

# University of North Texas at Dallas

## Fall 2017

### SYLLABUS

<b>PBHL 2300 - Introduction to Public Health (3 hrs)</b>	
Department of Life and Health Sciences	Division of Liberal Arts and Life Sciences
<b>Instructor Name:</b>	<b>William Garner, DrPH, MPH, FACHE</b>
<b>Office Location:</b>	Founders Hall 260
<b>Office Phone:</b>	(972) 338-1541
<b>Email Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:william.garner@untdallas.edu">william.garner@untdallas.edu</a>
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesday – 9:00am -11:00am; Wednesday – 3:00pm - 5:00pm; Thursday – 9:00am - 11:00am; Other times available by appointment
<b>Classroom Location:</b>	Founders Hall 213
<b>Class Days &amp; Times:</b>	Tuesday: 11:30AM - 12:50PM
<b>Course Description:</b>	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 health care delivery in the United States.
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None
<b>Co-requisites:</b>	None
<b>Required Text:</b>	<i>Public Health 101: Healthy People-Healthy Populations</i> by Riegelman, Richard, Kirkwood, Brenda [Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2015]. Second edition. ISBN: 9781284123845
<b>Learning Resources:</b>	<p><b>UNT Dallas Library:</b> (Founders Hall) phone: (972) 780-1616 web: <a href="http://www.untdallas.edu/library">http://www.untdallas.edu/library</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:library@untdallas.edu">library@untdallas.edu</a></p> <p><b>UNT Dallas Bookstore:</b> (Building 1) phone: (972) 780-3652 web: <a href="http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore">http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:untdallas@bkstr.com">untdallas@bkstr.com</a></p> <p><b>UNT Dallas Writing Center:</b> (Building 1) phone: (972) 338-1755 web: <a href="http://www.untdallas.edu/wc">http://www.untdallas.edu/wc</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:learningcommons@untdallas.edu">learningcommons@untdallas.edu</a></p>
<b>Course Goals or Overview:</b>	
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.	
<b>Learning Objectives/Outcomes:</b> 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 core concepts of prevention, detection, and control of infectious diseases
5	Demonstrate basic elements of critical thinking

## Hybrid Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. This schedule may be revised. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor in class, via class email or Blackboard announcement.

Week	Dates	Required Reading	Assessment
1	August 22	Introduction to the Course ( <b>Purchase Textbook</b> ) What is Public Health Public Health: The Population Health Approach ( <b>Chapter 1</b> )	Reading Quiz
	August 24	<b>Module:</b> This is Public Health	Module Components
2	August 29	Evidence-Based Public Health ( <b>Chapter 2</b> )	Reading Quiz
	August 31	<b>Module:</b> Evidence for Informed Decision Making in Public Health	Module Components
3	September 5	Public Health Data and Communications ( <b>Chapter 3</b> )	Reading Quiz
	September 7	<b>Module:</b> Communicating Public Health with Data	Module Components
4	September 12	Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Health ( <b>Chapter 4</b> )	Reading Quiz
	September 14	<b>Module:</b> Behavior and Health	Module Components
5	September 19	Health Law, Policy, and Ethics ( <b>Chapter 5</b> )	Reading Quiz
	September 21	<b>Module:</b> Beyond the Data – Public Health Law	Module Components
6	September 26	Tuskegee Syphilis Study	Reading Quiz
	September 28	<b>Module:</b> Race and Public Health Ethics	Module Components
7	October 3	Midterm Examination Review Session ( <b>Chapters 1-5</b> )	Practice Exam
	October 5	<b>Midterm- Examination</b>	Exam
8	October 10	Non-Communicable Diseases ( <b>Chapter 6</b> ) Communicable Diseases ( <b>Chapter 7</b> )	Reading Quiz
	October 12	<b>Module:</b> Antibiotic Resistance	Module Components
9	October 17	Environmental Health and Safety ( <b>Chapter 8</b> )	Reading Quiz
	October 19	<b>Module:</b> Environmental Health and Safety	Module Components
10	October 24	Health Professionals and the Health Workforce ( <b>Chapter 9</b> )	Reading Quiz
	October 26	<b>Module:</b> Public Health Workforce	Module Components
11	October 31	Health Insurance and Healthcare Systems ( <b>Chapter 11</b> )	Reading Quiz
	November 2	<b>Module:</b> The Healthcare System of the United States	Module Components
12	November 7	Healthcare Institutions ( <b>Chapter 10</b> )	Reading Quiz
	November 9	<b>Module:</b> Community Health Centers	Module Components
13	November 14	Public Health Institutions and Systems ( <b>Chapter 12</b> )	Reading Quiz

	November 16	<b>Module:</b> World Health Organization	Module Components
14	November 21	<b>Module:</b> Food and Drugs as Public Health Issues ( <b>Chapter 13</b> )	No Class Schedule
	November 23	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	
15	November 28	The Future of Population Health ( <b>Chapter 14</b> )	Reading Quiz
	November 30	<b>Module:</b> Health for Populations in Transition	Module Components
16	December 5	<b>Student Papers and Presentations</b>	Presentation
	December 7	<b>Course Evaluation</b>	Evaluation
17	December 12	<b>Student Presentations</b>	Presentation
	December 14	<b>Last Day of Class</b>	Happy Holidays!

## Course Evaluation Methods

This is a hybrid course. Student 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 Hybrid 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.

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 15 minutes to complete.

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.

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.

## 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 in terms of 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 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 a redundancy with words and commentary; paragraphs often appear unrelated to each other. This student requires constant prompting for contributions.
0	No posting.

**Midterm Examination.** Each student will take a midterm examination that will cover materials from the course, primarily the assigned reading from the text, *Public Health 101*. Students will have up to 90 minutes to answer 5 randomly selected short essay questions from Weeks 1-5. Once you open the exam, you must complete it on the first attempt. Students will only have one attempt.

**Interview with a Public Health Professional (Paper).** Each student will interview an individual who works in a public health position and prepare a written summary report of 500 – 750 words approximately 2-3 pages. The interview must be recorded (either by telephone or in person). The report must follow the formatting guide provided for this activity and it must also be double-spaced, 12-point font, one-inch margins.

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

**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. Three tardies is the equivalent of one absence. Leaving class before the end of the period will be considered an absence. You are allowed a maximum of three (3) absences, whether excused or unexcused, without penalty. After three absences, your attendance grade will suffer, 5 points per absence. After the twelfth 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:**

<b>Assessments</b>	<b>Available (points)</b>	<b>Earned (points)</b>
Reading Quizzes (14)	140	
Learning Applications (14)	140	
Discussion Posts (16)	80	
Midterm Examination	100	
Interview Paper	100	
Interview Paper Presentation	100	
Class Participation/Attendance	40	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>700</b>	

**Grade Determination:**

- A = 627-700 points
- B = 557-626 points
- C = 487-556 points
- D = 417-486 points
- F = less than 417 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 makeup 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%20Integrity.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](http://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 F 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/public/articleview?id=kAB700000008Oom>
- [https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check\\_full.html](https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html)