**University of Florida**
**College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus**
**PHC 6937: Introduction to Public Health**
Summer 2021
Delivery Format: Online e-Learning in Canvas

**Instructor Name:** Heather Stark, MD, MPH
Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor
Office Hours: By request. Please send message via UF email.
Preferred Course Communications: hsaanderson@ufl.edu or canvas

**Prerequisites: None**

**PURPOSE AND OUTCOME**
**Course Overview**
The purpose of this course is to provide a broad introduction to public health, as well as an understanding about how the health professions and specialized health research contribute to achieving the goals of public health.
The course is designed to provide a foundation in core public health knowledge and the breadth of public health for students in the following programs in the College of Public Health and Health Professions:
- MA with a major in Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Master of Health Administration, MS programs in Biostatistics and Epidemiology
- Master of Health Science in Environmental and Global Health: One Health
- Doctor of Audiology (campus and distance programs)
- Doctor of Physical Therapy
- PhD programs in Biostatistics, Clinical and Health Psychology, Epidemiology, Health Services Research, and Rehabilitation Science

**Relation to Program Outcomes**
Students pursuing degrees within the UF College of Public Health and Health Professions must be grounded in foundational public health knowledge.  A public health orientation is provided via this three-credit equivalent course designed for students in graduate professional, Master's, and PhD programs who do not have prior graduate level public health training.

**Course Objectives and/or Goals**
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Explain Public Health history, philosophy, and values
- Identify the core functions of public health and the 10 Essential Services
- Explain the role of quantitative and qualitative methods and sciences in describing and assessing a population's health
- List major causes and trends of morbidity and mortality in the US or other community relevant to the school or program
- Discuss the science of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention in population health, including health promotion, screening, etc.
- Explain the critical importance of evidence in advancing public health knowledge
- Explain effects of environmental factors on a population's health
- Explain biological and genetic factors that affect a population's health
- Explain behavioral and psychological factors that affect a population's health
- Explain the social, political and economic determinants of health and how they contribute to population health and health inequities
- Explain how globalization affects global burdens of disease

- Explain an ecological perspective on the connections among human health, animal health and ecosystem health (e.g., One Health)

## Instructional Methods
The course is provided entirely online using video presentations and selected readings in a semi-self-paced format. The course is housed in UF e-Learning in Canvas. The course requires 48 contact hours and may be taken at any time during a student's program in the College of Public Health and Health Professions. Course content, depth, and level of difficulty are equivalent to 3 graduate credits at the University of Florida – whether the course is taken for credit or as a zero-credit curriculum requirement (see your program's requirements for details on whether you will be enrolled as a for-credit or a zero-credit student).

## What is expected of you?
This is a self-guided course with weekly modules that include weekly lectures, video resources, and readings posted on the Canvas site. Students will work through the material and complete weekly assignments.

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT**
**Topical Outline/Course Schedule**

| Modules | Topic(s) | Topics |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Course Introduction Public health history, philosophy, and values | • What is public health? <br>• Review syllabus and course requirements <br>• History of public health <br>• Values and Ethics in public health <br>• A philosophy of public health |
| 2 | The core functions of public health and the 10 Essential Services | • Core functions/10 Essential Services <br>• The public health system in the United States |
| 3 | Quantitative and Qualitative research methods in public health | • Epidemiological contributions to public health <br>• Biostatistics contributions to public health <br>• Quantitative research contributions to public health <br>• Qualitative research contributions to public health |
| 4 | Behavioral and Psychological Factors That Affect Public Health | • Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health |
| 5 | Environmental health/One health | • What is Environmental Health? <br>• Environmental Health contributions to Public Health <br>• One Health |
| 6 | Global public health | • What is Global Public Health? <br>• Planetary Health |
| 7 | Social, Political and Economic Determinants of Health Diversity and Inclusiveness in Public Health | • Social Determinants of Health <br>• Health Equity <br>• Diversity in public health |
| 8 | Evidence-Based Public Health | • Evidence-based public health |
| 9 | Public Health Biology | • Biological and genetic factors that affect a population's health <br>• Infectious disease control |
| 10 | The Science of Prevention in Public Health | • Types of prevention <br>• Screening in public health |
| 11 | Public Health Trends and Initiatives in Our Community | • Health disparities <br>• COVID 19 |
| 12 | Examples of Milestones in Public Health | |

**Course Materials and Technology**

TEXBOOKS:

- Andresen, E. and DeFries Bouldin E. *Public Health Foundations: Concepts and Practices*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2010. First Edition.
  > This book is available as an eBook through the UF HSC Library:
  > www.books24x7.com/marc.asp?bookid=41011
  > When you click on the link, you will be taken to the Books 24 X 7 portal. Click only on the text name. You will be asked to accept terms and then be given access to the book. If you click on the author names by accident you will be directed to a log-on – not the book. Below is an image of what the portal page looks like.
  > NOTE: You must either be on campus or logged in off-campus through the UF VPN (https://vpn.ufl.edu/) to access the book.

