WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
GENERIC SYLLABUS

FACULTY MEMBER: 
TERM: 

COURSE TITLE: Community Health & Social issues
COURSE NUMBER: SOC 312

TEXTBOOK: 
TITLE: 
AUTHOR: 

If you would like more precise information regarding the textbook(s) for this class, please visit the bookstore website at http://bookstore.wilmu.edu

NOTE: Students must access the NIH website for information about community health: http://www.nih.gov/

OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:

40 TOTAL HOURS OF INSTRUCTION: 35 Contact Hours
5 Hours Structured External Assignment

PREREQUISITE: PSY 101 or SOC 101

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of community health and the social issues that influence the overall health of the community. Students will learn the principles of community health, review human behaviors associated with community health, assess environmental influences that contribute to the overall health of a community, and become familiar with the roles of community agencies related to community health.

II. RATIONALE:

The health of a community is dependent upon the health of the individuals living in that community. This course will approach community health from a social science perspective by focusing on the social behaviors that contribute or detract from overall community health. Focus on community health has been brought to the forefront through government debates on health care, the Health & Human Services Secretary’s Council on Health National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for 2010, and public acknowledgement of social issues affecting community health such

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as homelessness, maternal-infant bonding, substance abuse, violence, poverty, etc. Developing an understanding of community health will provide students with applied knowledge that may influence a career choice in community health work.

III. MAJOR INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS:

GOAL A: Orient students to the principles of community health

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

A-1 Identify the socio-economic factors that contribute to community health
A-2 Identify community stressors that affect overall community health
A-3 Identify local and state public policies that influence community health
A-4 Explain why community health should be studied

GOAL B: Learn how human behavior contributes to the overall health of a community

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

B-1 Describe community health from a socio/behavioral perspective
B-2 Explain the cycle of substance abuse and impact on community health
B-3 Describe major health behavior theories
B-4 Explain how individual behaviors contribute to overall community health
B-5 Describe the risks of homeless on a community’s health

GOAL C: Understand how the environment influences the health of a community

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

C-1 Locate sources of environmental community health stressors
C-2 Identify existing and emerging community health concerns
C-3 Discuss the impact of a community’s industry, past or present, on community health
C-4 Describe the socio-ecological model of health behavior

GOAL D: Introduce community agencies that work with community health initiatives

Learning Outcomes: The student will:

D-1 Identify local and regional community health centers
D-2 Examine policies that influence community health
D-3 Identify community mental/behavioral health agencies
GOAL E:
Use appropriate written and oral communication skills

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- G-1 Communicate information orally in a logical and grammatical manner.
- G-2 Present written information using standard APA style.

IV. **CODE OF CONDUCT:**

**Academic Integrity**

Students of Wilmington University are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic pursuits. Plagiarism (whether intentional or not) is the inclusion of someone else's words, ideas, or data as one's own. When a student submits work that includes the words, ideas, or data of another, the source of that information must be acknowledged through complete, accurate, and specific references, and, if verbatim (i.e. word for word) statements are included, through quotation marks as well. When the student places his or her name on submitted work, the student certifies the originality of all work not otherwise identified by appropriate acknowledgments. Plagiarism covers published and unpublished sources. Students are urged to consult with individual faculty members, department heads, or recognized handbooks in their field if they are uncertain as to what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. For further information concerning plagiarism please review the section of the current Wilmington University Student Handbook entitled “Policies and Regulations,” which can be viewed online at the section of the Wilmington University website entitled “Student Life.”

V. **SUPPLEMENTAL OBJECTIVES:**

VI. **METHODOLOGY:**

A. Teaching Methods:

B. Evaluation Procedure:

VII. **STRUCTURED EXTERNAL ASSIGNMENT:** NA

VIII. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Regular and prompt class attendance is an essential part of the educational experience. Wilmington University expects students to exercise good judgment regarding attendance. Students accept full responsibility for ensuring that work does not suffer from absences. All students are expected to attend every scheduled meeting of each class on time. Exceptions may be made for Wilmington University-
sponsored or work-related activities, illness, or valid emergencies.

IX. STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

Wilmington University actively supports the rights of students with disabilities to have equal access to education. Such students need to self-identify by contacting the Office of Student Affairs and furnish documentation verifying the need for special services and/or accommodations. For additional information, please call (302) 356-6940 or go to: http://www.wilmu.edu/studentlife/disabilityservices/index.html

X. COURSE OUTLINE: