PUBH 712 – SPRING 2014

PUBH 712 is an online course

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**COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course will introduce students to the theoretical and practical aspects of public health ethics. Develop students analytical skills to evaluate ethical issues related to public health policy, prevention, treatment, and research. Topics include: ethical reasoning; concepts of justice; principles of interacting with communities; professional conduct and research. Prerequisite: PUBH 711.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Articulate the distinctive aspects of public health ethics.
- Differentiate between various schools of thought in ethics.
- Have a global and multi-ethnic perspective on public health ethics
- Identify and evaluate ethical questions in public health.

**METHODS**

The course is composed of weekly reading assignments, internet lectures and case discussions. There will be four group papers and two individual papers. These will be submitted as specified in the schedule.

**TEXTBOOK**

GROUP EXERCISES (GROUP PAGES)

For the Group Exercise Assignments, please incorporate the following activities into your group’s work flow.

As a Group and at the beginning of each module:
1. Assign a Facilitator (or two) for the Group Exercise.
2. Develop an Action Plan on how to respond to the group assignment – eg. when the readings should be completed, when posting should begin, expectations on how often group members should check the board, etc.
3. Please note that it is our expectation that each member will participate fully in a robust dialogue and ethical discussion.
4. One to two people from each group will need to volunteer to summarize your group’s discussion of the exercise, including clear identification of the ethical issues, salient points of the discussion including opposing views, how the conflict should be resolved and what an implementation plan should be. THESE POINTS ARE AVAILABLE WITH THE ASSIGNMENT.
5. Grading will be based on participation and the final product.

NOTE: Individual efforts and workloads within teams may be unequal from one Team Assignment to the next. It is the responsibility of each group to devise an equitable work plan.

For each module:
6. Submit the completed assignment to the Dropbox for this course. Use the following naming conventions. For group assignments, use a combination of your group number and the assignment name. For individual assignments, use a combination of your ONYEN username and the assignment name.
SAKAI DISCUSSION & CASE STUDY ASSIGNMENTS (GROUP PAGES)

For the Case Study Assignments:
1. Read required material.
2. Individually answer the questions posed on the discussion board.
3. Engage within your group in a robust dialogue and constructive ethical discussion.
4. The Case Template can be used as a guide/aid to facilitate discussion and identification of ethical principles and concepts.

GRADING

Your final grade will be based on a combination of individual assignments, group assignments, and your participation. In addition to the grades assigned by the faculty, each individual will also be evaluated by their peers on their performance and participation in the group assignments. The five graded aspects of your work and their relative weight in computing your course grade are as follows.

Individual grade components (55%):

- Individual Paper I (20%)
- Individual Paper II (20%)
- Case Study Assignments (15%)

Group grade components (45%):

- Group assignments for Modules 1-5 (45%)

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Clear Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Entirely Satisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Low Passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>Absent from Final Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Explanation: A grade of H can be earned only by exceeding all expectations in the assignment. An H on an assignment would mean that you exceeded all expectations but you had some minor errors (but none that kept you from providing accurate answers to every request in the assignment). A P is "Perfectly Acceptable." This means that you met the expectations of the assignment. More than minor omissions or factual errors would result in a grade lower than a P.

Notes:

• All members of a group will receive the same base grade and then adjusted based on participation and punctuality on group assignments.

• Each group member will also receive an individual grade on each of the four modules based on his/her performance as a group member.

Honor Code
While the Instrument is continuously amended to address new circumstances and challenges, it remains the foundation of the system of student self-governance. The Instrument is available online.

For more than 130 years, Carolina students have pledged not to lie, cheat, or steal. Students enjoy a great deal of freedom at Carolina and have been entrusted to hold each other accountable for maintaining a just and safe community. As such, students hear and decide all alleged cases of conduct and academic integrity violations.

About the Honor Code
The Honor Code is the heart of integrity at Carolina. In brief, the Honor Code says that all students shall "Refrain from lying, cheating, or stealing," but the Honor Code means much more. It is the guiding force behind the students' responsible exercise of freedom, the foundation of student self-governance here at UNC-Chapel Hill. The University maintains an Honor Code because we believe that all members of our community should be responsible for upholding the values that have been agreed upon by the community. A written Honor Code is an affirmation of our commitment to high standards of conduct inside and outside of the classroom.

The Honor Code is found in a document known as the Instrument of Student Judicial Governance. The Instrument is the University's official document containing the rules and regulations that guide the Honor System. The list of prohibited conduct and the possible sanctions given by the Honor Court can all be found in the Instrument. This document also includes information on the rights and responsibilities of all members of our community to the Honor System and under the Honor System.
# PUBH 712: Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Module/Topic</th>
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| **Week 1** | **Module 1 – Public Health Perspective**  
- Introduction & Conceptual Foundations of Global Public Health Ethics  
- A Code of Ethics for Public Health |
| **Week 2** |  
- Approaches to Public Health Ethics – Moral and Political Philosophy |
| **Week 3** |  
- Ethical Decision-Making |
| **Week 4** |  
- Public Health Practice: Precautionary Principle; Privacy and Confidentiality & Communication Responsibility |
| **Week 5** | **Module 2 – Justice & Human Rights**  
- The Social Determinants of Health & Equity and Inequity in Public Health |
| **Week 6** |  
- Human Rights |
| **Week 7** |  
- Gender and Global Health |
| **Week 8** | **Module 3 – Public Health Promotion and Behavior Modification**  
- Individual Behavior and Obligations |
| **Week 9** | **NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK** |
| **Week 10** | **Module 3 – Cont.**  
- Infectious Disease |
| **Week 11** |  
- Immunization |
| **Week 12** | **Module 4 – Research & Evaluation**  
- Research Abuses |
| **Week 13** |  
- Research and Evaluation Ethics |
| **Week 14** | **Module 5 – Emerging Topics**  
- Public Health and Technology |
| **Week 15** |  
- Environmental Ethics |
| Final Paper |  |

*Please note: Course content and dates are subject to minor changes as the semester progresses and students are required to update their personal schedules as and when notified by the professor.*