- *Milestones in Public Health*. Pifzer Global Pharmaceuticals. 2006
  > This text is available at
  > http://www.aspph.org/app/uploads/2014/02/Milestones_in_Public_Health.pdf

Information on Student Computing requirements can be found here: http://studentlife.online.mph.ufl.edu/e-learning-support/e-learning/e-learning-in-canvas-technical-requirements/

For technical support for course materials and activities and assessments, please contact the Online Course coordinator at: Truly Hardemon, Med at hardemont@ufl.edu

For technical support for e-Learning in Canvas, 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**

Students will work through the material and complete the required assignments and discussions to develop a greater understanding of public health.

Students enrolled in the class for 3 credit hours will be have an additional assignment and required to compile their assignments into a portfolio. Once all of the portfolio documents are completed, they will be submitted as a final document for evaluation.

If you would like feedback at any point during your coursework, please contact Dr. Stark with your questions and she will arrange to review your portfolio in progress.

| Requirement for all students | Points |
|---|---|
| Quiz 1 | 10 |
| Quiz 2 | 10 |
| Quiz 3 | 10 |
| Quiz 4 | 10 |
| Quiz 5 | 10 |
| Quiz 6 | 10 |
| Discussion: Introduction and peer response | 10 |
| Discussion Post: Diversity and Inclusiveness | 10 |
| Discussion response | 5 |
| Discussion Post: Public Health and your practice | 10 |
| Discussion response | 5 |
| **Additional requirements for For-Credit Students** | |
| Assignment 1 | 25 |
| Peer review Assignment 1 | 10 |
| Assignment 2 | 25 |
| Peer review Assignment 2 | 10 |
| Assignment 3 | 25 |
| Peer review Assignment 3 | 10 |
| Assignment 4 | 25 |
| Peer review Assignment 4 | 10 |
| Completed Portfolio (the 4 Assignments plus final discussion reflection:  Public Health and your practice) | 20 |
| **Total Points for Non-Credit Students** | 100 |
| **Total Points for For-Credit Students** | 260 |

### DISCUSSIONS

There will be a total of 3 discussions throughout the semester that will help engage you with you classmates and prepare you for your assignments. The introduction discussion and peer response is worth 10 points. The other two discussion are worth 10 points and your response to your classmates is worth 5 points.

*QUIZZES:*

There will be a total of 6 quizzes throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 10 points.

*ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS AND FINAL PORTFOLIO FOR 3-CREDIT STUDENTS*

Following each section of the course, there is an assignment. A total of 4 assignments, each worth 25 points will be required to develop a completed portfolio. In addition, you will complete a final assessment/ discussion on public health and your practice to add to your portfolio.

As part of an effort to facilitate peer interaction and engagement, you will be required to complete a peer review of one of your classmate's assignment due the week after the assignment is due. This will help to give your classmate constructive feedback regarding their assignment and portfolio.

*ASSIGNMENT PAPER ASSIGNEMNTS:* **Overview:**

The assignments are based on materials in the Modules of the course. The overall goal of the assignment papers is to reflect on Public Health as a lens through which to examine and refine your practice. An outline of what is required in the papers is listed below. Some of the questions you will write a reflective paper answering include:

- What was your prior knowledge of the subject matter contained in the section of the course?
- After exploring the materials in this section, what is your current thinking on the subjects presented? ● How will this information affect your practice?

**Scope:**

Points: 25 points each
Length: 800 words minimum; 1000 words maximum; 12 pt font (Arial, Times New Roman); double spaced
Process: Paper will be submitted in Canvas in the Assignment and will be checked through Turnitin.
Instructions: As described above. Answer the questions listed in the overview using your own experiences and specific examples from the videos and readings presented in this section. You do not need to provide summaries, but you should include details from the course materials that give evidence to:

- your thorough review of the materials
- your ability to analyze the materials and make inferences
- your ability to synthesize the course content into a working Public Health lens for your practice

**A rubric is provided in the assignment in Canvas.**

*INFOGRAPHIC (1 INFOGRAPHIC)* **OVERVIEW:**

This assignment is based on of the material presented in the course. The overall goal of the infographic assignment is to synthesize everything you learned about the five core areas of public health and relate them to your practice. An infographic is not the same as a graphic organizer. Each image used in the infographic should be a meaningful piece in presenting the content, not simply aesthetically pleasing.

