implementation of trauma-informed approaches to prevent and treat trauma. Despite this public health need, we found no graduate-level courses available in a school of public health that address trauma, ACEs, or trauma-informed public health approaches. We wish to fill this gap through this course and open the course to graduate students outside of our college and outside of our university. Additionally, most public health interventions take a public health deficit approach and focus solely on the risk factors faced by vulnerable populations. In contrast, trauma informed approaches focus on protective factors and view communities as valuable assets. Upon successful implementation of the instruction, students will be able to see public health problems and solutions through a trauma-informed lens. Students will also be experienced in designing public health interventions to address and prevent trauma and have experience writing a grant to address and treat trauma through trauma-informed approaches.

Relation to Program Outcomes

This 3-credit graduate level course will be part of a University of Florida (UF) College of Public Health & Health Professions 9-credit (3 course) graduate certificate in "Trauma-Informed Public Health." The graduate level course will build a foundation in public health with a focus on its application to creating strengths-based trauma-informed public health approaches and interventions and trauma-informed communities. Students completing this graduate certificate will be able to understand how trauma, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and resiliency affects an individual's and a community's well-being. Students will also be able to institute resiliency-building practices to building healthier communities. This course will be a 16-week course and will be the second course of the series for the graduate certificate. Students can choose to take this course as an elective by itself or as part of the 3-course (9-credit) graduate certificate.

Course Objectives and/or Goals

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Define trauma, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and trauma-informed approaches within a public health approach
2. Compare and contrast the prevention and treatment of trauma at the primary, secondary, and tertiary public health prevention levels through SAMHSA or relevant journal articles
3. Develop trauma-informed, resilience-based public health interventions to address and prevent trauma and ACEs at all levels of the social ecological model, with particular emphasis on the community-level
4. Develop grant proposal that addresses trauma, ACEs, and/or a trauma-informed public health approach

Instructional Methods

This course is offered online, in weekly “modules.” Each module is made up of the following:

- 1.) Assigned readings (articles posted online to Canvas)
- 2.) Lectures/videos (posted online to Canvas)
- 3.) Discussion posts or other assignments due

What is expected of you?

You are expected to actively engage in the course throughout the semester. This course relies heavily on participation in the online discussion boards with instructor and classmates; your participation fosters a rich course experience for you and your peers. It is the sole responsibility of the student in online courses to keep up with course requirements. You are expected to do preparatory work (including reading and/or watching videos linked in Canvas) each week prior to participating in online discussion boards, which will be spent primarily on critical discussion and application of course content to real-world public health problems. Throughout online course discussions, you will be asked to initiate ideas, share relevant experiences, reflect on what your classmates post, and critique and extend the course readings and lectures. Participating actively requires that you are open to discussing your beliefs and how you define yourself while also opening yourself to other points of view and considering them critically. Rich discussion frequently entails disagreements not only about issues, but also about basic values. As a participant in this class, **you are expected to be respectful toward others and their views**, even if they are radically opposed to your own beliefs.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT

Course Materials and Technology

There is no required textbook for this course.

Required Readings: Posted on the course website (Canvas).

Course Website: The course website is available on Canvas at <http://elearning.ufl.edu>. The weekly schedule, additional course materials, and links to submit course assignments and weekly discussion questions are available through this website. You will log into the course website using your gatorlink ID and password; if you have trouble logging in, please contact the Help Desk at 352-392-HELP.

Announcements: Class announcements will be sent via the announcements tool in Canvas. Depending on your CANVAS notification settings, you may or may not be notified via email; **you are responsible for all information in these announcements** whether or not you see them in your email. **Please update your settings so that you are notified of announcements.**

Technical Requirements: You are REQUIRED to have a webcam and microphone. Browser requirements may change; please consult <https://kb.helpdesk.ufl.edu/FAQs/SupportedBrowsersForUFWebsites> to see a list of supported browsers and recommendations for browser configuration.

For **other technical support** for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://elearning.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Assignments

Course Components:

