

**Department of Health Policy and Management  
College of Public Health  
University of Georgia**

**HPAM 8100 (PBHL 8100)  
Advanced Topics in Public Health  
Spring 2008  
Tuesdays, 5:00pm – 7:45pm**

**Course Information**

Instructor: Valerie A. Hepburn, PhD  
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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 3:00pm – 5:00pm, and by appointment

**Course Meeting Time and Location**

Building: Coverdell Center  
Room: 141  
Day: Tuesday  
Time: 5:00pm – 7:45pm

**Textbooks and Other Required Course Material**

**Novick, Lloyd., Cynthia Morrow and Glen Mays. eds. 2008. *Public Health Administration: Principles for Population-Based Management, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.* Sudbury, Massachusetts: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.**

**Informing the Future: Critical Issues in Health, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. 2007.** Washington, DC. Institute of Medicine. (available on WebCT)

Various assigned articles, available on WebCT.

Supplemental readings and informational materials, available through WebCT.

In addition to the required text readings, students are expected to keep abreast of current health research and policy activities underway at the state, federal and international levels. Beginning with the **fourth week** of class, students are expected to bring to each class, for discussion, at least one issue item related to readings, emerging research and/or health policy actions of the prior two weeks. The review of current health policy issues and presentation of this material will contribute to the grade for the class assignment section.

To complete these assignments and to contribute to class discussions, students should actively monitor emerging research and health policy news. In addition to regular review of news sources (e.g., New York Times, Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, etc.), at a minimum, students should read reports and publications from the following sources:

The Institute of Medicine  
<http://www.iom.edu/>

Kaiser Network and the Kaiser Family Foundation  
[http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily\\_reports/rep\\_hpolicy.cfm](http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_hpolicy.cfm)

American Journal of Public Health  
<http://www.ajph.org/>

Health Affairs  
<http://www.healthaffairs.org/>

The Commonwealth Fund  
<http://www.cmwf.org/>

### **Course Description**

The course focuses on the essential features of public health theory, administration, policy and practice, linking foundational concepts to applications in the real world. Topics will include the full array of public health structures and initiatives; health and illness; prevention and treatment; the ecological model; identification of risk and protective factors; the complex interplay between science, law, policy, and ethics; and the current US public health system (federal, state and local). Particular emphasis will be placed on emerging public health issues and field applications of the theoretical foundations of public health. Students completing the course will exhibit high level understanding of the mission, function, practices, and impacts of public health efforts.

### **Course Learning Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze and critique public health as a system, including specific functions and roles of governmental and non-governmental public health organizations.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the legal, ethical, scientific, and policy foundations of public health and conceptualize public health problems and interventions in the context of these foundations.
- Describe and apply the ecological model as relates to public health assessment, assurance and policy development.
- Develop and apply a broad range of system applications to demonstrate interrelationships among risk and protective factors, process and outcome objectives, and targets and standards for population.

### **Course Requirements and Grading Policy**

All students are required to complete two research review papers: one related to emerging research on an essential public health function/service (due March 4<sup>th</sup>) and one related to

emerging research on a population or target issue in public health (due April 15<sup>th</sup>). Students should select topics for the two papers by February 5, 2008, at which time master's students will identify one of the two topics for presentation to the class. Presentation schedules will be established after February 5<sup>th</sup>, so as to best align presentations with syllabus topics.

Each paper is expected to be 10-to-12 typewritten pages, double spaced, and appropriately sourced. Each paper should include 4 to 6 articles (published 2004 or later) in the review process. (Please use EndNote software and one of the social science research styles, Chicago or APA, for your references. Software is available free from the UGA Library : <http://www.libs.uga.edu/liaison/endnote/endnote.html>

All students will be required to complete a final examination (May 1<sup>st</sup>). In addition, class participation and structured presentation activities will be a significant component of the course grade.

Doctoral students will be required to teach one class during later part of the semester and master's students will be required to make a short topical presentation (based on a research review paper) during one class period. Doctoral students will work with the professor to finalize a class teaching assignment, topic and schedule by February 19<sup>th</sup>. Reading assignments will be provided to the class by the doctoral instructors no later than March 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### For Doctoral Students

1. 2 Research Papers - 20% each
2. Final Examination – 20%
3. Class Participation – 10%
4. Class Teaching Assignment – 30%

#### For Master's Students

1. 2 Research Papers - 25% each
2. Final Examination – 25%
3. Class Participation – 10%
4. Class Topical Presentation - 15%

At the end of the semester each student will have a weighted score adding up to 100 points or less. The final letter grade for the course will be based on the following scale.

