

Instructor Information

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Office Hours: TBD; By Appointment

Course Objectives

1. Introduce or increase your understanding of the US healthcare system and how it operates
2. Acquire knowledge of the range of health professions impacting contemporary health care practice
3. Provide background and exposure to pursuing access to the various advanced programs for health professions.
4. Acquire knowledge of how individual disciplines coordinate with other health care team members to deliver care and do research
5. Introductory understanding of the broad healthcare system, its components and how it operates

These objectives will be accomplished through three primary avenues.

1. Traditional didactic presentations
2. Informal interview sessions with practicing professionals
3. Self-guided learning opportunities

Requirements/Grading Structure

The instructor reserves the right to modify the weights of the grading to address class dynamics. No changes will be made after 10/11/2013.

Class Participation - 60%

Attendance - 30%

Unfortunately, due to the size of the class, there is just no way around this. I honestly have racked my brain to come up with a fair and efficient way of doing this. Until technology in this area becomes reliable enough, I can only feel confident in taking accurate attendance via sign-in sheets at the end of class.

Attending a class means that you are in the class prior to the time that the class is scheduled to begin. It is understandable that coming from the main campus area you may occasionally be delayed and unable to get to the HPNP building prior to class beginning. If you are going to be late, please use discretion while entering the class and finding your seat. If you are going to be more than 15 minutes late, you will not get credit for class attendance, unless otherwise arranged beforehand with instructor.

The same applies with leaving class early. While the opportunity exists that the class will be dismissed early occasionally, DO NOT plan meetings or events that would interfere with the scheduled class time.

Nonetheless, I appreciate life happens, and there is a social aspect to your college experience. Therefore, I will provide 2 unexcused absences that will not count against your grade.

Message Boards - 30%

The intention of the message boards is to generate discussion amongst your peers. Every class, a topic or question will be posted. Most will be related to a profession, but others may only be health care related. The post topic will be open until the following Sunday at 8 pm, at which time it will be closed to any additional posting. The intention is to have an on-line discussion about the topic so I am hopeful that you will respond to your classmates posts. It is expected that everyone will have AT LEAST 2 posts per topic. At four times through the semester, post totals will be calculated (based on the 2 posts/topic minimum) and assigned a grade. The four grades will make up your final grade for message board participation.

The message boards will not be heavily monitored, but I will browse and comment on posts. It is expected that posts are 1. respectful of others and 2. genuine in their content. In other words, a three word post like "Doctors are cool" is not genuine content. Any posts failing to meet this criteria will be deleted. **A couple of technical notes on posts, please be patient and cognizant when using sakai and the message board. Duplicate posts often happen when you rush and click multiple times. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL SUNDAY AT 6PM TO POST.**

Post Grading dates Week ending:

a. 9/13/2013 b. 10/11/2013 c. 11/8/2013 d. 12/4/2013

Wiki - 20%

Specific information will be presented in class regarding how the Wiki Pages should be completed. There will be 3 separate Wiki topics that students will be graded on.

Team Presentation - 20%

After the first week, you will be randomly assigned groups of 5. Each group will be responsible for:

1. Submitting presentation slides
2. Conducting a 10 minute presentation during class

You will be broken into groups. Groups based upon a predetermined schedule will have time allotted during class to meet as a group. I will be available during this time to help facilitate the groups and guide the group through the process. The instructions for the team project are as follows:

- Choose a topic from one of the following
 - A non-MD health profession
 - A current health affairs topic (examples to follow)
- Submit topic to instructor for approval no less than a week prior to scheduled presentation.
- Select and outline 4 articles on chosen topic. At least 2 should be from a peer-reviewed journal.
- Conduct a "journal club" team meeting to review the articles.
- Develop a consensus statement regarding the articles and topic.
- Develop a presentation with no more than 10 slides (not including Introduction slide) highlighting your articles and presenting your consensus statement.
- Articles should be appropriately cited in slide using APA format (APA Style)i.e. 1. Author name or names; 2. Publication date; 3. Title of work; 4. Publication data

Academic Integrity

Each student is bound by the academic honesty guidelines of the University and the Code of Student Conduct, printed in the Student Guide, published on the University web site, and summarized in the Undergraduate Catalog. The Honor Code states: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." Cheating, plagiarism, other academic dishonesty or conduct violations in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior and can result in dismissal from the College and/or University. **THIS INCLUDES**

SIGNING IN FOR CLASSMATES FOR ATTENDANCE!

Professionalism

The guest speakers in this course are all voluntarily committing their time for these lectures. As such, it is expected that students act in an appropriate manner during their lectures. The use of cell phones, texting and laptops is **STRONGLY** discouraged during lectures and will be monitored. Since there are no exams based upon these presentations, laptops are not needed. The instructor reserves the right to address excessive violation of this policy, including grade demerits.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require academic accommodations, you must first register with the Dean of Students' Office. The Dean of Students' Office will provide you with documentation that you must then provide to me as the faculty member for this course at the time you request the accommodation. The College of Health Professions is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist you in your coursework.

General Important Comments

I realize that this is a large class and I will be lucky to remember a handful of your names. But, **COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR FOR THIS CLASS AND ANY OTHER CLASS WILL GO A LONG WAY TO SECURING YOUR SUCCESS!** I cannot address and/or help with a problem unless I am aware of the issue, and trust me, you will get less skeptical looks from your instructor if you communicate **BEFORE** not **AFTER** the fact.

While this class is intended for primarily freshman students, there are many 2nd, 3rd, and even 4th year students registered for this class. I believe this is one of the easiest courses on campus **BUT** I expect professionalism from all the students. An A is easily obtainable as long as you approach the class with a professional demeanor. That means having the discipline to come to class, having the discipline to participate in the on-line components, and coming to class and being engaged even with topics that you have little interest in.