1. **Syllabus Quiz and Trauma Trigger Warning:** You are asked to complete a brief quiz on the syllabus and academic integrity prior to unlocking the course content on Canvas. In addition to this quiz, you are required to acknowledge the trauma trigger warning. While these elements are ungraded, you must receive a 100% on the quiz and acknowledge the warning to unlock course materials.
2. **Readings and Other Course Materials (Lectures/Videos):** For each weekly module, you will be assigned specified journal articles or other readings to read. Within each module on Canvas, additional information may be provided (e.g., recorded lectures and/or videos). Whether these materials are required or optional will be described within that week's page on Canvas.
3. **Online Discussion Participation & Weekly Activities:** The exchange of ideas between colleagues is a key aspect of learning and is a required activity in this course. In several modules, we will have a group discussion component. You may also have short out-of-class assignments that you will discuss on the discussion board that will be considered part of this grade; more information on these assignments will be provided under the appropriate module. While you are graded on overall participation each week, you are required to complete each week's discussion post and reply to **a minimum** of two other students' posts on that week's group board. Discussion posts should address **all** questions in that week's prompt (you can separate sections by question # or write all answers in a narrative form, just be clear to indicate that you've answered all questions), and you should end your post in a way that engages the class in discussion (e.g., ending with a question to the group that will generate interesting discussion about the topic and must demonstrate critical thinking related to the week's readings/content). Appropriate questions include those that 1) seek clarity on course material; 2) relate the course material to other public health issues/theories or discussions we've had; 3) provide the basis for further investigation that would build on the readings; 4) generate interesting course discussion/debate. Please consult the rubric posted online on Canvas for an outline of what we are looking for in the discussion posts and how they will be scored. **Students can earn up to 10 points each week for discussion participation, for a total of 110 points over the course of the semester. (There are 12 required discussions, but the first discussion is worth 0 points).**
4. **Grant Proposal Intervention Project:** Students will select a specific target population and an area of ACEs/ trauma that can be addressed through a public health intervention. Students will conduct a literature search and needs assessment of the selected population and the selected ACEs/ trauma area. Students will design a trauma-informed, resilience-based public health intervention that improves health, addresses a problem, and/or builds resilience within the population and selected ACEs/ trauma area. Students will select a level or levels of the social ecological model that the intervention will address. This intervention will be submitted in stages throughout the semester in the form of a grant proposal. Students are required to follow the guidelines outlined in the assignment rubric. The proposal should utilize academic/ research sources, class readings, and lectures and other videos. This proposal will be broken into smaller parts with specific due dates throughout the course that provide the opportunity for revision and refinement of the final product prior to the completed submission at the end of the semester. **Students can earn up to 80 total points (with partial points being assigned for each smaller part submitted).**
5. **ACEsConnection Assignment (Part 1 & 2): Profile Setup and ACEsConnection.com Blog Post:** This assignment will require students to visit the ACEsconnection website: <http://www.acesconnection.com>. Students will set up a profile at the beginning of the semester. Students will write a short article and publish it on the ACEsconnection website as a blog post. The

article will be related to your grant proposal intervention project. A detailed rubric will be provided.
This assignment is worth 10 total points (1 points for part 1 & 9 points for part 2).

Grading

Requirement	Due date	Points
Syllabus Quiz Trauma Trigger Warning	Must be completed to unlock course content	Not graded
Online Discussion Participation & other weekly activities	Ongoing	110
Grant Proposal Intervention Project	Part 1: Friday, Feb 8 Part 2: Friday, Feb 22 Part 3: Friday, Mar 15 Part 4: Friday, Apr 5 Final proposal: Friday, Apr 19	80
ACEsConnection Assignment (Part 1 & 2):	Part 1: Friday, Jan 18 Part 2: Wednesday, Apr 24	10

Point system used

Points earned	≥185	179-184	176-178	165-175	159-164	156-158	145-155	139-144	136-138	125-135	119-124	<119
Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E

Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. The GPA for graduate students must be 3.0. in all 5000 level courses and above to graduate. A grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if a sufficient number of credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher have been earned with a B+ or higher.

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
Grade Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>

Policy Related to Make up Exams or Other Work

Late assignments are not accepted and will receive 0 points unless arrangements have been made ahead of the due date with the instructor or extenuating circumstances are presented to the instructor and approved. If you have a scheduling conflict that prevents you from fulfilling a certain course requirement, please contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues **MUST** be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You **MUST** e-mail me within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Policy Related to Required Class Attendance

Please note all faculty are bound by the UF policy for excused absences.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>
<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Policy Related to Guests Attending Class:

Only registered students are permitted to attend class. However, we recognize that students who are caretakers may face occasional unexpected challenges creating attendance barriers. Therefore, by exception, a department chair or his or her designee (e.g., instructors) may grant a student permission to bring a guest(s) for a total of two class sessions per semester. This is two sessions total across all courses. No further extensions will be granted. Please note that guests are **not** permitted to attend either cadaver or wet labs. Students are responsible for course material regardless of attendance. For additional information, please review the Classroom Guests of Students policy in its entirety. Link to full policy: <http://facstaff.phhp.ufl.edu/services/resourceguide/getstarted.htm>

SUPPORT SERVICES

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the Dean of Students Office <http://www.dso.ufl.edu> within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive

accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Counseling and Student Health

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The Counseling and Wellness Center 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>. On line and in person assistance is available.
- You Matter We Care website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The Student Health Care Center at Shands is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at Shands offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the web site at: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from:
Alachua County Crisis Center:
(352) 264-6789
<http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

Inclusive Learning Environment

Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act." If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: www.multicultural.ufl.edu

Topical Outline/Course Schedule (Begins on following page):

- Readings are subject to change. Please visit Canvas modules for most updated readings.