	B+ 87-89	C+ 76-78	D 57-67	F Below 57
A 93-100	B 82-86	C 71-75		
A- 90-92	B- 79-81	C- 68-70		

### **Make-Up Policy**

Make-up examinations or assignments are not provided, except in hardship cases which should be discussed in advance with the instructor.

### **Attendance and Participation Policy**

This course assumes substantial and informed student participation. General discussion of theory and practice is encouraged and expected of all students. *At a minimum*, being informed requires completion of assigned readings and paying attention to emerging research, health policy news and world events. Class attendance and thoughtful participation are important, and will represent part of the final grade. Missing more than one class and/or failing to participate meaningfully in class discussions will result in a lower grade in this area.

## **University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy**

All students are responsible for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic careers. The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe and ignorance is not an acceptable defense. All academic work must meet the standards contained in “Culture of Honesty”, which can be found at <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>. Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. Plagiarism, collaborating with fellow students on the writing of the papers assigned for the course, or completion of the papers by others outside of the course, are all examples of academic dishonesty.

## **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment prior to the second week of class.

## Topical Outline, Schedule and General Disclaimers

### Course Schedule, Topics and Assignments

(Please Note: The course syllabus and scheduled of topics provide a general plan for the course; deviations may be made as necessary. The course schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the professor and/or to accommodate guest speakers.)

Week	Date		Topic	Assignments
1	January	8	Introductions Course Overview Defining and Framing Public Health	Novick, Morrow and Mays, Chapters 1 – 2 JAMA Achievements in Public Health Schroeder article
2		15	<i>Essential Functions and Services</i> Organization, Law, Ethics and Policy Making	Novick, Morris and Mays, Chapters 3 – 6 Jones and Bayer article Magnusson article
3		22	<i>Essential Functions and Services</i> Resources and Administration	Novick, Morris and Mays, Chapters 7 – 10 Aaron article Grosse, Teutsch and Haddix article
4		29	<i>Essential Functions and Services</i> Surveillance and Information Systems	Novick, Morris and Mays, Chapters 11 – 14 Murray article Thompson, Comanor and Shay article
5	February	5	<i>Essential Functions and Services</i> Strategic Planning and Capacity Building	Novick, Morrow and Mays, Chapters 15-18 Barron, Glad and Vukotich article Mechanic article Radosavljevic and Jakovljevic article  • <b>Research Paper Topics Due</b>
6		12	<i>Population Targets and Strategies</i> Prevention and Health Promotion	Novick, Morrow and Mays, Chapters 19, 21 Milken Chronic Disease - ExecSumm Davis, Wakefield, Amos and Gupta article

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>		<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
7		19	<i>Population Targets and Strategies</i> Communication and Marketing	Novick, Morrow and Mays, Chapters 20, 22 Evans, Renaud and Kamerow article Maibach article Rains article  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Doctoral Teaching Assignments and Schedule Finalized</b></li> </ul>
8		26	<i>Population Targets and Strategies</i> Health Systems Research	Novick, Morrow and Mays, Chapter 24 IOM Informing the Future, Full Text CMWF High Performance Health System Lenaway et al.
9	<b>March</b>	4	<i>Population Targets and Strategies</i> Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response	Novick, Morrow and Mays, Chapter 23 Trust for America's Health BT Report Benedek, Fullerton and Ursano article Glik article Nelson, Lurie and Wasserman article  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research Paper Due (Function)</b></li> </ul>
		11	No Class – Spring Break	
10		18	<i>Population Targets and Strategies</i> Behavioral Health Systems and Services (Tentative - Trip to Central State Hospital)	New Freedom Commission ExecSummary Anda et al. article Prince et al. article  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Distribution of Reading Assignments For Doctoral Teaching Sessions</b></li> </ul>
11		25	<i>Population Targets and Strategies</i> Health Disparities and Global Stability	Braveman article Kawachi, Daniels and Robinson article Marmot article Satcher et al. article Starfield article
12	<b>April</b>	1	<i>Doctoral Student Course Topic</i> <i>Health Promotion and Behavior</i>	Readings TBA

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>		<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
13		8	Climate Change: Our Health in the Balance National Public Health Week <i>Doctoral Student Course Topic</i> <i>Environmental Health</i>	Readings TBA
14		15	<i>Doctoral Student Course Topic</i> <i>Health Policy and Management</i>	Readings TBA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Paper Due (Issue/Target)</li> </ul>
15		22	<i>Review and Summation</i> Critical Issues and Functions for Public Health in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	
	May	1	<b>Final Exam, 7:00 - 10:00 pm</b>	