

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 500

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide a broad overview of the practice of public health. It is intended for those with a limited exposure to the field or in need of a refresher of analytical and critical thinking skills prior to beginning a graduate level course of study. The course will specifically address basic algebraic and probability concepts, review the use of peer-reviewed literature, introduce students to literature citation using the AMA style, and provide a framework to approach public health practice.

RATIONALE

Some students are less prepared than others to begin graduate studies. The problem may arise because of undergraduate performance earlier in undergraduate studies, lack of exposure to courses in the discipline, or the time elapsed since undergraduate studies were completed. This course provides a framework to address these identified or self-perceived weaknesses in the student early in his or her study 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 Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Outline the scope of public health practice within the context of a biblical worldview.
- B. Contrast public health interventions with curative medical interventions.
- C. Apply basic algebraic and probability concepts to a public health problem.
- D. Evaluate the utility of various forms of literature in research.
- E. Create a bibliography using current AMA style.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Lecture presentations and notes
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (5)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400–500 words, demonstrate course-related knowledge, include at least 2 references in current AMA format, unless otherwise specified in the prompt, and integrate at least 1 biblical principle. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to the threads of at least 2 classmates. Each reply must be 200–250 words.

- D. Public Health Essay

The student will write a 5–7-page research-based paper describing the practice of public health and how a public health degree relates to his or her career goals. The paper must provide insight into the student's understanding of the scope of public health practice and the importance of community interventions to solve population-based problems from a biblical worldview. The paper must use current AMA format and include at least 5 peer-reviewed or government sources.

- E. Research Paper Annotated Bibliography

The student will select 15 peer-reviewed articles from the past 5 years of public health literature and generate a bibliography using current AMA format. The student will also write a 150–200-word synopsis/critique of each article to be included as an annotation in the bibliography.

- F. Research Paper

The student will write a 7–10-page research paper on a chosen public health problem in current AMA format. The paper must include at least 5 references from peer-reviewed sources.

G. Exams (2)

Each exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the previous and assigned modules/weeks. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain multiple-choice and short answer questions, and have a 2-hour time limit.

H. Final Exam

The Final Exam will be cumulative in order to evaluate all course components. It will be open-book/open-notes; contain multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, and at least 1 essay question; and have a 2-hour time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Course Requirements Checklist | 10 |
| Discussion Board Forums (5 at 50 pts ea) | 250 |
| Public Health Essay | 150 |
| Research Paper Annotated Bibliography | 150 |
| Research Paper | 100 |
| Exams (2 at 100 pts ea) | 200 |
| Final Exam (Modules 1–8) | 150 |
| Total | 1010 |

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. 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 500

Textbook: Iverson et al., *AMA Manual of Style: A Guide for Authors and Editors* (2007).

| MODULE/ WEEK | READING & STUDY | ASSIGNMENTS | POINTS |
|-------------------------|---|--|---------------|
| 1 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 1 PDF 5 websites | Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 | 10 0 50 |
| 2 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 6 websites | DB Forum 2 | 50 |
| 3 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 1 study guide problem set 2 websites | Public Health Essay | 150 |
| 4 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 1 study guide problem set 5 websites | DB Forum 3 Exam 1 | 50 100 |
| 5 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 1 study guide problem set 6 websites | Research Paper Annotated Bibliography | 150 |
| 6 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 4 websites | DB Forum 4 Exam 2 | 50 100 |
| 7 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 3 websites | DB Forum 5 Research Paper | 50 100 |
| 8 | 1 presentation 1 lecture note 1 PDF 2 websites | Final Exam | 150 |
| TOTAL | | | 1010 |

DB = Discussion Board

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