Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

HLTH 509
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL THEORY APPLICATIONS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course is a study of the behavioral, social and cultural factors related to population health disparities. The student will learn that research in this area contributes to the development and evaluation of public health policies, programs and services that promote and sustain healthy populations.

RATIONALE
This course is one of six required courses taken by all students in the Master of Public Health program. It provides a comprehensive review of the social and behavioral influences on human health and the theoretical foundation that undergirds the practice of public health.

I. PREREQUISITES
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Identify social, cultural, and behavioral factors that influence health disparities and impact population health.
B. Identify basic theories and conceptual models from the social and behavioral disciplines useful in public health research and practice.
C. Identify individual, organizational, and community concerns, assets, resources, and deficits for social and behavioral science interventions.
D. Enlist critical stakeholders in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health programs, policies, and interventions.
E. Describe steps and procedures for planning, implementing, and evaluating public health programs and policies.

F. Apply evidence-based approaches in the development and evaluation of social and behavioral interventions to address health disparities.

G. Apply ethical principles to public health program planning, implementation, and evaluation.

H. Examine health behavior from the perspective of God’s purposes for humanity in creation, fall, and redemption.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings, journal articles, and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (8)

The student will complete 8 Discussion Board Forums based on the assigned articles in each module/week. Each discussion will consist of a thread and a minimum of 2 replies to 2 other students’ threads. The thread must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of the assigned module/week, and replies are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of each respective module/week. The only exception is in Module/Week 8 when the thread is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday, and replies are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.

D. Learning Activities (8)

Each of the Learning Activities is designed to help the student build skills in the process of population-based program planning and evaluation. While each activity is discrete in itself, together they comprise a larger picture that culminates in a small but tidy program plan by Module/Week 8. Learning Activities 1–7 are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of their assigned module/week. Learning Activity 8 is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.

E. Exams (4)

Exams will be based on the textbook readings. Exams 1–3 must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of their assigned module/week. Exam 4 must be completed by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (8 at 25 pts ea)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Activities (8 at 25 pts ea)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (4 at 150 pts ea)</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total 1010

B. Scale

D- = 680–699  F = 679 and below

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport
## Course Schedule

**HLTH 509**  


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1           | DiClemente, et al.: chs. 1–2  
2 presentations  
1 website | Course Requirements Checklist  
DB Forum 1  
Learning Activity 1 | 10  
25  
25 |
| 2           | DiClemente, et al.: chs. 4–5  
1 presentation  
2 websites | DB Forum 2  
Learning Activity 2  
Exam 1 | 25  
25  
150 |
| 3           | DiClemente, et al.: ch. 6  
1 presentation  
1 website  
1 poem | DB Forum 3  
Learning Activity 3 | 25  
25 |
| 4           | DiClemente, et al.: chs. 7–8  
3 presentations  
2 websites | DB Forum 4  
Learning Activity 4  
Exam 2 | 25  
25  
150 |
| 5           | DiClemente, et al.: chs. 9–10  
1 presentation  
1 article | DB Forum 5  
Learning Activity 5 | 25  
25 |
| 6           | DiClemente, et al.: chs. 11–12  
1 presentation  
1 website | DB Forum 6  
Learning Activity 6  
Exam 3 | 25  
25  
150 |
| 7           | DiClemente, et al.: chs. 3, 13  
1 presentation  
1 website | DB Forum 7  
Learning Activity 7 | 25  
25 |
| 8           | DiClemente, et al.: ch. 14  
1 presentation  
1 article | DB Forum 8  
Learning Activity 8  
Exam 4 | 25  
25  
150 |

**TOTAL**  

1010

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.