HEALTH 215: INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH (3 credits)
Section: 05
COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL 2014

Instructor: Chelsea L. Demarest, MPH

Office: Room 222, Silcox Physical Education and Health Center

E-mail: DEMARESTCL@COFC.EDU
*All emails must include “HEALTH_215_MW” in the subject line.
*Emails with an incorrect subject line will NOT be answered.

Phone: N/A

Course Meeting Time:
Days: Monday and Wednesday
Time: 2:00PM-3:15PM
Location: Johnson Physical Education Center
Room: 116

Office Hours: Wednesdays 11:00-12:30PM
Thursdays 2:00-3:30PM
*Or by appointment

Prerequisites: None

Grading

Course Catalog Description
This course is designed to introduce the basic tenets, applications, and foci of public health, including integrating public health with other health professions. It will provide a history of public health, an overview of the core disciplines, current events and issues in the field.
Required Textbooks

*Other readings and materials as assigned

CEPH Competency Description
1. Explain the population health perspective and the methods used by public health to define and address population-wide/social concerns and the needs of vulnerable populations through the provision of essential services.
2. Explain from a national and global perspective the burden of disease, social-economic determinants of health, the links between health and development, and approaches to international cooperation to monitor, promote and protect health. Describe the most cost-effective interventions to address key issues e.g. nutrition, TB, malaria, and HIV and long term issues including sustainability.
3. Explain the use of clinical and community interventions for assessing, protecting, and improving health and preventing, detecting, curing and minimizing the impact of disease.
4. Explain the way biological, environmental, and psycho-social and cultural factors interact in disease production across time and understand how these influences can impact prevention strategies. Describe historical examples of the changing definitions of public health in a variety of cultures and times, including major scientific advancements and achievements that have had a significant impact on the advancement of public health. Compare and contrast response to public health issues in different times and cultures.
5. Explain the range of social and behavioral theories applicable to health behavior and apply these theories to interventions addressing a variety of health impairing conditions, populations, and intervention contexts.
6. Explain the impacts of the physical environment on health and use these explanations to understand human actions that alter, detect, and/or minimize these impacts.

Course Learning Objectives
Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Outline the various components of the public health system.
2. Describe interrelationships among different components of public health system.
3. Identify eras in the historical development of public health and ways that public health affects everyone’s daily life.
4. Explain the basic principles of epidemiology, including rates, risk factors, disease determinants, causation, and public health surveillance.
5. Apply measures of population health and illness, including risk factors, to community health improvement initiatives.
6. Outline the role of law and government in promoting and protecting the health of the
7. Identify criteria for evaluating health systems, including matters of access, quality, and cost.
8. Describe the impact of the environment and describe how communicable diseases, including animal and food-borne diseases, affect health.
9. Explain how various occupations, professions, and careers contribute to carrying out public health’s core functions and essential services.

**Grading Scale:**

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**Points:**

- Office Hours Meet and Greet: 50 Points
- Quizzes (10): 100 Points (10 Points Each)
- Movie Reflection Papers: 50 Points
- Midterm Media Project: 50 Points
- Midterm Media Presentation: 50 Points
- Final Exam: 100 Points

**Total Possible Points: 400**

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**Assignment and Exam Descriptions**

**Office Hours Meet and Greet**
Come by during office hours or schedule an appointment to introduce yourself. This is informal and should take no longer than ten minutes. If you are taking more than one course with me as
your instructor, you only need to complete this assignment once. This assignment must be completed by October 31st, 2014.

**Quizzes**
The student will complete ten (10) quizzes designed to assess his/her understanding of the course. Quizzes will be open notes/book and will be completed online using OAKS. *I will not provide you with a copy of the quiz questions. It is your responsibility to write the questions down while taking the quiz if you would like to have them for your record.*

**Pop quizzes will be given throughout the semester to reward students who attend class.**

**Movie Reflection Paper**
Students will be writing a three-page reflection paper after viewing The Band Played On. Students will be required to incorporate information from the documentary, lectures, readings, discussions, and personal research. All papers must be double spaced, Times New Roman, font size 12 with one inch borders and follow APA format. Two movie showings will be offered during the semester to students. Movie viewing details are listed in the course schedule. If students cannot attend either of the movie showings, it is their responsibility to purchase/rent/borrow the movie.

If you choose to purchase the DVD from Amazon:

**Midterm Media Project and Presentation**
In place of a Midterm Exam, you will be required to create a 5 to 10 minute video, similar to the This Is Public Health Campaign video shown in class. Students will be required to work in groups. Each group will formally present their Midterm Media Project to the class.

Presentations should be 15-20 minutes in length. Presentations should not only be a showing of the video, but should also detail the experiences of the group in making the video. Students should create a PowerPoint presentation, with one slide containing a link to their video and displaying all group member names. No additional slides are necessary. Further explanation and guidelines will be given in class.

