Instructor: Kym Long-Wallace
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Course Catalog Description:
An examination of the factors involved in the selection and evaluation of health services and products. Topics will also include quackery, consumer protection laws and organizations, and health insurance considerations.

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

- Describe and discuss intelligently the different aspects of the healthcare “system” in the United States.
- Discuss concepts related to health insurance.
- Discuss various efforts to reform the healthcare “system,” especially the Affordable Care Act and efforts to repeal it.
- Describe how drugs and medical devices are produced and approved in the United States.
- Discuss the concept of vulnerable populations and their protection in medical research.
- Describe health equity/health disparities and social determinants of health.
- Recognize the importance of self-responsibility in healthcare.
- Identify and discuss viable and fraudulent types of complementary and alternative medicine.
- Recognize health fraud as well as deceptive practices in medical advertising.
Describe consumer protection laws and the rationale behind them.

Student Learn Objectives:
As a result of participating in Health 225, students will
- Demonstrate an understanding of the social determinants of health
- Identify the positive and negative attributes of the American health care system
- Identify fraudulent claims made by practitioners of alternative medicines
- Develop a skeptical approach to advertisements by drug companies and other health care industry entities

Course Materials

Other readings and materials as assigned. Most of these readings are on the content page of the OAKS class website.

Grading:
Grades will be based on the following opportunities:
Test 1 100 points
Test 2 100 points
Individual presentation 100 points
Group presentation 100 points
Discussion questions 30 points
Pop Quizzes  60 points
TOTAL 490 points

Test 1:
Test 1 will be composed of a variety of multiple choice, true false, matching, and short essay. A study guide will be posted.

Test 2:
Test 2 will be held during the final exam period. The format will be similar to test 1 and a study guide will be posted.
Individual presentations:
Each student will prepare and present a 5-6 minute presentation. Topics will be chosen from the list under the content tab. Complete information about the project will be listed under the content tab on the OAKS class site.

Group presentations:
Groups of 4-5 will prepare and present a 25 minute presentation. Topics and groups will be assigned by February 3. Complete information about the project will be listed under the content tab on the OAKS class site.

Discussion questions:
Two discussion questions will be posted under the communication tab on the OAKS website. Each student will post to the discussion boards and will respond to two classmates’ posts. Detailed instructions will be listed under the discussion tab (click on communication on the OAKS site)

The grading scale is as follows:


Grading Scale:

A 90-100
A- 88-89
B+ 85-87
B. 80-84
B- 78-79
C+ 75-77
C. 70-74
C- 68-69
Attendance:  1) Attendance is expected at every class. You are allowed a maximum of three absences, whether excused or unexcused. For each absence above the maximum, one point comes off the final grade. For example, you finish the class with a 72 (C) but you have missed four classes. This fourth absence brings your final grade to a 71 (C-). Do not blow these three absences. Save them in case a family emergency or illness causes you to miss class later in the semester.  
2) You are considered tardy if you arrive in class more than three minutes after the start time. After three tardies, an absence is recorded. If you do arrive in class late, you are responsible for notifying the instructor at the end of class. Otherwise, you may be assessed an absence instead of a tardy. If you arrive more than fifteen minutes late, you are considered absent.

Policies:  
www.cofc.edu/studentaffairs/general_info/studenthandbook.html.  
This student handbook is a guide to your responsibilities and rights as a student.

Academic Honesty- Faculty members are required to report violations of the honor code to the Office of Student Affairs. If you are found guilty, your grade in the class will be XF and this will be indicated on your transcript. Examples of cheating include giving or receiving aid during a graded activity, using any type of "cheat sheet", copying from or looking at another person's graded activity, or submitting another person's work as your own.

Classroom Behavior- 1) Inappropriate classroom behavior includes any which disrupts instruction by the professor or learning by the students. Students who engage in such behavior will have to leave
the classroom, will receive no credit for attendance or in class activities for that day, and must meet with the instructor before the next class. Severe cases will be referred to the Dean of Students.

2) Please take care of bathroom breaks before class. Students leaving and returning to class disrupt the environment.

3) You will be counted absent for the day if you spend class time working on other material; this includes reading or working on materials for other classes.

Electronic Devices- All cell phones, music devices, and any other electronic devices must be turned off (no sounds) during class. Laptops are allowed as long as you are using them to take notes. You may not surf the internet or work on another class assignment. Any student seen using the laptop for any activity other than taking notes will lose the privilege of having the laptop open in class and will be counted as absent for the class period.

Disability- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities ACT (ADA), all qualified students enrolled in this course are entitled to "reasonable accommodations." Please notify the instructor during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course.

CEPH Competency Description

1. Describe biological principles needed to understand public health issues across the life span and apply these principles to public health interventions to eliminate, prevent, and control disease and to minimize their impact on health. (Competency 5)

Tentative Class Schedule:
1/7 Introduction Chapter 1
1/12 What is your zip code? Reading 1
1/14 “Unnatural Causes”
1/19 Weight Control Ch. 8, Reading 2
1/21 Weight Control
1/26 “Sicko”  
1/28 “Sicko”  
2/2 Health Care System Chs. 2 & 4, Reading 3  
2/4 Health Care System  
2/9 Test 1  
2/11, 16, 18, 23, 25 Individual Presentations  
3/1 Food Fallacies Ch. 7, Reading 4  
3/3 Health Consumer Protection Ch. 10  
3/15 CAM (Discussion 1 due) Ch. 6, Reading 5  
3/17 CAM, Fraud and Quackery Chs. 3, 9  
3/22 Elder Care Reading 7 (Responses to Discussion 1 due)  
3/24 RX/ Non-RX Drugs Ch. 5, Reading 8  
3/29 Current Topics (Comprehensive Sex Ed)  
3/31 Current Topics (Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria),  
4/5 Current Topics (Vaccine Refusal) (Discussion 2 due)  
4/7 Current Topics (breastfeeding)  
4/12 Current Topics (E-cigarettes) (Responses to Discussion 2 due)  
4/14, 19, 21 Group Presentations  
Thursday, 4/28 12 noon (1.5 hour time limit) Test 2 during final exam week