University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2018
SYLLABUS

PBHL 2300 - Introduction to Public Health (3 hrs)	
Department of Life and Health Sciences	Division of Liberal Arts and Life Sciences

Instructor Name:	**William Garner, DrPH, MPH, FACHE**
Office Location:	Founders Hall 260
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Office Hours:	Monday: 3:00-5:00 pm; Tuesday: 9:00-11:00 am; Other times by appointment
Classroom Location:	Founders Hall 304 (DAL1)
Class Days & Times:	Monday: 1:00 - 2:20 p.m.
Course Description:	Overview of the field of public health; its history and development, the structure and management of health institutions and organizations, determinants of chronic and acute illnesses, and public health ethics and policies. Topics include maternal and child health, community mental health, and healthcare delivery in the United States.
Prerequisites:	None
Co-requisites:	None
Required Text:	*Public Health 101: Healthy People-Healthy Populations* by Riegelman, Richard, Kirkwood, Brenda [Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2015]. Second edition. ISBN: 9781284123845
Learning Resources:	**UNT Dallas Library**: (Founders Hall) phone: (972) 780-1616 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/library e-mail: library@untdallas.edu **UNT Dallas Bookstore**: (Building 1) phone: (972) 780-3652 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com **UNT Dallas Writing Center:** (Building 1) phone: (972) 338-1755 web: http://www.untdallas.edu/wc e-mail: learningcommons@untdallas.edu

Course Goals or Overview:
The goal of this course is to provide students with an overview of the field of public health. Throughout the course, students will think critically and engage actively about real-world public health issues.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will	
1	Define public health and discuss the impact of public health on daily life.
2	Identify and discuss real-world public health issues.
3	Engage in a self-directed inquiry related to current issues in public health.
4	Explain the core concepts of prevention, detection, and control of infectious diseases
5	Demonstrate basic elements of critical thinking

Face-to-Face Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. This schedule may be revised. The instructor will communicate any changes to this schedule in class via class email or Blackboard announcement.

Week	Dates	Required Reading	Assessment
0	August 27	Introduction to the Course (Purchase Textbook)	Syllabus Quiz
		Module: Course Overview	Module Tasks
1	August 27 – September 2	Public Health: The Population Health Approach **(Chapter 1)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: This is Public Health	Module Tasks
2	September 3 – September 6	Evidence-Based Public Health **(Chapter 2)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Evidence for Informed Decision Making in Public Health	Module Tasks
3	September 10 – September 16	Public Health Data and Communications **(Chapter 3)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Communicating Public Health with Data	Module Tasks
4	September 17 – September 23	Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health **(Chapter 4)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Behavior and Health	Module Tasks
5	September 24 – September 30	Health Law, Policy, and Ethics **(Chapter 5)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Beyond the Data – Public Health Law	Module Tasks
6	October 1 – October 7	Tuskegee Syphilis Study	Reading Quiz
		Module: Race and Public Health Ethics	Module Tasks
7	October 8 – October 14	Non-Communicable Diseases **(Chapter 6)** Communicable Diseases **(Chapter 7)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Antibiotic Resistance	Module Tasks
8	October 15 – October 21	Midterm Examination Review Session **(Chapters 1-7, Tuskegee)**	Practice Exam
		Midterm Examination	Exam
9	October 22 – October 28	Environmental Health and Safety **(Chapter 8)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Environmental Health and Safety	Module Tasks
10	October 29 – November 4	Health Professionals and the Health Workforce **(Chapter 9)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Public Health Workforce	Module Tasks
11	November 5 – November 11	Healthcare Institutions **(Chapter 10)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Community Health Centers	Module Tasks
12	November 12 – November 18	Health Insurance and Healthcare Systems **(Chapter 11)**	Reading Quiz

		Module: The Healthcare System of the United States	Module Tasks
13	November 19 – November 25	Food and Drugs as Public Health Issues **(Chapter 13)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Food and Drugs in Public Health	Module Tasks
14	November 26 – December 2	Public Health Institutions and Systems **(Chapter 12)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: World Health Organization	Module Tasks
15	December 3 – December 9	The Future of Population Health **(Chapter 14)**	Reading Quiz
		Module: Health for Populations in Transition	Module Tasks
16	December 10 – December 16	Final Examination Review Session **(Chapters 1-14, Tuskegee)**	Practice Exam
		Final Examination	**Exam**

Course Evaluation Methods

This is a hybrid course. Students will complete part of the course in a traditional classroom setting and part of the course via online instruction.

Traditional Classroom Instruction. This course meets once a week for face-to-face instruction. The topic of each class is provided in the Course Outline section of the syllabus. Through the in-class discussions and other assessments, students are expected demonstrate mastery of assignment course content.

Online Instruction. Face-to-face meetings are supplemented by online instruction through weekly modules posted in Blackboard. Each week's online instruction will begin at 12:00 (midnight) on Monday morning and ends at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday evening. Students should set aside approximately 3 hours each week to complete the module. The topic of each week's module is provided in the Course Schedule section of the syllabus. Through the modules, students are expected demonstrate mastery of assignment course content by passing reading quizzes, completing a learning application exercise, and posting "high-quality" comments to discussion posts.

Class Requirements. Each week of this course is divided into three phases: (1) independent study to master identified objectives; (2) module tasks; and (3) term project (which begins after the midterm examination). Given the sequential nature of this course, Phases 1 and 2 must be completed by 11:59 p.m. on Friday evenings each week. This will afford students ample time to complete their term project work (Phase 3) by the weekly deadline by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday evenings each week.

Independent Study (Phase 1). Outside of Blackboard, students are expected to remain current on course reading requirements. This means that students are expected to actively and critically read the assigned the required chapters of the textbook and assigned journal articles before beginning the modules each week. Successful students will complete Phase 1 activities during the first 2-3 days of each week.

Module Tasks (Phase 2). Each week, the module task consists of a reading quiz, a discussion post, and a learning application.

- *Reading Quizzes.* Each student will complete quizzes as part of the weekly modules. The objective of this activity is to evaluate whether you have become well acquainted with the contents of the assigned reading. Each quiz will address questions specific to the assigned activities for the week. Quizzes are 5-10 multiple choice and true/false questions and should take 5 minutes to complete. Unless otherwise stated in Blackboard, quizzes end at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday morning.

- *Discussion Posts.* Each student will comment on at least one discussion post as part of the weekly modules. Discussion post comments must meet the "high quality" standard for this course. This means that comments must be 50-100 words, reflect the learning goals of the course and demonstrate a clear, in-

depth understanding of the subject matter. Comments will be assigned a grade for originality and constructiveness based on the following rubric. You will need three comments for full credit: An original initial post and two comments to other students' comments. Unless otherwise stated in Blackboard, discussion posts end at 11:59 p.m. on Friday evening.

- *Learning Applications.* Each student will complete learning applications as part of the weekly modules. The objective of this activity is to give students the opportunity to apply key concepts from the week's reading and other course activities. Each learning activity is specific to the assigned activity for the week. Learning activities should take 30-60 minutes to complete. Unless otherwise stated in Blackboard, learning applications end at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday evening.

Discussion Board Grading Rubric

Points	Quality
5	Demonstrates mastery of key concepts; constructively critiques work of others in a manner that stimulates discussion; provides ample citations for support of opinions; readily offers new interpretations of discussion material. Ideas are expressed clearly, concisely; uses appropriate vocabulary. Exceeds standards regarding quality and quantity of comments by posting more than 1 "high quality" comment to 2 or more students.
4	Demonstrates sufficient grasp of key concepts; critiques work of others, offering a divergent viewpoint or challenge; shows sufficient skill in support for opinions. Some sufficient organization with expression.
2	Shows evidence of understanding most major concepts; will offer an occasional divergent viewpoint or challenge; shows some skill in support for opinions. Some signs of disorganization with expression; transition wording may be faulty.
1	Has a mostly shallow grasp of the material; rarely takes a stand on issues; offers inadequate levels of support. Poor language use garbles much of the message; only an occasional idea surfaces clearly; expression seems disjointed; overuse of the simple sentence and redundancy with words and commentary; paragraphs often appear unrelated to each other. This student requires constant prompting for contributions.
0	No posting.

