

King Saud University
College of Business Administration
Department of Health Administration - Masters` Program

HHA 507 – Introduction to Public Health
First Semester 1440/ 1441

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Course Description:

This course Introduces students to concepts of health, disease, biological and physical environments, and factors influencing the population's health. The course explores population health, health equity, sustainability and climate change, and, of course, the public health enterprise. Public health encompasses a broad range of activities and functions, but among its most important are promoting and preserving the health of populations through prevention. The course discusses some of the Saudi health care problems in relation to congenital, physical, psychiatric and iatrogenic issues and how such issues are managed.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Describe the key features of the historical development of public health as a domain of specialized knowledge and public policy.
- Identify the major forces driving the shift to a population health focus.
- Identify several categories of commonly used measures of health status.
- Explain the concepts of prevention, detection, control of infectious and chronic conditions, health disparities, and global health.
- Describe how the social - ecological model is important when considering public health efforts of prevention.
- Describe how societal, organizational, and individual factors influence and are influenced by public health
- Explain the impact and control of environmental factors on health.
- Discuss the 5 core disciplines of public health and how each contributes to understanding the health of the public.

Course Expectations:

1. Complete pre-readings and prepare for class.
2. Actively participate in class discussions.
3. Complete med-term and final exams.
4. Complete and turn on the case study report on time.

Topics to be Covered		
List of Topics	No of Weeks	Contact hours
Introduction History and Development of Public Health	1	3
Measuring Population Health	1	3
Modern Public Health Systems	1	3
Major Disciplines in Public Health	1	3
Data for Public Health	1	3
Epidemiology and Disease Control	1	3
Study Design	2	6
Biostatistics	1	3
Infectious Disease Epidemiology	1	3
Environmental and Occupational Health	1	3
Risk and Exposure Assessment	1	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	1	3
Ethical Issues and Challenges in Public Health	1	3

Readings:

- Turnock, Bernard J., “**Essentials of Public Health**” Third Edition, Jones & Bartlett Learning; (January 1, 2015)
- Andresen, Elena & Erin DeFries Bouldin, “**Public Health Foundations: Concepts and Practices**” 1st Edition. Jossey-Bass; (October 12, 2010).
- A course pack containing the articles citations and electronic references for each session will be available to students.

Grading:

5 %.....Attendance and punctuality
15%..... Case Study
20 %..... Mid-term exam I
20%.....Mid-term exam II
40%.....Final Exam

Case study report

Case studies and the case methods provide students with a well-organized approach to, and methodology for, problem solving and decision making. The project will give students an opportunity to identify important facts to solving the problem from assertions and opinions, and when necessary, make assumptions supported by the facts in the scenario. Apply relevant public health disciplines and methodology and take the role of a healthcare manager or a consultant when considering alternative solutions, offering recommendation, and planning implementation. Some of the questions to consider when analyzing the case scenario are:

1. What is the problem(s)? Analyze the case and identify the problem (s),
2. What are the facts presented in the case?
3. Are these enough, or do we need to gather additional information or a performance measure perhaps?
4. What are the assumptions supported by the facts in the scenario (if there is any)?
5. What are the issues or people involved the competing values and interests of the stakeholders?
6. What are the alternatives available to solve the problem(s) in the scenario?
7. How are you going to implement these solutions
8. Justifies your choice?