Week	Topic	Readings	Assignments
WEEK 1: 1/7/19-1/13/19	Course Introduction and Overview	SAMHSA's concept of trauma and guidance for a trauma-informed approach" (pages 1-8 only for this week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus quiz • Trauma trigger warning • Introduction discussion post due Friday, Jan 11 • Discussion replies by Sunday, Jan 13
WEEK 2: 1/14/19 – 1/20/19	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and trauma overview	CDC website – ACEs and trauma: A public health epidemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACEsConnection assignment part 1 due Friday, Jan 18 • Discussion post due Friday, Jan 18 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Jan 20
WEEK 3: 1/21/19 – 1/27/19	ACEs and Health Outcomes	<p>Felitti. (2002). The Relationship of Adverse Childhood Experiences to adult health: Turning gold into lead</p> <p>Felitti et al. (1998). Relationship of child abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading cause of death in adults: The Adverse Childhood Experiences Study</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion post due Friday, Jan 25 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Jan 27
WEEK 4: 1/28/19 – 2/3/19	ACEs, Trauma, and the Brain	Bremner. (2006). Traumatic stress: effects on the brain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion post due Friday, Feb 1 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Feb 3
WEEK 5: 2/4/19-2/10/19	Expanded ACEs	<p>Bruner. (2017). ACE, place, race, and poverty: Building hope for children</p> <p>Findings from the Philadelphia Urban ACE survey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Proposal Intervention Project – part 1 due Friday, Feb 8 • Discussion post due Friday, Feb 8 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Feb 10
WEEK 6: 2/11/19 – 2/17/19	Trauma and marginalized populations	<p>Bowen & Shaanta. (2016). Trauma-informed social policy: A conceptual framework for policy analysis and advocacy</p> <p>Other articles provided by guest speaker TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion post due Friday, Feb 15 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Feb 17
WEEK 7: 2/18/19 – 2/24/19	A social ecological approach to address trauma	DeCandia & Guarino. (2015). Trauma-informed care: A ecological response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Proposal Intervention Project – part 2 due Friday, Feb 22 • Discussion post due Friday, Feb 22

		Other articles provided by guest speaker TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion replies due Sunday, Feb 24
WEEK 8: 2/25/19 – 3/3/19	Trauma-informed approach overview	SAMHSA's concept of trauma and guidance for a trauma-informed approach" (pages 9-17) Other articles TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion post due Friday, Mar 1 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Mar 3
WEEK 9: 3/4/19 – 3/10/19	Spring Break	Spring Break	Spring Break
WEEK 10: 3/11/19 – 3/17/19	Trauma-informed research gaps	Reeves. (2015). A synthesis of the literature on trauma-informed care Baker et al. (2016). Development and psychometric evaluation of the attitudes related to trauma-informed care (ARTIC) Scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Proposal Intervention Project – part 3 due Friday, Mar 15 • Discussion post due Friday, Mar 15 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Mar 17
WEEK 11: 3/18/19 – 3/24/19	Trauma-informed principles	Oral et al. (2016). Adverse childhood experiences and trauma informed care: the future of health care Other articles TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion post due Friday, Mar 22 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Mar 24
WEEK 12: 3/25/19 – 3/31/19	Trauma-informed public health interventions (at different levels of SEM)	Bloom. (2016). Advancing a national cradle-to-grave public health agenda Other articles TBD	
WEEK 13: 4/1/19 – 4/7/19	Trauma-informed public health interventions (at different levels of SEM)	Beidas, et al. (2016). Lessons learned while building a trauma-informed public behavioral health system in the city of Philadelphia Other articles TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Proposal Intervention Project – part 4 – due Friday, Apr 5
WEEK 14: 4/8/19 – 4/14/19	Trauma-informed public health interventions (at different levels of SEM)	Lucio & Nelson. (2016). Effective practices in the treatment of trauma in children and adolescents: From guidelines to organizational practices Other articles TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion post due Friday, Apr 12 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Apr 14
WEEK 15: 4/15/19 – 4/21/19	Trauma-informed community approaches	Read articles on community resiliency for Flint Water crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Grant Proposal Intervention Project due Friday, Apr 19, 2019

		MARC grant website reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post due Friday, Apr 19 • Discussion replies due Sunday, Apr 21
WEEK 16: 4/22/19 – 4/28/19	Trauma-informed community approaches	<p>Mendelson et al. (2015). Brief report: Moving prevention into schools: The impact of trauma-informed school-based intervention</p> <p>Creating a “Sanctuary” for Trauma-Informed Treatment: A Collaborative Clinic Serving the Local Community and Enhancing the Education of Philadelphia University Graduate Students</p>	ACEsConnection assignment part 2 due Wednesday, Apr 24