HEALTH 215: INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH (3 credits)
SECTION
SECTIONS: 01 & 03
COURSE SYLLABUS
Spring 2016

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” in the subject line.
*Emails with an incorrect subject line will NOT be answered.

Phone: (843) 953-6094

Course Meeting Time:

SECTION ONE
HEAL 215-01
21287 Class
MW 2:00 pm-3:15 pm
PCTR 409

SECTION THREE
HEAL 215-03
21637 Class
TUES/THURS 4:00 pm-5:15 pm
PCTR 409

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays
2:00-3:45
*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.

**Student Learning Outcomes**
- Students will write a reflection paper on the film *And the Band Played On*. Students will reflect on the six areas of public health observed in the film and the historical development of the HIV/AIDS outbreak in the United States. All students are expected to receive at least a 75% on this assignment.
• Students in groups will design and execute a “What is Public Health” Midterm Media Project to be used to explain the field of public health to the general public. All students are expected to receive at least a 75% on this assignment.

**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 public and identifying specific functions and roles of governmental public health agencies in assuring population health.
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:**

- Quizzes (10) 100 Points (10 Points Each)
- Movie Reflection Papers 25 Points
- Media Project and Presentation 100 Points
Midterm Exam 100 Points
Final Exam 100 Points

Total Possible Points: 425

Attendance/Participation
Attendance and participation are the first requirements for successful completion of this course and the means to receive optimal benefit for your time. Students must be in attendance (on time to class) and actively engaged during the class period. Classroom doors will be shut and locked two minutes after class starts. If you enter class after the door has shut you will be counted as absent. For each missed class period, five points will be deducted from the final total points. Each student is allowed to miss one class periods without penalty to their grade.

Assignment and Exam Descriptions

Meet and Greet Assignment
Your meet and greet assignment is due by Friday January 29th at noon. It is your responsibility to come by during office hours or schedule an appointment outside of office hours to meet. If you would like to schedule an appointment to meet outside of office hours please email me with the dates and times you are free this week. Your meet and greet should take no longer than ten minutes. If you do not complete your office hours meet and greet assignment by the due date you will have twenty points deducted from your total points.

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.

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:
Media Project and Presentation
Students 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.

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 EAL 215 p.9 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: JANUARY 11TH – 15TH
Introductions & Syllabus Review
Chapter One Lecture: Public Health: Science, Politics, and Prevention

WEEK TWO: JANUARY 19TH – 22ND (NO CLASS FRIDAY FEBRUARY 18TH)
Chapter Two Lecture: Why is Public Health Controversial?

WEEK THREE: JANUARY 25TH- 29TH
Chapter Three Lecture: Powers and Responsibilities of Government
Chapter Four lecture: Epidemiology: The Basic Science of Public Health
MEET AND GREET ASSIGNMENT DUE JANUARY 29TH BY NOON

WEEK FOUR: FEBRUARY 1ST – FEBRUARY 5TH
Chapter Five Lecture: Epidemiologic Principals and Methods
Chapter Six Lecture: Problems and Limits of Epidemiology

WEEK FIVE: FEBRUARY 8TH – FEBRUARY 12TH
Sexual Health Guest Speaker
Chapter Nine Lecture: The “Conquest” of Infectious Diseases
FEBRUARY 9TH AND 10TH: AND THE BAND PLAYED ON MOVIE VIEWING 5:30-8:30 SILCOX 409

WEEK SIX: FEBRUARY 15TH – FEBRUARY 19TH
LIBRARY RESOURCE DAY: MEET IN ADDLESTONE LIBRARY:
   SECTION ONE: MONDAY FEBRUARY 15TH
   SECTION THREE: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16TH

Chapter Eight Lecture: The Role of Data in Public Health
Chapter Ten Lecture: The Resurgence of Infectious Diseases

WEEK SEVEN: FEBRUARY 22ND – FEBRUARY 26TH
Disease Detectives– In Class Activity
*MISSING THIS IN CLASS ACTIVITY WILL RESULT IN TEN POINTS BEING DEDUCTED FROM YOUR FINAL TOTAL POINTS

WEEK EIGHT: FEBRUARY 29TH – MARCH 4TH
Chapter Eleven Lecture: The Biomedical Basis of Chronic Diseases

MIDTERM EXAM:
SECTION ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND
SECTION THREE: THURSDAY, MARCH 3RD

WEEK NINE MARCH 14TH – MARCH 18TH
Chapter Sixteen Lecture: Public Health Enemy Number Two and Growing: Poor Diet and
The Weight of the Nation: Stigma - The Human Cost of Obesity

WEEK TEN: MARCH 21ST – MARCH 25TH
Chapter Thirteen Lecture: Do People Choose Their Own Health?
Chapter Fifteen lecture: Public Health Enemy Number One: Tobacco
REFLECTION PAPER DUE MARCH 25TH AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS

WEEK ELEVEN: MARCH 28TH – APRIL 1ST
Chapter Eighteen Lecture: Maternal and Child Health as a Social Problem

WEEK TWELVE: APRIL 4TH – APRIL 8TH
Disease Detectives– In Class Activity
*MISSING THIS IN CLASS ACTIVITY WILL RESULT IN TEN POINTS BEING DEDUCTED FROM
YOUR FINAL TOTAL POINTS

WEEK THIRTEEN: APRIL 11TH – APRIL 15TH
MEDIA PRESENTATIONS

WEEK FOURTEEN: APRIL 18TH – APRIL 21ST
FINAL EXAM REVIEW SESSIONS

Final Exam Section One: April 25th 4:00-7:00PM
Final Exam Section Three: April 28th 12:00-3:00


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.