

Course Number: PH 290
Course Title: Health Professions and Organizations
Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: Virginia Kreisworth, Ph.D.
Office Location: Hardy Tower 119C
Office Hours: Monday: 11:30am to 1:30pm
Wednesday: 11:30am to 3:30pm
and by appointment
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Course Description

Prerequisite: Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 101.
Health organizations and agencies, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.
Types of public health settings and responsibilities in different types of health careers and public health positions.

Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

1. Define various definitions of public health.
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 profession.
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 relating 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. Exam 1 - October 18, 2006 (100 points)**
(Chapters 1-6 and class notes)
- 2. Exam 2 - December 11, 2006 (100 points)**
(Chapters 7-10 and class notes)
- 3. Observation and Report (75 points)**

Observe and interview a public health educator in one of the following settings:

- a) worksite
- b) community
- c) clinical

Follow the educator around (for at least ½ hour) to see what he/she does during a typical work day. Write a four to five page paper describing your findings. Include the following information:

1. Describe the work setting.
2. What are the job responsibilities of the individual that you are observing?
3. Does the individual interact with many people during the course of a day or are human contacts limited due to the nature of the position?
4. What professional preparation is needed for the position that you are observing?
5. What do you see as advantages and disadvantages of that specific position?
6. Does the person you are interviewing find his/her job rewarding and/or fulfilling?
Explain your response.
7. What does the individual like most about his/her job?
8. Is there anything that the individual dislikes about his/her job?
9. Once you get your degree, would you want to be employed in a similar position?
Explain your response.

Be prepared to share some of your responses in class.

Due Date: November 27, 2006

4. Health Association Assignment (30 points)

Research one professional health association and write a two page paper addressing:

1. history of the association
2. mission statement (if any)
3. goals/objectives
4. any unique feature
5. landmark accomplishment(s) achieved by the association
6. membership criteria
7. publications
8. website

Due Date: November 1, 2006

5. Advising Appointment (20 points)

Sometime during the Fall semester, you need to schedule a 20-30 minute appointment with me. You must bring to the appointment:

1. A list of all the courses you still need to take in order to graduate. List the courses according to what semesters you will be taking them.
2. A copy of your Degree Audit Report.

Appointments must be scheduled between September 18 and November 29, 2006.

Grading

A = 90% to 100%

B = 80% to 89%

C = 70% to 79%

D = 60% to 69%

F = Below 60 points

Important Class Information:

1. No make-up exams will be given.
2. Attendance and class participation are important. More than six unexcused absences will lower the final grade as follows:
 - 7-8 absences by one letter grade
 - 9-10 absences by two letter grades
 - 11 or more absences will result in a “F”
3. Excused absences will be determined by the instructor on an individual basis.
4. Assignments must be submitted no later than the specified due date.
5. Assignments will not be accepted past the due date. If you are unable to attend class the day an assignment is due, email the assignment to me.
6. It is your responsibility to get missed class notes from a fellow class member.
7. Announcements, assignments and class information will be posted on Blackboard.
8. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard daily.
9. I encourage everyone to participate in this class. If you have questions or comments, please share them with the class. It is expected that all class discussions will be conducted in a respectful manner. Please refrain from private conversations during class.
10. Cheating or plagiarism not only violates SDSU academic standards, but makes the offender liable to penalties. Refer to the “Course Documents” section on Blackboard for the SDSU Academic Senate Policy regarding, “Handling Cases of Suspected Plagiarism.”
11. If a class must be cancelled without prior notification, it will be posted on Blackboard the day of the class, no later than 8:00am.

Topics and Readings for PH 290

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Textbook Readings</u>
Aug. 28-Sept. 1	Announcements/Introductions/ Expectations/Course Overview	None
Sept. 4-8	Definitions of Public Health Essential Public Health Services The Public Health Workforce	Chapter 1
Sept. 11-22	Public Health Occupations and Agencies	Chapter 2
Sept. 25-29	Public Health Administration	Chapter 3
Oct. 2-6	Environmental and Occupational Health	Chapter 4
Oct. 9-11	Public Health Nursing	Chapter 5
Oct. 13-16	Epidemiology and Disease Control	Chapter 6
Oct. 18	EXAM 1	Chapters 1-6/notes
Oct. 20-27	Public Health Education and Information	Chapter 7
Oct. 30	NO CLASS - Go to library (work on assignment due 11/1)	
Nov. 1-8	Professional Associations/ Health Publications	None
Nov. 10	HOLIDAY - NO CLASS	
Nov. 13-22	Other Public Health Professional Occupations	Chapter 8
Nov. 24	HOLIDAY - NO CLASS	
Nov. 27-Dec 1	Public Health Program Occupations	Chapter 9
Dec. 4-8	Looking to the Future	Chapter 10
Dec. 11 (8:00am to 10:00am)	Exam 2	Chapters 7-10/notes

