COURSE NUMBER
HSP 4331

COURSE TITLE
Public Health

CREDITS
(3-0-0) Meets completely online using Blackboard

PREREQUISITE COURSES
None

CO-REQUISITES
None

PRE-REQUISITE SKILLS
Accessing internet web sites, use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are expectations of the Health Science Professions Program. Computer access requirements are further delineated in the Undergraduate Handbook. Tutorials for ASU Library and for Blackboard are available through RamPort. The ASU Undergraduate/Graduate Student Handbook should be reviewed before taking this course.

COURSE DELIVERY
This is an online course offering. The course will be delivered via the Blackboard Learning Management System. The course site can be accessed at http://blackboard.angelo.edu

BROWSER COMPATIBILITY CHECK
It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the browser used to access course material on his/her computer is compatible with ASU’s Blackboard Learning System. The faculty reserve the right to deny additional access to course assignments lost due to compatibility issues. Students are responsible for reviewing the guidelines posted in this course regarding accessing Blackboard assignments. Problems in this area need to be discussed with faculty at the time of occurrence, either via a phone call (preferred) during posted acceptable hours for calling, or via email notification during times outside those posted for calls.

Be sure to perform a browser test. Select the “Support” tab from the Blackboard homepage (http://www.blackboard.angelo.edu) Select “Test your Browser” option.

FACULTY
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OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday - Thursday 1-4 pm* or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides an introduction to the field of public health including its history, values, ethics, mission, and goals. Students will gain knowledge on the function, organization, financing, policies, and practices of public health in today's world.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES
Upon completion of the program of study for health science professions, the graduate will be prepared to:

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate an overall understanding of the history, function, and practices of public</td>
<td>Chapter Quizzes and Final Exam</td>
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<td>health in today's world.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify important current health issues.</td>
<td>Chapter Quizzes and Group Question Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analyze important current topics in public health and the research that is being</td>
<td>Mini Systematic Review of Literature, Critical Appraisal of Research Articles</td>
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<td>conducted.</td>
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<td>Apply communication strategies to discuss how public health topics affect different</td>
<td>Group Question Assignments</td>
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<td>populations.</td>
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REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Testing via Respondus™ Monitor
Access to the Final Exam will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser and will be video recorded via Respondus™ Monitor [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Use of another electronic device is prohibited. There are two practice quizzes: a) one is a Webcam test and b) a short 10 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve the testing environment. These quizzes, instructional videos, and more information regarding Respondus Monitor can be found under the Respondus Monitor Help tab in your Blackboard course.
OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Computer with MAC or Windows Operating System
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet Cable
- Webcam (Please note: a plug-in webcam allows the student to perform thorough environmental scans).

Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements:
http://www.angelo.edu/distance_education

GRADING SYSTEM

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 89-80%
- C = 79-70%
- D = 69-65%
- F = 64-0%

EVALUATION AND GRADES

Graded assignments, activities and percent of the overall course grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (8 quizzes)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group Discussion Board</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini Systematic Review of Literature</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Appraisal of Literature</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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TEACHING STRATEGIES

- Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.
ASSIGNMENT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

*Please note: Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located at the end of this syllabus.

- **Weekly Quizzes: 20%**
  Students will have eight weekly quizzes to assess course knowledge. Quizzes are timed (2-3 minutes per question) and will consist of 10 to 30 multiple choice questions and True/False. Access to quizzes will be through Respondus™ Lockdown Browser [See Other Required Materials for a list of needed equipment]. Students may use written materials as well as their textbook; however use of another electronic device is prohibited. There are two practice quizzes: a) one is a Webcam test and b) a short 10 question practice quiz over ASU trivia that is not graded. These tools will be available to the student to assure accessibility. Students are highly encouraged to go through these practice quizzes in advance of taking a graded quiz. This process will allow you to become familiar with the technology associated with testing and improve testing environment. The quizzes are meant to help you review the information in the chapter and prepare for the mid-term & final exams.

- **Discussion Board Activities: 20%**
  There will be four discussion board assignments, one for weeks 2, 3, 5 & 7. Discussion boards provide an avenue for synthesis of material / information. A Discussion Board is provided in this course as a way to help students’ process course materials, express thoughts, and engage others opinions and ideas in a healthy and productive learning environment. Students are expected to respond to all discussion board assessments using the “Online Discussion Rubric” to support individual answers to the assigned questions throughout this course.

- **Mini Systematic Review of the Literature 10%**
  This is an important assignment that will introduce students to methods used to identify, sort, retrieve, and interpret relevant research to support issues in public health. For this assignment students will search, critique, and extract information from selected research articles. Each student will choose a specific topic related to public health and conduct a literature search to locate three (3) relevant research articles. Examples of topics include but are not limited to: Clean Water, Clean Air, Vaccinations, Obesity and Sedentary Lifestyles, Maternal and Child Health, Solid and Hazardous Wastes, The Regulation of Food and Drugs, The Aging Population, Emergency Preparedness, and Epidemiological Outbreaks. Students should also attach the articles to the assignment.
• **Critical Appraisal of Research Article: 20%**
  Each student will choose one (1) of the articles they used in the mini systematic review of literature to complete this assignment. Please choose an article that is most appropriate to complete this assignment. This means that the article should consist of original research, not a case study or a meta-analysis. Complete the assigned rubric titled: HSP 4331 Grading Rubric for Critical Appraisal of Research Articles. Students should also attach the article to the assignment.

• **Midterm & Final Exams: 10% & 20%**
  The final exam is a closed book exam and will be video recorded through Respondus Monitor. This means that you are not allowed to use your textbook, notes, powerpoints, or any other materials while taking the exam. The Midterm and Final Exams account for 10% and 20% respectively for 30% of the total course grade. The exams are designed to test understanding of textbook material and the application of the material covered in both the textbook and lectures.

**GENERAL POLICIES RELATED TO THIS COURSE**
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in the following documents:

- ASU Undergraduate Catalog located on the ASU website [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/16795-201213-undergraduate-catalog](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/16795-201213-undergraduate-catalog)

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY & ATTENDANCE**

**ON-LINE:** This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings, which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions, which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

**COMMUNICATION**

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 48 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

*Written communication via Blackboard:* It is an expectation of this class that you use formal writing skills giving appropriate credit to the source for your ideas. Follow AMA 10th edition guidelines for referencing.

*Written communication via email:* All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.
• Use Good "Netiquette":
  • Check the discussion frequently and respond appropriately and on subject.
  • Focus on one subject per message and use pertinent subject titles.
  • Capitalize words only to highlight a point or for titles. Otherwise, capitalizing is generally viewed as SHOUTING!
  • Be professional and careful with your online interaction. Proper address for faculty is by formal title such as Dr. or Ms./Mr. Jones unless invited by faculty to use a less formal approach.
  • Cite all quotes, references, and sources.
  • When posting a long message, it is generally considered courteous to warn readers at the beginning of the message that it is a lengthy post.
  • It is extremely rude to forward someone else's messages without their permission.
  • It is fine to use humor, but use it carefully. The absence of face-to-face cues can cause humor to be misinterpreted as criticism or flaming (angry, antagonistic criticism). Feel free to use emoticons such as J or :) to let others know you are being humorous.

(The "netiquette" guidelines were adapted from Arlene H. Rinald's article, The Net User Guidelines and Netiquette, Florida Atlantic University, 1994, available from Netcom.)

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION
In this class, all assignments need to be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard course site. This is for grading purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at linda.ross@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. This lets me know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

LATE WORK OR MISSED ASSIGNMENTS POLICY
The course is set up on weekly modules. The week begins on Tuesday and ends on Monday. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Blackboard. Late assignments are not accepted without prior approval of faculty. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

ACADEMIC HONESTY
Academic honesty is expected on all work. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their online experiences. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU. The Health Science Professions Department adheres to the academic honesty statement as set forth in the Angelo State University Student Handbook (2011-2012) http://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/code-of-student-conduct/misconduct.php. The University "faculty expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experience both in and out of the classroom setting and may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials."
PLAGIARISM
Plagiarism at ASU is a serious topic. The Angelo State University's Honor Code gives specific details on plagiarism and what it encompasses. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word for word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. We use the *APA Style Manual of the American Psychological Association* as a guide for all writing assignments. Quotes should be used sparingly. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list. Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Bb Safe Assignment or Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center [http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php](http://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
1. “Angelo State University is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.”

2. The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Office of Student Affairs, University Center, Room 112 at (325) 942-2047 or (325) 942-2211 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at studentservices@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Office of Student Affairs will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students determined to be disabled or who have documented disabilities.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY (OP 10.11 Grading Procedures)
It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required.

STUDENT ABSENCE FOR OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS
“A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence.” Please see ASU Operating Policy 10.19.

COPYRIGHT POLICY
Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.
SYLLABUS CHANGES
The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

COURSE EVALUATION
Students are provided the opportunity, and are strongly encouraged to participate in a course evaluation at the end of the semester. Areas on the IDEA evaluation include:

1. Gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends) **Important**
2. Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories **Important**
3. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions) **Essential**
4. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course. **Important**
5. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing. **Important**
6. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view. **Important**

End of syllabus.