

Montgomery County Community College  
PBH 101  
Introduction to Public Health  
3-3-0

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed to provide an overview of public health in the United States and globally as well as engage students in dialogue about the discipline of public health, the profession, and the interdisciplinary approach to addressing population health issues. Students work together in small groups to analyze and evaluate health information, health care systems and the social determinants of health. The history of public health and its five core areas - epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, social behavioral health, and health policy – are explored.

**REQUISITES:***Previous Course Requirements*

- ENG 010A Basic Writing or ENG 011 Basic Writing II or ESL 011 Basic Writing II
- REA 011 Fundamentals of College Reading or REA 017 Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension Development II

*Concurrent Course Requirements*

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Analyze the public health field in relation to its roles and responsibilities of government, non-government agencies, and private organizations.	Case study Group Discussion Lecture	Participation in Discussion Exam
2. Analyze the impact of infectious and chronic diseases on personal and population health.	Photovoice Assignment Group Discussion Lecture	Photovoice Assignment feedback Participation in Group Discussion
3. Utilize knowledge of leading causes of mortality, morbidity, and health disparities among local, regional, and global populations in making public health practice decisions.	Lecture Experiential Learning	Exam Reflection Paper

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
4. Examine the role of gender, race, ethnicity, and other evolving demographics in affecting population health.	Lecture/Discussion Experiential Learning	Exam PPT Presentation Reflection Paper
5. Critically evaluate health information obtained from the internet and mass media.	Lecture/Discussion Health Literacy Activity; Internet Activity: Evaluating Health Information	PPT Presentation
6. Explain the impact of behavior on health and methods for altering behavior	Lecture/Discussion	Exam
7. Compare and Contrast health care and public health systems in the US with other industrialized nations.	Lecture/Discussion	Exam

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of the students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

#### SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

- I. An Overview of Basic Principles
  - a. Context and scope of public health
  - b. Public Health concepts, principles, and attributes that cut across all public health disciplines like diversity and culture, leadership, professionalism or systems thinking
  - c. Epidemiologic principles and population perspective
- II. Population Health Tools
  - a. Health Communication and informatics
  - b. Health and social and behavioral sciences
  - c. Health policy, law and ethics
- III. Morbidity and Mortality: Determinants, Burdens, and Interventions
  - a. Non-communicable diseases
  - b. Communicable diseases
  - c. Environmental health and injury

- IV. Health Care and Public Health Systems
  - a. Healthcare workforce
  - b. Organization of health care and public health systems
  - c. Costs, quality, and access to health care and public health services
- V. Special Public Health Education Focus Areas
  - a. Health disparities and vulnerable populations
  - b. Public Health Preparedness and disaster management

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Schneider, Mary-Jane (2017). Introduction to Public Health (5<sup>th</sup> ed). Boston, MA: Jones and Bartlett

Additional readings may be assigned and will be made available on Blackboard.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared By: Natasha A. Patterson, MPH	Date: 2/16/2015
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification: Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D.	Date: 5/29/2015

Prepared By: Natasha A. Patterson, MPH	Date: 11/9/2017
VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:	Date: 12/1/2017



*This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College’s mission. It was developed, approved and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.*