**Instructions:**
Using PowerPoint or another simple graphics tool (such as Piktochart):

- Create a visual representation of how the five core areas of public health intersect based on the material contained in the course.

- Visually represent the connections between the five core areas and your own practice.

- This submission will be 1 slide of 10X20 inches, using graphics to convey ideas rather than text. (To adjust the size of your slide in PowerPoint, go to Design, and then Page Setup.) ● There is a 150 word maximum for this assignment.

- An infographic is one static slide used to convey pertinent information about a subject. Please review examples here: http://www.scribblelive.com/blog/2013/02/18/11-infographicsabout-infographics/

**Scope:**

Points:  25 points maximum

Process: Use shapes, images, and minimal text to design a graphic representation of the five core areas of public health and how they connect to your practice. The infographic will be submitted in Canvas in the assignment and become a part of the portfolio.

Instructions: As described above. Use graphic symbols to represent what you learned in this module and how it relates to your practice.

**A rubric is provided in the assignment in Canvas.**

**Grading**

**Point System Used**

| | 94 - 100 | 90 - <94 | 87 - <90 | 84 - <87 | 80 - <84 | 77 - <80 | 74 - <77 | 70 - <74 | 67 - <70 | 64 - <67 | 61 - <64 | 0 - <61 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Points earned** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **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. A grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if an equal number of credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher have been earned with an A.

| **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 |

For greater detail on the meaning of letter grades and university policies related to them, see the Registrar's Grade Policy regulations at: http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

**Policy Related to Make up Exams or Other Work**

Late submissions will be accepted for up to 4 days, but the following policies and penalties apply:

- Coordinator/instructor will not contact you about missing or incomplete assignments.
- It may be possible to avoid a late penalty IF YOU CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE. You should email the course coordinator and explain what issue (e.g., bereavement, illness) necessitates lateness. In some cases, documentation may be requested. If a lateness allowance is agreed to, this applies to a single assignment only. It does not allow you to delay future assignments. Note, conference attendance or doctoral qualifying examinations or thesis/dissertation defenses do not constitute valid lateness excuses.

There are four assignments in this course that make up the final portfolio. If an assignment is late, **you will lose 5% each day from your final portfolio score** up to the fourth day, after which a zero grade will be assigned for the assignment and 25% will be subtracted from the final portfolio score.  For example, if you are two days late submitting assignment 1, then 10% of the maximum portfolio score will be subtracted. If you are more than four

days late submitting assignment 1, then 25% of the maximum portfolio score will be deducted. "Late" begins one minute after the due time (e.g., an assignment due at 11:59 pm is considered late at midnight).

- Late portfolio submissions also will incur penalties. If the portfolio is late, you will lose 10% each day from your final portfolio score, up to the fourth day, after which a zero grade will be assigned for the portfolio and the course.

Please note: 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.

Discussions:
- Assignments turned in up to _24 hours late_ will be accepted but the assignment grade will be reduced by 10% of the grade you would have received.
- Assignments turned in more than 24 hours late will not be graded and will contribute zero points toward your final grade.
- Special Circumstances: In the event of exceptional situations that may interfere with your ability to perform an assignment or meet a deadline, contact the instructor as soon in advance
  o of the deadline as possible. Such special cases will be dealt on an individual basis, provided that you have sufficient documentation.
- Assignments turned in at 11:59:01 PM are LATE. This is how the Canvas programming works. Do not wait until 11:58 PM to submit an assignment unless you understand that the assignment may be marked late. See Notes on Turnitin® for time needed to submit an assignment.
- It is the responsibility of the student to verify not only that an assignment was submitted, but that an attachment was made, and it was the correct attachment, and in the correct file format.

**Policy Related to Required Class Attendance**
All faculty are bound by the UF policy for excused absences. For information regarding the UF Attendance Policy see the Registrar website for additional details: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

**STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT**

**Expectations Regarding Course Behavior**
Information regarding course etiquette can be found here: http://studentlife.online.mph.ufl.edu/e-learning-support/e-learning/netiquette/

**Communication Guidelines**

- When to contact the UF Computing Help Desk: http://studentlife.online.mph.ufl.edu/e-learningsupport/when- to/when-to-contact-the-uf-computing-helpdesk/

- When to post to the support discussions: http://studentlife.online.mph.ufl.edu/e-learningsupport/when-to/when-to-post-to-a-support-discussions/

- When to send e-mail to the instructor: http://studentlife.online.mph.ufl.edu/e-learning-support/whento/when- to-send-e-mail-to-the-instructor/

**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/.

**SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, you must register with the Dean of Students Office http://www.dso.ufl.edu within the first week of class. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please make sure you provide this letter to me by the end of the second week of the course. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

**U Matter, We Care Information**
Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please  contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength.  In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

**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