Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

BIMS 4590/NURS 4390/HLSC 4390
INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL HEALTH/HEALTH DISPARITIES
Syllabus
Spring 2017

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CREDITS: semester hours (3:0)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with an historical perspective on global health issues and leads to an understanding of current and future concerns. Emphasis is on the global burden of disease and determinants of health as well as health disparities. Case studies expose students to a variety of real-life scenarios and explore a range of issues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1: Identify historical and current global economic, sociopolitical, environmental, and cultural factors that are an influence on the health and disease of a nation or a group of nations.

2: Develop criteria for evaluating health development across countries.

3: Analyze factors or causes for international and intra-national inequality in health development using analytical methods.

4: Demonstrate an understanding of global demographics and health determinants.

5: Identify global challenges and issues.
6: Discuss major communicable and non-communicable disease burdens impacting global health.

7: Understand the role and influence of international NGOs and humanitarian agencies.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RESOURCES:


Peer reviewed publications, videos and pertinent websites are as listed in the course schedule. The instructor reserves the right to adjust the reading list to ensure timeliness and appropriateness of readings.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND TEACHING METHODS:

Objectives for this course are met through classroom lecture, individual study, group discussions using a range of resources, and both group and independent research supplemented by case studies. Videos and web-based technologies are also utilized. It is expected that the student dedicate a minimum of 5 hours per week (in class, online discussions, group meetings, and individual study) to course activities. Students are required to log into the Blackboard classroom at least three days per week and to attend all scheduled class meetings.

BIMS 4590 - Expected hours of professor availability (per College of Science & Engineering guidelines) are tentatively scheduled for MWF 10:00-11:30; changes will be announced on Blackboard and in chat rooms (synchronous conversation).

NURS 4390/HLSC 4390/HONR 4390 – Expected hours of professor availability are tentatively scheduled for TR 10:00-11:30 and by appointment; changes will be announced on Blackboard and via announcements.

COURSE POLICIES

1. Written assignments: Students are expected to follow instructions associated with the assignments for this course. Students who have questions about an assignment should contact the faculty member in a timely manner to ensure satisfactory completion of the assignment by the due date. Unless otherwise instructed, students should use the APA Publication Manual, 6th Edition as a reference for formatting and organizing written assignments. Points will be deducted for poorly written papers.

2. Students are expected to participate in the online and face-to-face discussions. The nature of the content of this course may promote debate during discussion. It is assumed that
students will prepare for each class so that they can make knowledgeable contributions on
the assigned topic. All contributions should be made in a respectful manner and the
discussion should be an orderly sharing of ideas. NO disrespect to classmates will be
tolerated.

3. **Written assignments must be turned in via Bb on the required date unless prior
   arrangements have been made with the course instructor. Two (2) points will be deducted
   from the final grade for the assignment for each day that the assignment is late.**

Students are expected to review the syllabus and course calendar throughout the semester
to ensure they complete class assignments according to instructions and in a timely
manner. Additional information may be found in the course web shell. Please inform the
instructor if you are unable to access the shell.

4. Participation in class is necessary to achieve course objectives. Students are expected to
   participate appropriately. **Assignments must be completed in accordance with the class
   schedule.** In the event a student cannot participate in class due to an emergency situation,
   he or she should contact the course instructor as soon as possible. Lack of participation may
   seriously impact successful completion of the course.

**HONORS PROGRAM STANDARDS**

The instructor assumes that honors students enrolled in this course are good-faith honors
students. Bona fide honors-program behavior is distinguished in the following ways:

- Students read assignments on time and completely. They know that reading is only the
  first step; they work toward taking command of the material, and they come to class
  with serious responses and a willingness to learn.
- Students do not assume that an assignment is legitimate only if it will be “tested.” The
  work is done for its own sake. Students also make connections between the material at
  hand and what has been explored in previous classes.
- Students will participate 100% of the time and make arrangements so that this will
  happen. Barring natural catastrophes or personal emergency, faithful participation and
  preparation are expected.
- Students assume that open and equitable discussion and critique is the soul of an
  honors course. Everyone “listens” attentively to the instructor and to each other.
  Everyone participates. Students do not put the burden on the teacher or on other
  students to originate or maintain discussion. They take on the responsibility of insuring
  that all students have the chance to be heard, and they do it by offering their share of
  discussion postings and providing questions that will help the entire class explore course
  content more deeply.
• Students think “outside the box” and are not afraid to take risks and explore new ideas.

How you earn your grade:

**Evaluation Criteria**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Assignments</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper and Case Study Group Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Grading Scale**

A – 90-100
B – 83-89
C – 75-82
D – 65-74
F – below 65

**Policies:**

**Course communication** is via Blackboard. The Professor is available via Bb-mail Monday through Friday. Read Bb Announcements routinely. Check your Islander email routinely.

**Course Assignments** must be submitted in the Bb Assignment Drop Box on published due dates. Two points are deducted for each day that an assignment is late.

**POLICIES:**

**Evaluation Input From Students**
The faculty of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences places great value on evaluative input from students. Evaluation of courses, instructors and clinical facilities provides the College with important data which is used to strengthen the program. Data is analyzed as to trends and themes and is important to curriculum and sequencing decisions. All evaluations for courses posted are online. The online mechanism allows us the opportunity to tabulate and store information in order to analyze trends within the curriculum. Please be assured that this information is secured and not released until after grades are submitted. No names are available to faculty. In order to garner some reliability and validity, the College must have representative data from the student population. That representation, based on the literature, has been set at 70%. The College is anticipating that students will thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process which will assist the faculty with the growth of the program. A link to evaluations will be available on Blackboard toward the end of the semester. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the evaluation process.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

It is expected that University students will demonstrate a high level of maturity, self-direction, and ability to manage their own affairs. Students are viewed as individuals who possess the qualities of worth, dignity, and the capacity for self-direction in personal behavior. University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to a penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is intentionally, knowingly, or carelessly presenting the work of another as one’s own). Please see the following sites for additional information:

- University Student Handbook and Code of Conduct: [http://www.tamucc.edu/~students](http://www.tamucc.edu/~students)
- University catalog related to academic integrity and honesty: [http://catalog.tamucc.edu/](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/)
- University Rules and Procedures: [University Procedure 13.02.99.C3.01 Academic Misconduct Cases](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/)

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Office at 361.825.5816 or visit the office in CCH 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disabilities Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
Title IX

As part of the Texas A & M Corpus Christi University policy, pregnant students are urged to contact the Title IX office for facilitation of academic issues impacted by pregnancy, delivery and subsequent complications. Contact information: Mr. Samuel Ramirez, Title IX Coordinator or Ms. Rosie Ruiz, Deputy Title IX Coordinator (825-5826).

Active Military Duty

Active duty military personnel, military spouses, and veterans with special circumstances (eg: deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these, in advance if possible, to the course and clinical instructor.

Grade Appeals Process

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CONHS) adheres to the University’s student grade appeal procedures described in Section 13.02.99.C2.01 (revised May, 2013) and follows those guidelines. See http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/ for the University procedure and see http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb/ for the CONHS process identified in the Student Handbook.

Support Services

Students are encouraged to seek faculty assistance in accessing University Services, including tutoring, health services, personal counseling, degree counseling, financial aid, learning resources, job/work placement, career guidance, and computer/technical support/instruction. If a student is interested in other support services provided by the University, the student is encouraged by the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the University to seek these services.