

PH 598: Applied Research in Public Health

Spring 2024
Online format

Contact Information

Instructor: Susan Eagle
Pronouns: She/her/hers
Office: Academic Complex 128D
Office Hours: By appointment
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If you need to reach me outside of my office hours, my WKU email address is the quickest way to do so. During the week, I try to respond within 24 hours and 48 hours over the weekend.

Pre-requisites

None

Required Text/Materials

None

Course description

Research issues in the area of public health.

Course overview

This course provides students with the opportunity to investigate a specific area or topic through student-centered research, as agreed upon with the instructor.

Course goals

The primary goal of this course is to develop or complete the integrated learning experience (ILE) paper. This paper serves as the capstone project for the MPH program.

Course objectives

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Create a clearly defines overview, background and significance, or statement of a public health problem.
2. Synthesize information from divergent sources to create a thorough literature review.
3. Critically discuss, evaluate, or analyze information in relation to public health problems.
4. Recommend solutions and their public health implications.
5. Communicate findings in a professional format.

Grading

Grading for this course uses weighted grades. The percentage breakdown is below:

Final ILE paper: 90%

Scaffolding Assignments: 10%

Diversity, Inclusivity, & Equity

We promote social justice by creating a respectful, collaborative, diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment through teaching, service, and research.

The strength and success of WKU's MPH program is built on the foundation of a wide range of perspectives and experiences. We embrace diverse backgrounds, embodiments, and experiences and are committed to fostering inclusive and accessible environments. We respect physical, social, and cultural differences among us, which may include, but are not limited to: age, cultural background, disability, ethnicity, family status, gender identity and presentation, citizenship and immigration status, national origin, race, religious and political beliefs, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and veteran status. Please talk with your instructor, advisor, or MPH staff member right away if you experience disrespect in this class or while part of our program. Whenever possible, we will work to address it in an educational manner. Resources on inclusive language and document accessibility are provided in the MPH Guidebook and MPH Student organizational site on Blackboard

ADA Accommodations

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, Room 1074. The SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX/ Discrimination & Harassment

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's [Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation](#) (#0.070) and [Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#) (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Deborah Wilkins, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to students' intellectual development, and is a core value of the MPH program. Thus, the work you do in this course – and all MPH courses -- is expected to reflect academic integrity through responsible behaviors, including avoiding plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, cheating, or other types of [academic dishonesty](#). Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive a failing grade on the assignment/assessment, or a failing grade in the course. [Per policy](#), students may also be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary sanctions and/or the Graduate School for dismissal from the program. A student who believes a faculty member has dealt unfairly with him/her/them in a course involving academic dishonesty may seek relief through the [Student Complaint Procedure](#).

The Learning Center Peer Tutoring Services

The Learning Center (TLC) provides free tutoring services that empower students to achieve academic success. Trained peer tutors are available to review course content, answer questions, and demonstrate effective study strategies. TLC offers individual appointments and group sessions (PASS) for hundreds of undergraduate courses. For more information or to make an appointment, visit [our website](#).