

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Public Health: Discovering the Big Picture in Health Care

Career and Technical Education Series



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Public Health: Discovering the Big Picture in Health Care Course Overview

In this course, we discuss the multiple definitions of public health and the ways that these definitions are put into practice. We explore the five core disciplines and the ways that they interact to reduce disease, injury and death in populations. By understanding the roles of public health, we are able to gain a greater appreciation for its importance and the various occupations that one could pursue within the field of public health. Unit 1 introduces the definition of public health and provides a description that allows you to differentiate public health from other health care fields. The five core disciplines and the interactions between local, state, and federal organizations are also discussed. The history of public health concludes the introductory unit. Unit 2 focuses on specific information regarding the core disciplines of behavioral science and emergency preparedness and response. Unit 3 takes a detailed look at epidemiology and biostatistics. Unit 4 relates to environmental and occupational health issues. Finally, Unit 5 describes global health and the future of public health.

Because of public health's broad and multi-faceted nature, it is important to understand the details and the overall interactions and importance that make the field essential to modern society. There are many disciplines that work together on different levels within public health. Each public health worker contributes to the overall function of the field itself. By entering the field of public health, you will play an integral part in improving the health and lives of a large number of people. The contributions of public health to society have shaped our modern world and will continue to do so in the future.

- **This is Public Health:** Students will explore the history, nature and context of the public health system.
- **Health Education & Behavioral Science (Health Promotion), Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response:** Students will learn how to promote public health, and how to coordinate a response to a public health emergency.
- **Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Outbreak Investigation (EIS, Foodnet, PFGE):** Students will explore how diseases spread. Investigating and managing outbreaks will also be topics.
- **The CDC, Environmental and Occupational Health:** Students learn about the role of the Centers for Disease Control in this unit that also enlightens them about the importance of a clean environment and the health impacts of population growth.
- **Global Health, The World Health Organization (WHO), and Future Public Health Challenges:** The role of the WHO in global health is at the core of this unit, which also explores future world health challenges and choosing the right career in public health.

| Unit 1: This Is Public Health | | | | |
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| Public Health | Assignments | | | |
| | 1. | Course Overview | 10. | Public Health Milestones in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries |
| | 2. | What is Public Health? | 11. | Project: Create Public Health Time Line |
| | 3. | The Five Core Disciplines of Public Health | 12. | Public Health in the 20th Century |
| | 4. | Project: Research Public Health Issues | 13. | Quiz 2: The History of Public Health |
| | 5. | The Public Health System and Infrastructure | 14. | Special Project* |
| | 6. | Project: Research Public Health Agencies Response to Public Health Issues | 15. | Test |
| | 7. | Quiz 1: Introduction to Public Health | 16. | Course Project Part - 1: Health Services Administrator* |
| | 8. | The History of Public Health | 17. | Glossary and Credits |
| | 9. | Project: Early Years of Public Health | | |

| Unit 2: Health Education and Behavioral Science | | |
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| Public Health | Assignments | |
| | 1. Promoting Public Health and Public Health Education | 9. Project: Researching Bioterrorism Agents |
| | 2. Project: Developing a Public Service Announcement | 10. Hurricane Katrina |
| | 3. Public Health Enemy #1: Tobacco | 11. Project: Researching Hurricane Katrina |
| | 4. Public Health Enemy #2: Obesity | 12. Quiz 2: Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response |
| | 5. Project: Marketing Bad Habits | 13. Special Project* |
| | 6. Quiz 1: Health Education (Health Promotion) & Behavioral Science | 14. Test |
| | 7. Coordinating Response on a National, State, and Local Level | 15. Course Project Part - 2: Health Educator or Outreach Provider* |
| | 8. The Threat of Bioterrorism | 16. Glossary and Credits |
| Unit 3: Epidemiology, Bio Statistics and Outbreak Investigation | | |
| Public Health | Assignments | |
| | 1. Epidemiology: The Foundation of Public Health | 9. Prevention and Treatment |
| | 2. Project: Creating a Timeline for Legionnaire's or Lung Cancer | 10. Project: Microbe Game |
| | 3. Epidemiologic Methods and the Importance of Biostatistics | 11. Outbreak Investigation |
| | 4. Project: Clinical Trials | 12. Quiz 2: Disease Control and Outbreak Investigation |
| | 5. Ethical and Legal Considerations in Epidemiology | 13. Special Project* |
| | 6. Quiz 1: Epidemiology and Biostatistics | 14. Test |
| | 7. Principles of Infectious Diseases | 15. Course Project Part - 3: Epidemiologist or Laboratory Personnel* |
| | 8. Project: Researching and Presenting Infectious | 16. Glossary and Credits |
| Unit 4: The CDC, Environmental and Occupational Health | | |
| Public Health | Assignments | |
| | 1. CDC: Description and Historical Perspective | 9. Population Growth as a Health Issue |
| | 2. Project: Global Disease Campaigns | 10. Project: Population Research and Comparison |
| | 3. CDC and Public Health Promotions | 11. Occupational Exposure |
| | 4. Project: Family Health History | 12. Quiz 2: Environmental and Occupational Health |
| | 5. CDC and Emergency Response | 13. Special Project* |
| | 6. Quiz 1: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) | 14. Test |
| | 7. Importance of a Clean Environment | 15. Course Project Part - 4: Environmental Health Employee* |
| | 8. Project: Health Effects of Air Pollutants | 16. Glossary and Credits |

| Unit 5: Global Health, the World Health Organization (Who) and Future Public Health Challenges | | |
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| Public Health | Assignments | |
| | 1. Global Health: We are One World | 11. Exploring your Career Opportunities in Public Health |
| | 2. Project: Global Health Organization | 12. Project: Public Health Career Exploration |
| | 3. The Role of the World Health Organization (WHO) | 13. Quiz 2: Future Challenges and Finding the Right Career in Public Health |
| | 4. Project: Researching Internet Drug Stores | 14. Special Project* |
| | 5. Public Health in Russia | 15. Test |
| | 6. Quiz 1: Global Health and the WHO | 16. Course Project Part - 5: A Public Health Care Provider* |
| | 7. Pandemic Flu and Emergency Preparedness | 17. Glossary and Credits |
| | 8. Project: Pandemics | |
| | 9. Other Challenges in Public Health in the 21st Century | |
| | 10. Project: Healthy ME! | |
| Unit 6: Course Review and Exam | | |
| PH | Assignments | |
| | 1. Course Project Part - 6: The Final Interview * | 2. Review |
| | | 3. Exam |

(*) Indicates alternative assignment