**Final Exam**
The exam will be cumulative and will cover all the assigned readings (even if we did not necessarily discuss them in class), lecture material, and any material that speakers or other students contributed in class. Multiple choice, and true/false questions can be expected. The exam must be taken on the scheduled date and time, unless prior arrangements have been made and a documented reason for needing to take the exam at a different time has been presented.

Classroom policies

Statement Regarding Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protections for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. The College abides by section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the ADA, which stipulates that no student shall be denied access to an education solely by reason of a handicap. Disabilities covered by law include, but are not limited to, learning disabilities and hearing, sight; or mobility impairments. If you have a documented disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodation, please see an administrator at the Center of Disability Services/SNAP at (843) 953-1431 or talk to me so accommodations may be arranged.

College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity
All work for this class is subject to the Honor System of the College of Charleston. The Honor System of the College of Charleston is intended to promote and protect an atmosphere of trust and fairness in the classroom and in the conduct of daily life. Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved. Incidents where I determine the student’s actions are more related to a misunderstanding will be handled by me. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given. The intervention, submitted by form and signed by the student, and myself will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file. Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by me and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students.

A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive an XF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the X to be
expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board. Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration—working together without permission—is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others’ exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance. Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from me. Students can find the complete Honor

**Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at:**


Copyright and Plagiarism: Please note that all materials used in this course are copyrighted. This includes, but is not limited to, handouts (i.e., syllabi, in-class materials, quizzes, exams, and other forms). Therefore, no student has the right to copy the handouts, unless permission is expressly granted. As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own the ideas, words, writings, of another person. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have the permission of that person.

**SNAP Accommodations**
Students with approved SNAP accommodations are required to provide the SNAP letter during the first two weeks of class, and to provide me with a SNAP office envelope no less than one week prior to the exam (as described in the SNAP office guidelines).

**Other Accommodations**
Any student who needs special arrangements as a result of religious holidays or university-sponsored events, etc. must contact me within the first two weeks of class to make such accommodations as may be necessary.

**Electronic Device Policy**
ALL electronic devices (anything with an on/off switch or button) are to be turned OFF before entering the classroom. All electronic devices must be kept in book bags or out of sight during class. Any student seen using an electronic device during class will be asked to leave class for the day without the option to make up any of the assignments/quizzes completed during class.
that day. Any electronic device that is visible during an exam will result in an Honor Code violation.
Tentative Course Calendar

WEEK ONE

Wednesday August 20th  Introductions & Syllabus Review

Monday August 25th  Chapter One Lecture: Public Health: Science, Politics, and Prevention
Activity: Define “Public Health”

WEEK TWO

Wednesday August 27th  Chapter Two Lecture: Why is Public Health Controversial?
Article(s):
(1) A Code of Ethics for Public Health

Monday September 1st  Chapter Three Lecture: Powers and Responsibilities of Government
Class Links:
(1) Healthcare Reform: Overview of Access to Care and Regulatory Process
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lD0TBoKol6Q
QUIZ ONE: CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO
DUE AT NOON

WEEK THREE

Wednesday September 3rd  Chapter Four lecture: Epidemiology: The Basic Science of Public Health

Monday September 8th  Chapter Five Lecture: Epidemiologic Principals and Methods
QUIZ TWO: CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR
DUE AT NOON

WEEK FOUR

Wednesday September 10th  Chapter Six Lecture: Problems and Limits of Epidemiology

Monday September 15th  Chapter Seven Lecture: Statistics: Making Sense of Uncertainty
QUIZ THREE: CHAPTERS FIVE AND SIX
Monday September 15th

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON MOVIE VIEWING
6:00PM-9:00PM
ROBERT SCOTT SMALL BUILDING 105
OPTIONAL EVENT
(Event attendance capped at 45 – register early to ensure a spot)

Registration required:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/and-the-band-played-on-film-viewing-tickets-12412356693
Password: PublicHealthRocks!

WEEK FIVE

Wednesday September 17th
Chapter Eight Lecture: The Role of Data in Public Health

Monday September 22nd
Chapter Nine Lecture: The “Conquest” of Infectious Diseases
QUIZ FOUR: CHAPTERS SEVEN AND EIGHT
DUE AT NOON

WEEK SIX

Wednesday September 24th
Chapter Ten Lecture: The Resurgence of Infectious Diseases

Wednesday September 24th
AND THE BAND PLAYED ON MOVIE VIEWING
6:00PM-9:00PM
ROBERT SCOTT SMALL BUILDING 105
OPTIONAL EVENT

Registration required:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/and-the-band-played-on-film-viewing-tickets-12412406843
Password: PublicHealthRocks!
(Event attendance capped at 45 – register early to ensure a spot)

Monday September 29th
Disease Detectives One (Day One) – In Class Activity
QUIZ FIVE: CHAPTER TEN
DUE AT NOON
WEEK SEVEN

Wednesday October 1st  Disease Detectives One (Day Two) – In Class Activity

Wednesday October 1st  Questions in regards to the Movie Reflection Paper must be sent BEFORE 5:00PM today.

