H 100
Introduction to Public Health

COURSE CREDITS:
(4) This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
See the Office of the Registrar website for information on Prerequisite Enforcement.

COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM CATALOG:
This survey course covers the basic elements of public health and the complex ethical and political issues central to it. The class is open to undergraduate students of all majors who want to know more about the field of public health, what it is, how it's organized, and how it works. There are no prerequisites for this course.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Benjamin J. Ashraf, MPH, CHES
Campus Office: Milam Hall 216
Office Hours: Mondays from 1 – 3 PM and by appointment.
Email: ashrafb@onid.orst.edu

LEARNING RESOURCES:
Text: (required): Public Health 101: Healthy People – Healthy Populations, 2nd Ed by Richard Riegelman
ISBN10: 1284074617

Note to prospective students: Please check with the OSU Bookstore for up-to-date information for the term you enroll (http://www.osubookstore.com/ or 800-595-0357). If you purchase course materials from other sources, be very careful to obtain the correct ISBN.
COURSE SPECIFIC MEASURABLE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon satisfactory completion of the degree in Public Health, the students will have met the program competencies found at http://health.oregonstate.edu/degrees/competencies

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

Students will be asked to demonstrate their mastery of the material in three settings: tests, post-session summaries, and a brief paper. Each is described briefly below, and each will be detailed during class sessions with separate instructions once the term begins.

**Discussion Board (10):** Every week during the term, students will be asked to write a short discussion board post that integrates the materials learned during the week. A prompt will be provided to help the students critically consider the material that has been presented. Students are also required to respond to one other student’s discussion post expanding upon what they may have gained from the post, in reference to their own perspective on the issue. It is further encouraged to review and comment on the posts listed by other students. For each week, students are required to submit their initial discussion post by the end of Monday, with their reply being required by the end of Wednesday to receive full credit for the assignment.

**Exams (2):** There is one midterm and one final examination during the course of the session. The exams are cumulative, i.e., cover material from the entire term up to the date of the exam, and are designed to require integrating material from all preceding sessions. The exam will use multiple choice items designed to cover important facts and concepts from each session of the course. Items may cover information found in both the text and lectures, but in no case will an item be drawn only from the text.

During “dead week” (or the week prior to the final), a set of practice items will be distributed, along with responses and explanations.

**Quizzes (2):** Students will be asked to answer several questions regarding the topics presented during the prior weeks. For each quiz, items will be taken directly from the material presented, and not necessarily from the text or other materials on that topic. Items will focus on major themes and important information, rather than on factual details not central to the main points of the sessions. Quizzes will be completed online after the class session on the designated day.
Epidemiology exercise (1): Each student will complete a set of integrated items to demonstrate mastery of epidemiologic methods. The items will be case-based, but require the application and integration of material from both class sessions and the text. The exercise will encompass the entire range of epidemiologic activity—for instance, concepts of population at risk, measures of disease burden association and relative risk, causality and confounding.

Essay Assignment (1): Each student will be asked to write one essay. This assignment will allow students to use scientific research and public health concepts to critically consider a public health topic as it is discussed in the popular literature.

The course grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussion Board (10)</td>
<td>5 points each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay Assignment</td>
<td>25 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (2)</td>
<td>30 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidemiology Assignment</td>
<td>30 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>65 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>70 points</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>300 points</td>
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</tbody>
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Grade Scale
Grade Percent Grade Percent
A 93 – 100 C 73 – 76
A- 90 – 92 C- 70 – 72
B+ 87 – 89 D+ 67 – 69
B 83 – 86 D 63 – 66
B- 80 - 82 D- 60 – 62
C+ 77 - 79 F< 60

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:
The course provides a basic overview of current local, national, and global trends in both communicable and non-communicable disease; the behavioral, social, and environmental determinants of population health, with a focus on causes of disparities in population health status; the organization of public health activities and their relation to other health-related activities (e.g., clinical care, emergency preparedness); analytical methods and the science of public health; the ethical challenges facing public health action; and emerging challenges for the field of public health. The course uses a mix of didactic material, guest presentations, case studies, and writing assignments to help
students understand the role of public health and the wide array of public health career opportunities as well as its relation to human science fields. The course may be presented either as a "hybrid" course (i.e., with a mix of in-person and online sessions) or as an entirely online course.

Topics covered in the course include:
• Public health history, organization and scope
• Public health methods: epidemiology, surveillance, and data sources
• Social & behavioral influences on health
• Environmental influences on health
• Infectious and chronic diseases
• Public health and healthcare
• Future directions in public health
• Ethical challenges in public health

Specific topics and dates will be published in a separate term-specific schedule.

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT
The College of Public Health and Human Sciences strives to create an affirming climate for all students including underrepresented and marginalized individuals and groups. Diversity encompasses differences in age, color, ethnicity, national origin, gender, physical or mental ability, religion, socioeconomic background, veteran status, sexual orientation, and marginalized groups. We believe diversity is the synergy, connection, acceptance, and mutual learning fostered by the interaction of different human characteristics.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT CONDUCT
The Student Conduct Code establishes community standards and procedures necessary to maintain and protect an environment conducive to learning, in keeping with the educational objectives of Oregon State University. This code is based on the assumption that all persons must treat one another with dignity and respect in order for scholarship to thrive. For the full Student Conduct Code see http://oregonstate.edu/studentconduct/. Academic or Scholarly Dishonesty is prohibited and considered a serious violation of the Student Conduct Code. It is defined as an act of deception in which a Student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work or research, either through the Student's own efforts or the efforts of another. For Student Conduct and Community Standards see http://oregonstate.edu/studentconduct/

This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:
Web: ecampus.oregonstate.edu Email: ecampus@oregonstate.edu Telephone: 800-667-1465
RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY STATEMENT
Oregon State University strives to respect all religious practices. If you have religious holidays that are in conflict with any of the requirements of this class, please see me immediately so that we can make alternative arrangements.

Incompletes
An “Incomplete” (I) grade will only be given out for emergency purposes. If you believe that you have one of these emergencies or are having difficulties that might prevent you from completing the coursework, please do not wait till the end of the term to contact me.

Late work.
As a general rule, late assignments will not be accepted. Should you have an unanticipated and significant life event that may result in a late assignment, please contact me in advance of the assignment due date. Please note that when I refer to times for deadlines, I am operating within Pacific Standard Time.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at http://ds.oregonstate.edu. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)

Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
- Policy On Disruptive Behavior

PLAGIARISM

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.
TUTORING
For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:

- Writing Center
- Online Writing Lab

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING
We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions through ONID. You will login to “Online Services/MyOSU” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION
Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.