

## **HSEM F403: Public Health in Emergencies (Spring 2016)**

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: HSEM 301 or permission of Instructor

Location: TBD based on classroom availability

Instructor: John Broderick

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Office:

Office Hours: By appointment

### **Course Description**

This course focuses on the role public health plays in the disaster lifecycle and emergency management. Public Health is relatively new concept in emergency management. Topics including public health's role in fostering community resilience, medical intelligence and disease monitoring, behavioral health recovery, ethical considerations, and planning for vulnerable and special needs populations are examined.

### **Course Objectives:**

Develop an understanding of:

- How different disasters affect public health
- The importance of disaster planning
- The different types of vulnerable populations
- Public health considerations and responses

### **Student Learning Objectives:**

- Recognize public health theories and how they explain assessments, interventions, and evaluations
- Explain the application of these concepts to the promotion of community resilience in disaster management
- Identify how different sectors of society are affected by disasters and to recommend resources to address their needs

### **Course Text Book:**

*Required*

- Public Health Management of Disasters: The Practice Guide (Third Edition), Copyright 2011, Landesman, Linda Young, American Public Health Association

*Suggested (This book is not required for purchase, however, is a useful reference for lectures, papers, and discussions)*

- Introduction to Public Health (Fourth Edition), Copyright 2013, Schneider, Mary-Jane, Jones & Bartlett Learning

### **Additional Reading:**

Additional reading assignments have been selected from articles and web sites. Where possible, the course author has obtained permission to include session handouts of the assigned reading.

### **Instructional Method:**

The course format includes lecture, directed reading assignments, class discussion board topics and internet-based assignments via Blackboard. Case studies and textbook chapters will additionally be utilized as part of the instructional method with guest speakers facilitating discussions through lecture and questions developed as a class.  
Recommended preparation: 9 hours weekly beyond class instruction.

### **Paper Format:**

- Double-spaced
- 1" margins
- 12-point Times New Roman, Arial, or Helvetica Font
- Page limit does not include references or title page.
- Each page numbered at the bottom with the student's name in each page's header
- Wikipedia is NOT an acceptable reference for information. Okay for images
- Follow APA style guide for everything else
- Poor writing will be penalized, so you should proofread each other's papers
- Papers must be emailed as PDFs; hard copies or Word docs will not be accepted
- All files names must begin with the student's last name to help the instructors organize files, and include additional identifying information, e.g.  
**Broderick\_Midterm\_Haiti\_Earthquake.**

\*\*\* For additional information on APA formatting:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

### **Evaluations:**

All assignments are due **BEFORE** the start of class

1. Weekly Discussion Board Management = 15%
  - A. A discussion question will be posted each week. Topics can include but are not limited to current events, questions posted in the readings, or an outside topic relating to public health in emergencies.
  - B. Posts are worth 10 points each.
  - C. Students will be required to comment on at least 2 other student's weekly discussion board posts.
  - D. Discussion Board Etiquette: When both posting and responding to the discussion board requirements, remember that these are graded activities. Content is to address the requirement at hand and in terms of a response, be respectful and constructive in nature.
2. IS-808: Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 – Public Health and Medical Services Certificate = 10%
  - A. Completion of IS-808 FEMA Certificate (FEMA will only award the certificate with a passing score of 70%)

3. Midterm Paper = 25%

- A. Each student will be required to submit a midterm paper that analyzes health planning for a vulnerable population. Student will be required to research and analyze the positives and negatives of this current planning. This paper will be 4-6 pages, double spaced and follow the above format. Students will be given a grading rubric for this assign in Week 2.

4. Final Paper = 50%

- A. Each student will be required to submit a final paper that analyzes a case study on a public health response to a disaster. Student will be required to research and analyze the positives and negatives of this disaster response. This paper will be 6-8 pages, double spaced and follow the above format. Students will be given a grading rubric for this assign in Week 9.

**Grading:**

Weekly Assignments / Discussion Board Management = 15% (150 points)

Mid-Term Paper = 25% (250 points)

Final Paper = 50% (500 points)

IS 808 Certificate = 10% (100 points)

Total = 1000 points

A= 90-100%   B= 80-89%   C= 70-79%   D= 60-69%   F= 59% or less

**Course Policies:**

Students are expected to attend and participate in both the class and discussions generated. Students will be penalized for the late submission of class assignments and for non—attendance (outside of emergency or mutually agreed upon circumstances). Plagiarism on assignments and cheating on exams will not be tolerated. Work is to be original efforts to address the specific assignment at hand (in other words, don't submit work from another course). Students caught plagiarizing or cheating will be disciplined according to the appropriate University of Alaska guidelines.

Assignments are due **BEFORE** the start of class. Assignments turned in late will be docked 10% of the grade each day up to 100%. All papers must be in APA format. All assignments must be submitted as a .pdf file. Please label you assignments with your last name, followed by assignment e.g. "**Broderick\_IS808**"

**Support Services:**

Students are encouraged to schedule an initial appointment and utilize the UAF Writing Center in 801 Gruening, phone: 474-5314, <http://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/> for the first written topic review. Further assistance through the writing center is encouraged as needed to assist in the development and refinement of written products. Please contact me as required should you need to contact other subject matter support services relevant to the development of your leadership or classroom projects/topics.

Distance students have access to the tutoring as well.

## **Students with Disabilities:**

Students with learning or other disabilities who may need classroom accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment with the Office of Disability Services (Phone # 474-7043). Please inform me of your needs and if I need to meet with the Office of Disability Services to provide the appropriate accommodations and support to assist you in meeting the goals of the course.