Friday October 3rd  Community Involvement – Extra Credit

Jump Rope for Heart
Location: Silcox Gym
Time: 9:00AM-1:00PM
Worth: Five extra credit points (volunteering or participating)

Take a picture at the event or a “selfie” of you participating as proof. Please remember to make your photo appropriate.

Email photo to: Demarestcl@cofc.edu

WEEK EIGHT

Monday October 6th  Chapter Eleven Lecture: The Biomedical Basis of Chronic Diseases

And the Band Played On Movie Reflection Paper Due
Bring a hard copy to turn in at the beginning of class. Also turn in a copy of your paper to DropBox on OAKS by October 2nd at 12:00AM.
*Students who turn in their paper late will receive a zero

Address the following questions:
1. Your response to the film.
2. Any of the six components of public health you observed.
3. The outbreak investigation process.
4. If you would recommend this film for students to watch in the future.

Wednesday October 8th
Chapter Twelve Lecture: Genetic Diseases and Other Inborn Errors

WEEK NINE

Monday October 13th
Chapter Thirteen Lecture: Do People Choose Their Own Health?
QUIZ SIX: CHAPTERS ELEVEN AND TWELVE
DUE AT NOON

Wednesday October 15th
Chapter Fourteen Lecture: How Psychosocial Factors Affect Health Behaviors

WEEK TEN

Monday October 20th
Chapter Fifteen lecture: Public Health Enemy Number One: Tobacco
QUIZ SEVEN: CHAPTERS THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN
DUE AT NOON

Tuesday October 21st
Questions in regards to the Midterm Media Project Presentation must be sent BEFORE 5:00PM today.

Wednesday October 22nd
Midterm Media Project Presentations Due
Turn in a copy of your paper to DropBox on OAKS by October 21st at 12:00AM.
*Groups who turn in their presentation late will receive a zero

Wednesday October 22nd
9AM-12:30PM
Community Involvement – Extra Credit

Worth: Up to five extra credit points (one points for every gently used household item donated)

Whale of a Sale Donation Items Due
If you would like to donate items for the Junior League of Charleston Whale of a Sale event, the last time to drop off items is today between 9:00-12:30 at Silcox 222. (This is optional)

https://www.jlcharleston.org/

Saturday November 1st
Community Involvement – Extra Credit
Worth: Ten extra credit points (for registering for the race or register to volunteer for the race)

16th Annual James Island Connector Run
Join: Public Health Team Demarest
Promo code: Chelsea14 (save $7.00 on registration fee)
(This is optional)

Race Website:
http://jicrun.com/index.htm
Race Facebook Page:
https://www.facebook.com/jiconnectorrun

WEEK ELEVEN

Monday October 27th
Midterm Media Project Presentations Groups 4-6

Wednesday October 29th
Midterm Media Project Presentations Groups 7-9

Friday October 31st
Meet and Greet Activity Deadline today at 5:00PM

Saturday November 1st
16th Annual James Island Connector Run
Join: Public Health Team Demarest
Promo code: Chelsea14 (save $7.00 on registration fee)
(This is optional)

Race Website:
http://jicrun.com/index.htm
Race Facebook Page:
https://www.facebook.com/jiconnectorrun

WEEK TWELVE
Monday November 3rd  NO CLASS FALL BREAK

Wednesday November 5th  Chapter Sixteen Lecture: Public Health Enemy Number Two and Growing: Poor Diet and Physical Inactivity
QUIZ EIGHT: CHAPTERS FIFTEEN
DUE AT NOON

WEEK THIRTEEN

Monday November 10th  The Weight of the Nation: Stigma - The Human Cost of Obesity (HBO Documentary)
Followed by structured discussion
Class Link(s):
(1) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Ow1uiWcn4c

Wednesday November 12th  Chapter Eighteen Lecture: Maternal and Child Health as a Social Problem
QUIZ NINE: The Weight of the Nation
DUE AT NOON

WEEK FOURTEEN

Monday November 17th  Mental Health: Public Health Includes Healthy Minds
QUIZ TEN: CHAPTERS EIGHTEEN
DUE AT NOON

Wednesday November 19th  Disease Detectives Two (Day One) – In Class Activity

WEEK FIFTEEN

Monday November 24th  Disease Detectives Two (Day Two) – In Class Activity

Wednesday November 26th  NO CLASS THANKSGIVING BREAK

WEEK SIXTEEN

Monday December 1st  Final Exam Review Session
A study guide for the final exam will not be provided. It is highly recommended that students attend the final review session.
Final Exam  Date: December 3th  Time: 12:00PM-3:00PM


Changes to Syllabus
The schedule, policies, and procedures listed in this syllabus are subject to change, at the discretion of the instructors. Fair notice will be given to students. No changes will be implemented retroactively.