

# University of Maryland, College Park

## Department of Public and Community Health

### HLTH 130 - Introduction to Public and Community Health

**Instructor:** Professor Donna Howard, DrPH  
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**Semester/Section:** Fall 2007, 0101  
**Classroom/Time:** Room: 1302, CHHP  
 Date/Time: Tu, Th – 2:00-3:15

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Tuesday: 10:00-11:00; 3:30-4:30  
 Thursday: 10:00-11:00; 3:30-4:30  
 Or by appointment

<p><b>Required Textbook &amp; Other Required Readings</b></p>	<p>Schneider, Mary-Jane. Introduction to Public Health. Maryland: Aspen Publishers, Inc., 2006 (ISBN number: 0-7637-3000-9).</p> <p>In addition, a series of candid interviews with prominent scholars in the field of health behavior, entitled, <i>Viewpoint</i>, will be required reading. These interviews may be accessed by web link:  <a href="http://www.hhp.umd.edu/dpch/ugrad/course_desc/130Viewpoints.html">http://www.hhp.umd.edu/dpch/ugrad/course_desc/130Viewpoints.html</a></p> <p>Alternatively, hard copies of these interviews can be checked out of the departmental office for photocopying (see Beverly Monis, the secretary in the Department of Public and Community Health, Room 2387, HHP building).</p> <p>Finally, where relevant, links are provided for other required readings that must be downloaded from the web.</p> <p>In case you misplace your syllabus, a copy can be downloaded from:  <a href="http://www.hhp.umd.edu/dpch/ugrad/course_desc/130Howard200608.pdf">http://www.hhp.umd.edu/dpch/ugrad/course_desc/130Howard200608.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>Course Description</b></p>	<p>This course is tailored to students who may have an interest in pursuing a career in public health and those who are working toward a major or minor degree in community health. It aims to exposure students to the connections between their personal world and the field of public health. Students will acquire information on diverse ways in which the public’s health is viewed, safeguarded, and challenged. Consideration will be given to historical and contemporary forces and their impact on public health. Settings where public health is practiced and roles of public health professionals will be highlighted.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>This class is <i>very</i> experiential: Attendance and participation is absolutely required!</b></p>

<p><b>Course Objectives</b></p>	<p>By the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize the ways in which advances in public health have affected their personal lives;</li> <li>2. Describe the multiple settings where public health is practiced;</li> <li>3. Identify various roles for public health professionals;</li> <li>4. Discuss ethical issues related to the provision and safeguard of the public's health;</li> <li>5. Discuss the potential gains and challenges facing the public health community.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>Course Requirements and Policies</b></p>	<p><b><u>Course Requirements</u></b></p> <p>Students are expected to attend class regularly, participate in class discussions and any group work, and complete required readings.</p> <p>There will be 2 exams. Each exam will consist of multiple choice, fill-in and/or short answer questions and will cover material from class lectures and the assigned readings in the text.</p> <p>There will be 4 homework assignments which are to be written up and submitted for grading on the appropriate due date. A couple of assignments will include group work and class preparation time. <b><u>If you are not in class for the preparation, you can not participate in the formalized presentations or receive grades for these presentations.</u></b></p> <p>In pairs or triples, students will be responsible for facilitating a brief class discussion on a current event related to public health (<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>)</p> <p>Students will also be required to write a brief “digest” in response to each <b><u>“Inside the Public Health Guild”</u></b> interview. <b><u>If you are not in class for the interview, you can not turn in a digest for grading.</u></b></p> <p>In addition, there will be a series of 7 unannounced “pop” quizzes throughout the semester. These quizzes will cover material from the previous class' lecture and / or the reading assigned for the day in which the quiz is administered. Each quiz will be worth 5 points however, you will be able to drop two quiz scores from your overall grade. <b><u>If you are not in class at the time of the quiz you will not be able to make it up.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Class Policies:</u></b></p> <p>Assignments turned in <i>up to</i> one class session after the due date will be accepted with a 10 point penalty. After that date, no assignment will be graded.</p> <p>Make-up exams will be considered only for those students who have a legitimate reason for absence and <u>provide written documentation</u> to substantiate their</p>
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absence. Otherwise, students are expected to be in attendance on the specified date and time set in the syllabus for all exams. No accommodations will be made unless there is a serious documented illness that precludes attendance. If an unforeseen emergency or illness prevents you from being in class on the day of an exam, the professor must be contacted on that day.

Assigned reading is to be completed prior to the class for which it is due.

It is the student's responsibility to check with the professor and/or other classmates and procure assignments, notes, handouts, or other information missed during an absence.

All work should be word-processed and double-spaced, unless otherwise requested. *Make sure you retain a copy of all completed assignments for personal back-up.*

Unless specifically approved, no assigned work will be accepted electronically.

Any work that is turned in outside of class must be left with the secretary in the dept office. Do not place any work in the box outside Dr Howard's door- this is only for handouts.

**Ground Rules:**

Arrive and depart from class at the appropriate time.

Show respect for yourself and others. It is extremely rude to talk in class when someone else, either the professor or another student, is speaking.

Engaging in outside work, including crossword puzzles and reading the Diamondback, during class time is unacceptable.

Food consumption during class is discouraged.

Please turn your cell phones off before coming to class.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:**

If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations for test taking or other needs, please talk to me as soon as possible. You will need documentation from Disability Support Service (DSS, 314-7682.) If you intend to take any or all exams at DSS it is your responsibility to notify me as soon as possible.