## **Course Schedule:**

### **Week 1 (14 January – 17 January)**

Review of syllabus. Student backgrounds and 5-year plan. Introduction to Public Health in Emergencies.

Readings

- N/A

Assignments

- N/A

### **Week 2 (18 January – 22 January)**

Readings

- Review of writing standards (APA Format)
- Role and Responsibility of Public Health — (Chapter 2. PHMD)

Assignments

- Discussion Board – Introductions
- Discussion Board Topic #1 – What is public health? (10 points)
- Student biography with picture (50 points)
- Assign Midterm Paper

### **Week 3 (25 January – 29 January)**

Readings

- Structure and Organization of Health Management in Disaster Response (Chapter 3. PHMD)

Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #2 – Where does public health fit into the Homeland Security organization chart? (10 points)
- IS-808 Due (50 points)

### **Week 4 (1 February – 5 February)**

Readings

- Types of Disasters and Their Consequences (Chapter 1. PHMD)

Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #3 – What are disasters an emergency manager would need to be familiar with in Alaska? (10 points)

### **Week 5 (8 February – 19 February)**

#### Readings

- Essentials of Disaster Planning (Chapter 7. PHMD)

#### Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #4 – What do emergency managers need to consider when planning for public health disasters? (10 points)

### **Week 6 (15 February – 19 February)**

#### Readings

- Behavioral Health Strategies (Chapter 9. PHMD)

#### Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #5 – What are ways to mitigate PTSD for first responders? (10 points)

### **Week 7 (22 February – 26 February)**

#### Readings

- Vulnerable Populations (Chapter 10. PHMD)

#### Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #6 – Who is responsible for vulnerable populations in a disaster? (10 points)

### **Week 8 (29 February – 4 March)**

#### Readings

- Environmental and Occupational Health Issues (Chapter 8. PHMD)

#### Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #7 – How could accidents to first responders be prevented in the field? (10 points)
- Midterm due (250 points)

### **Week 9 (7 March – 11 March)**

#### Readings

- Disaster Communications (Chapter 6. PHMD)

#### Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #8 – What are some out of the box methods in conveying a message to citizens? (10 points)
- Assign Final Paper

### **Spring Break (12 March-20 March)**

### **Week 10 (21 March – 25 March)**

#### Readings

- Hazard Assessment, Vulnerability Analysis, Risk Assessment, and Rapid Health Assessment (Chapter 5. PHMD)

#### Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #9 – How can Hazardous Vulnerability Assessments (HVAs) better prepare organizations to identify potential hazards? (10 points)

**Week 11 (28 March – 1 April)**

## Readings

- Evaluation Methods for Assessing Public Health and Medical Response to Disaster (Chapter 13. PHMD)

## Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #10 – Why are After Action Reports (AARs) so important? (10 points)

**Week 12 (4 April – 8 April)**

## Readings

- Disaster-Related Surveillance and Emergency Information Systems (Chapter 4. PHMD)

## Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #11 – What are some pros and cons of each of the surveillance tools mentioned in the reading? (10 points)

**Week 13 (11 April – 15 April)**

## Readings

- Public Health Response to Emerging Infections and Biological Incidents (Chapter 11. PHMD)

## Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #12 – How did US healthcare respond to Ebola? (10 points)

**Week 14 (18 April – 22 April)**

## Readings

- Public Health Considerations in Recovery and Reconstruction (Chapter 12. PHMD)

## Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #13 – Has the recovery for Hurricane Katrina been a success or failure? (10 points)

**Week 15 (25 April – 1 May)**

## Readings

- Ethical Considerations in Public Health Emergencies (Chapter 14. PHMD)

## Assignments

- Discussion Board Topic #14 – Why is Ethics so important in emergency management? (10 points)
- Discussion Board Topic #15 – How has your opinions and views of public health's involvement in emergency management different from when you started the course? (10 points)
- Final Paper Due (500 points)

**Week 16 (2 May – 6 May)**

## Readings

- N/A

## Assignments

- N/A

## **403 Midterm Paper Rubric**

### **Written Paper**

Students will research and analyze health planning for a vulnerable population. These populations can include, but is not limited to: children, the elderly, and the poor. Students will need to address the positives and negatives of the current planning. From there, students should make recommendations that would improve the planning process for these populations.

Additionally, your paper needs to be double spaced, and include a cover page (this does not count as one of the 4-6 pages). It will be worth **250 points** and it will be evaluated using the grading criteria listed below. All papers must be written APA format and all sources need to be cited appropriately. This paper requires at least 2 acceptable sources.

### **Rubric**

<i>Organization</i>	<i>/40</i>
<i>Style</i>	<i>/35</i>
<i>Content</i>	<i>/75</i>
<i>Grammar/spelling</i>	<i>/75</i>
<i>Sources</i>	<i>/25</i>

**Papers turned in after the due date will lose 10% per day up to 100%.**

## **403 Final Paper Rubric**

### **Written Paper**

Students will research and analyze a case study on a public health response to a disaster. There are many studies to choose from and students should ensure there is adequate research available for this paper. Students will need to outline the positives and negatives to this response and make recommendations for responses in the future.

Additionally, your paper needs to be double spaced, and include a cover page (this does not count as one of the 6-8 pages). It will be worth **500 points** and it will be evaluated using the grading criteria listed below. All papers must be written APA format and all sources need to be cited appropriately. This paper requires at least 5 acceptable sources.

### **Rubric**

<i>Organization</i>	<i>/80</i>
<i>Style</i>	<i>/70</i>
<i>Content</i>	<i>/150</i>
<i>Grammar/spelling</i>	<i>/150</i>
<i>Sources</i>	<i>/50</i>

**Papers turned in after the due date will lose 10% per day up to 100%.**