

Course Number: PH 290
Course Title: Health Professions and Organizations
Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: Gerald Graf, Ph.D., R.Ph, F.A.S.C.P
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Course Description:

Review a variety of health organizations and agencies, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. Discuss types of public health settings and responsibilities in different types of health careers and public health positions.

Prerequisite:

Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 101.

Course Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to:

1. Define public health in various settings.
2. Discuss the goals, responsibilities and services of public health in the United States.
3. Describe the characteristics of the public health workforce in the United States.
4. List specific public health occupations along with specific occupational categories.
5. Compare and contrast the job qualifications, work responsibilities, salaries, and career prospects of the different public health occupations.
6. Identify the primary health agencies associated with public health.
7. List examples of governmental, quasi-governmental, and non-governmental health agencies.
8. Compare and contrast the responsibilities of governmental, quasi-governmental, and non-governmental health agencies.
9. Discuss landmark public health accomplishments achieved by public health coalitions, agencies, and organizations.
10. List the national professional associations/organizations that help to promote the health professions.
11. Describe the goals and responsibilities of specific professional agencies/organizations.
12. Explain the purpose of a professional association/organization.
13. Identify the benefits derived from membership in a professional organization.
14. Describe the process by which a person can become a member of a professional organization.
15. List journals that publish articles related to public health.
16. Identify online computerized databases for finding health information.
17. Evaluate the accuracy and reliability of research based and non-research based health information.

Required Textbook:

Turnock, Bernard J. Public Health: Career Choices That Make a Difference. Boston: Jones and Bartlett Publishers, 2006.

Evaluation Procedures:

1. Exams (2 points per question). There will be two exams, each consisting of 50 multiple choice questions. No makeup exams are available.
2. Quizzes (2 points per question). Quizzes are unannounced and open notes. Quiz material will be from the preceding class period. No makeup quizzes are available.
3. Web evaluation assignment (25 points). Using the website evaluation form provided by the instructor, evaluate five health related websites. Be prepared to discuss them in class.
4. Observation and Report (50 points).
 - Observe and interview a public health educator at either a worksite, community setting, or clinical setting. See what the educator does during a typical work day. Write a paper (minimum five full pages in length) describing the following:
 - Describe the work setting.
 - What are the educator's job responsibilities?
 - What is the nature of any interactions the educator has with others?
 - What professional preparation was required for this educator's position?
 - What do you see as advantages and disadvantages of this educator's position?
 - Does the person you are interviewing find the position satisfactory/rewarding?
 - Why or why not?
 - What does this educator like most about his or her position?
 - What does the educator dislike about his or her position?
 - Would this educator's position be of interest to you as a career choice. Why or why not?
5. Health Association Assignment (25 points).
 - Choose a health organization or association from the list provided by the instructor. Write a paper (minimum 5 full pages in length) about the organization, its history, mission, fundraising, government support, political efforts, membership, expenditures (administrative costs, research, patient or member support, community involvement), budget, leadership, and any other aspect of its operation that you deem appropriate. Be prepared to discuss your information in class.
6. Miscellaneous Homework Assignments (points will vary by assignment).
7. Newspaper/magazine article assignment (25 points):
 - Choose a current article related to public health from a newspaper of the past week or a magazine/journal of the past month. Write a two-page review of the article to include its main points and conclusions. Your input as a public health educator or practitioner is also to be included. Be prepared to discuss your article in class. Due dates per list to be distributed at seventh class session.

Written assignments submitted late will be penalized 10 percent of the grade for that assignment. Assignments will accepted by e-mail or fax if sent no later than the end of class on the due date.

Grading:

- A = 90 percent or more of total possible points
- B = 80 to 89 percent of total possible points
- C = 70 to 79 percent of total possible points
- D = 65 to 69 percent of total possible points
- F = less than 65 percent of total possible points

Important Class Information:

1. There are no excused absences. Missed quizzes and exams cannot be made up. Late assignments will be penalized as indicated above.
2. It is your responsibility to gets notes for missed classes from a classmate.
3. Cell phones are to be turned off during class.
4. Cheating and plagiarism violate SDSU academic standards and will not be tolerated. Please refer to SDSU Academic Senate policies regarding "Handling Cases of Suspects Plagiarism".
5. All comments and conversation in class is to be directed to the instructor or the class as a whole.

Topics and Readings for PH 290

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Textbook Reading</u>
Week of 1-22	Announcements/Introductions/ Expectations/Course Overview	None
Week of 1-29	Definitions of Public Health/ Essential Public Health Services/ The Public Health Workforce	Chapter 1
Week of 2-5	Public Health Occupations and Agencies	Chapter 2
Week of 2-12	Public Health Administration	Chapter 3
Week of 2-19	Environmental and Occupational Health	Chapter 4
Week of 2-26	Public Health Nursing	Chapter 5
Week of 3-5	Epidemiology and Disease Control	Chapter 6
Week of 3-12	Exam 1 (Monday) Public Health Education and Information Health Association Assignment Due 3/16	Chapters 1-6/Notes Chapter 7
Week of 3-19	Professional Associations/ Health Publications Web Evaluation Assignment Due 3/19	None
Week of 3-26	Spring Break	
Week of 4-2	Other Public Health Professional Occupations	Chapter 8
Week of 4-9	Public Health Program Occupations	Chapter 9
Week of 4-16	Looking to the Future	Chapter 10
Week of 4-23	Website Reports	
Week of 4-30	Health Association Reports	
Week of 5-7	Monday is last day of class Observation and Report Assignment Due	

Final Exam – Wednesday, May 16, 8:00-10:00 – Chapters 7 through 10/notes.