**Academic Integrity:**

The University's code of academic integrity is designed to ensure that the principle of academic honesty is upheld. Any of the following acts, when committed by a student, shall constitute academic dishonesty:

- ✓ CHEATING: intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in an academic exercise.
- ✓ FABRICATION: intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- ✓ FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this code.
- ✓ PLAGIARISM: intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

For more information see:

<http://www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Departments/PRES/policies/iii100a.html>

**If you are experiencing difficulties in keeping up with the academic demands of this course, contact the Learning Assistance Service, 2201 Shoemaker Bldg, 301 (314-7693). Their educational counselors can help with time management, reading, note-taking and exam preparation skills.**

**If you need the technical support of a librarian, please contact Barbara Nail-Chiwetalu, the *Health Librarian* at (301) 405-9546, [bnailchi@umd.edu](mailto:bnailchi@umd.edu).**

**»For research needs regarding course Assignments a web page has been developed as a class resource:**

<http://www.lib.umd.edu/MCK/hlth130-howard.html>

**Religious Observances:**

The University System of Maryland policy provides that students *should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs; students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances.* **It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor in advance of any intended absences for religious observance.**

## - S y l l a b u s -

Date	Topic	Reading/Assignments
8/30	Review Syllabus/ Assignments	<b>Purchase text, download <i>Viewpoint</i> and web articles</b>
9/4	Questions/Clarifications Class activity: <i>It takes a village to raise a child</i>	<i>Schneider: Prologue, xxv-xli</i> <b>Sign-up for: Hot Health Happenings</b>
9/6	Library session at Mckeldin, Room 6107	
9/11	How public health plays a role in our daily lives  <b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	<i>Schneider: pgs 3-16;121-133</i> <u>Assignment #1 distributed,</u> <u>Assignment #2 distributed</u>
9/13	Rosh Hashanah	
9/18	Principles and philosophies associated with health  <b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	<i>Schneider: pgs 433-440</i>
9/20	Changing nature of what constitutes health, illness, disease  <b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	<i>ViewPoint: Dr. Cheryl L. Perry</i>
9/25	Historical threats no longer of concern / 21 <sup>st</sup> century threats  <b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	<i>Schneider: pgs 137-148; 157-181; 535-551</i> <a href="http://www.pbs.org/newshour/essays/july-dec05/page_9-22.html">http://www.pbs.org/newshour/essays/july-dec05/page_9-22.html</a>
9/27	<b>Inside the Public Health Guild</b>	<b>Assignment #1 due</b>
10/2	Mission and core functions of public health  <b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	<i>Schneider: pgs 31-47</i> <b>Inside the Public Health Guild digest due</b>
10/4	Why is public health controversial?  <b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	<i>Schneider: pgs 17-29; 217-229</i>

10/9	What are our public health agencies and who are its agents?  Group work: Initial debate preparation	<b>Assignment #2 due</b> <u>Assignment #3 distributed</u> <u>Study Guide for Exam 1 distributed</u>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
10/11	Healthy public health policy Case study: Obesity	<a href="http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/354/24/2601">http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/354/24/2601</a>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
10/16	Review for Exam 1	
10/18	<b>Exam 1</b>	
10/23	<b>Inside the Public Health Guild</b>	
10/25	Group work: Final debate preparation	<b>Assignment #3 due</b> <u>Assignment #4 distributed</u>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
10/30	Debates	
11/1	Debates	
11/6	What the future holds	<i>Schneider: pgs 333-350;451-465; 515-533</i>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
11/8	Poverty and Global Health	<i>Schneider: pgs 333-350; 415-430</i>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
11/13	Group work : Timelines Project	<i>ViewPoint: Dr. Lawrence W. Green</i>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
11/15	<b>Inside the Public Health Guild</b>	
11/20	Communicating Health Risks	<i>Schneider: pgs 99-119</i> <b>Inside the Public Health Guild digest due</b>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
11/22	<b>Gobble Gobble Gobble Gobble Gobble Gobble Gobble Gobble Gobble Gobble</b>	
11/27	Group work: Team meeting with Dr Howard/ Final presentation preparation	
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
11/29	Team Presentations	<i>ViewPoint: Dr. Elbert D. Glover</i> <b>Assignment #4 due</b>
	<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	
12/4	<b>Inside the Public Health Guild</b>	

12/6	Ethics Ethical conduct and Codes of ethics	<i>Schneider: pgs 93-98; 441-449</i> <a href="http://www.apha.org/codeofethics/ethics.htm">http://www.apha.org/codeofethics/ethics.htm</a> <u>Study Guide for Exam 2 distributed</u> <b>Inside the Public Health Guild digest due</b>
<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>		
12/11	Lessons learned / Review for Exam 2	<i>ViewPoint: Dr. Robert S. Gold</i>
<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>		
During finals week- <b>12/17</b> <b>Monday</b>	<b>Exam 2- During Finals Week</b> <b>10:30-12:30</b>	

<b>Evaluation</b>		<b>Grading</b>		
<b><u>Assignment</u></b>	<b><u>Points</u></b>	Grades will be based upon total points earned throughout the semester:		
Exam 1	75	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>	
Exam 2	75	A+	400 - 382	(100-96 %)
Assignments	170	A	381 - 370	(95-93 %)
<b>Hot Health Happenings</b>	15	A-	369 - 360	(92-90 %)
<b>Inside the Public Health Guild</b> digests	40	B+	359 - 342	(89-86 %)
Quizzes	<u>25</u>	B	341 - 330	(85-83 %)
	400	B-	329 - 320	(82-80 %)
		C+	319 - 302	(79-76 %)
		C	301 - 290	(75-73 %)
		C-	289 - 280	(72-70 %)
		D+	279 - 262	(69-66 %)
		D	261 - 250	(65-63 %)
		D-	249 - 240	(62-60 %)