Course at a Glance
Spring 2018

Course Title: Critical Issues in Public Health

Course Number: HSC 4631

Dept: PHC

Credits: 3

Instructor Name: Multiple Instructors

Instructor Email: N/A

Course Description:

This course provides students the opportunity to learn about the multiple ways to view controversial topics in public health. The course covers current public health topics including biomedical issues, social and behavioral factors related to health, and
environmental issues.

Format of content presentation, activities and/or instructional methods:

The course is set-up in modules by topic. Assignments are described under the section titled

Assignment Details. Due dates are outlined in the Course Calendar.

Course content organization:

Course Introduction:

- Syllabus quiz
- Plagiarism quiz

Topic 1: Varies by Semester (examples of previous topics include gun control, vaccines, and minimum wage)

- Quiz
- Discussion
- Policy Identification Worksheet

Topic 2: Varies by semester

- Quiz
- Discussion
- Policy Identification Worksheet

Topic 3: Varies by semester

- Quiz
- Discussion
- Policy Identification Worksheet

Policy Brief Assignment:

- Policy Brief quiz
- Policy Choice Worksheet
- Policy Content Worksheet
- Policy Brief

Textbook and Ordering materials:

Required Text:

There is no required textbook for this class. You will be using the website ProCon.org in addition to provided readings on Canvas to complete assignments. ProCon.org is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization. The purpose of this website is to provide resources for critical thinking and to educate without bias. It promotes informed citizenship by presenting research on controversial issues in a straightforward, nonpartisan format.

How to Order:

Download USF Health Bookstore Order Form:
http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/eta/pdf/HSC_GradTextbook_OrderForm.pdf

Other Required Materials:

N/A

Topics or course learning objectives:

1. List and describe various methods used to investigate controversial public health topics.
2. Locate and evaluate the information from a variety of peer-reviewed publication databases and incorporate the information into a public health topic.
3. Differentiate how to present public health issues after editing out all personal biases.
4. Understand how to work in small discussion groups to maximize product development while minimizing time.
5. Determine how to explore public health issues that may or may not be of interest to your field of study including financial, ethical, social, behavioral, medical and environmental aspects of each discussion topic.
6. Discuss the challenges faced with complex public health issues that will be faced in the 21st century.

7. Exhibit proper referencing of secondary materials in APA format.

Types of assessments and activities in the course:

1. Syllabus Quiz/First Day Attendance
2. Plagiarism Quiz
3. Policy Design Tutorial Quiz
4. Content Quizzes
5. Canvas Discussions
6. Policy Design Worksheets
7. Policy Papers

Student Expectations:

Students are expected to be responsible for their own learning in this course – you must keep up with course material and complete assignments by the stated deadlines. The instructor will post announcements relevant to course material through Canvas or send emails via your USF email account. You are responsible for reading each announcement in its entirety. Students are expected to address concerns about any portion of the course/assignments in a timely manner. The end of the semester is not an appropriate time to discuss missed assignments or poor grades earned earlier in the semester.

For more information about the Course, Contact:

The COPH Undergraduate Advisors office at UG-PublicHealthAdvising@health.usf.edu

Note: For problems accessing the course materials and other computer technical problems, click the **Tech Assistance** button in your course website and fill out a "Technical Problem Report Form". Tech Assistance button links to the Technical Assistance page of the Office of Educational Technology & Assessment website at: http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/eta/techsupport.html. Students can also receive assistance via telephone at 813-974-6666, Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm, or via email at eta@health.usf.edu.

Technology Requirements (e.g. software or hardware):

Visit this website for software requirements and downloads: http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/eta/students_tech_requirements.htm

Other technology requirements (hardware and software) specific for this course:

Note: These are in addition to the basic technology requirements for all online courses.

Please Note: The information on this document is subject to change. The course instructor has the right to change any information posted in this document. Students should check the official course syllabus released during the first week of classes for any updates to this document.