Term Project (Phase 3). Students will interview a public health professional working in public health. The interviewee must have a graduate degree in public health (e.g., MPH, DrPH, Ph.D. or similar degree in health policy, epidemiology, health services research, community, and maternal health, etc.). Each student will develop a presentation based on the interview criteria. This activity must follow the formatting guide provided for this activity as outlined in Blackboard. Each aspect of the term project must be uploaded to Blackboard in Microsoft Word and Microsoft PowerPoint unless otherwise stated.

Each of the following assignments is graded as term project:

- *Interview with a Public Health Professional (Presentation).* Each student will prepare a PowerPoint presentation of approximately three (3) minutes that summarizes how their conversation and what they learned about public health as a result of it. This activity must follow the formatting guide provided for this activity as outlined in Blackboard.

Midterm Examination. Each student will take a midterm exam that will cover materials from the course, primarily the assigned reading from the required textbook. Students will have up to 20 minutes to answer 20 randomly

selected multiple-choice questions from Weeks 1-7. Once you open the exam, you must complete it on the first attempt. Students will only have one try to take the midterm examination.

Final Examination. Each student will take a final examination that will cover materials from the course, primarily the assigned reading from the required textbook. Students will have up to 20 minutes to answer 20 randomly selected multiple-choice questions from Weeks 1-16. Once you open the exam, you must complete it on the first attempt. Students will only have one try to take the final examination.

Class Participation and Attendance. Regular attendance is expected of each student. Persistent absence will affect your grade for class participation. Repeated unexcused absences and tardiness will affect your grade significantly. Two tardies is the equivalent of one absence. Leaving class before the end of the period will be considered an absence. Whether excused or unexcused, your attendance grade will suffer due to absences and tardies. Students will lose 5 points per absence (or 2.5 points per tardy). After the eigth absence, you will receive a failing grade for the entire class and/or dropped from the course.

Use of Personal Technology. If not otherwise specified by the instructor, cell phones, laptops, I-Pads, Kindles, and other electronic devices **MUST** be switched off and placed out of sight during class. If it is visible to the instructor, you will receive a **ZERO** grade for participation on that day. The use of laptop computers in class is not allowed. Moreover, if you need to leave the classroom during class, let the instructor know the reason for leaving, otherwise you will receive a **ZERO** grade for participation on that day. Anyone who is observed text messaging or using an electronic device during class will receive a **ZERO** grade for participation on that day as well. Additionally, students may not *record lectures* or take pictures in the class without special permission.

Grading Matrix:

Assessments	Available (points)	Earned (points)
Module Tasks		
Reading Quizzes (15)	150	
Discussion Posts (15)	150	
Learning Applications (14)	140	
Term Project		
Public Health Interview Notes	N/A	
Public Health Interview PowerPoint	100	
Examinations		
Midterm Examination	100	
Final Examination	100	
Class Attendance and Participation	60	
Total:	**800**	

Grade Determination:
    A = 720-800 points
    B = 640-719 points
    C = 560-639 points
    D = 480-559 points
    F = less than 480 points

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance). The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy. The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy. Assignments must be turned in on time. Late work is not accepted unless it has been approved in advance by the instructor in writing before the due date.

Classroom Etiquette. Any student whose behavior disrupts the learning environment will be asked to leave the class. Any violation of classroom etiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at http://www.untdallas.edu/osa/policies.

Exam Policy. Exams should be taken as scheduled. No make-up examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity. Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

The University academic integrity policy is in effect for this course. Academic dishonesty includes, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), improper collaboration, and/or the fabrication, falsification or alteration of information. Any act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Dean of Students and may result in a grade of F on the assignment, removal from the course with a final grade of F, and any other sanction as deemed appropriate for the offense, including suspension or expulsion.

Bad Weather Policy. On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information so that they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy. The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to http://www.untdallas.edu/registrar for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is your

responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course

Online "Netiquette": In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks). Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind. Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at http://www.untdallas.edu/osa/policies. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy. Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Requirements: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements.

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the platform software for this course. Blackboard Learn supports major web browsers such as Windows Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. However, since the latter two are updated continually, some recent versions may not be compatible. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Internet Explorer. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable popups.

For more information see:
- http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements
- https://blackboard.secure.force.com/publickbarticleview?id=kAB700000008Oom
- https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html