Instructor Information

PROFESSOR:  
E-MAIL:  

HOW TO CONTACT ME: If you have any questions, problems, concerns, or need to contact me for any reason please use my web campus email and put EOH 710 in the subject line. If you do this I will be able to respond to your email within 24 hours.

COMPUTER ISSUES: For computer problems contact the Student Computing Services Help Desk at 702-895-0761. They can assist you with passwords and access issues. Or you can go to the WebCampus Presidium Support site at http://supportcenteronline.com

Course Materials

REQUIRED READINGS: Journal Articles available on WebCampus

There is no required text for this class

SOFTWARE: You will need internet access with Internet Explorer 6.0 or above, Real Player 8, Acrobat Reader, MS word (readable by MS Office 2003), and MS Powerpoint or equivalent. (Internet Explorer 6.3.1 is the preferred browser for UNLV DE Classes.)

Course Description & Objectives

This course introduces students to public health concepts and practice. It provides a broad overview of the field of public health and a focused look at the core areas of epidemiology and biostatistics, health promotion, environmental health, and health care administration in the public health arena. This course is designed to lay the groundwork for all future coursework and introduce students to specialty areas within public health.

Course Learning Objectives

• Understand the history and purpose of public health
• Describe public health as a system and identify its functions
• Identify the basic tools of public health inquiry to assess community health status.
• Understand the complex determinants of community health problems and identify appropriate prevention and health promotion strategies
• Discuss the role of government and public policy in promoting and protecting the health of the public
• Gain familiarity with public health concepts, areas of concentration, terminology, publications, and web sites
MPH Competencies Addressed in this Course:

• Systems Thinking - Recognize system level properties that result from dynamic interactions among human and social systems and how they affect the relationships among individuals, groups, organizations, communities, and environments. (MPH 012)

• Leadership - Create and communicate a shared vision for a changing future. (MPH 005)

• Describe the impact of social and behavioral influences on health and the interaction of these influences with environmental hazards (EOH 003)

• Describe the roles that epidemiology and biostatistics serve in the discipline of public health, and be able to describe a public health problem in terms of magnitude, people, time, and place. (EPI 001)

• Describe the merits of social and behavioral science interventions and policies. (SB 7)

READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION VERY CAREFULLY.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING ALL COURSE REQUIREMENTS.

Learning Modules There are 12 class modules; a new module will be posted each week and will be available for two weeks. You must access the materials and complete all assignments within the 2-week time frame. The system will not allow late assignments. Check dates carefully. Each module includes: lecture notes; required readings; discussion questions and assignments. Please access the complete module through the “learning modules” tab on the toolbar. Assignments will also be available through the “assignments” tab.

Supplemental Materials: All required reading materials, websites, and other course resources will be available through the learning modules. Links to external websites will be available through the learning modules and through the “web links” tab.

A Note on Assignments and Exams: Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. All submissions must be original work. The purpose of assignments and exams is assessment of your understanding of the material, not your capacity for rote mimicry. It is important that you express ideas in your own words. Do not copy text directly from the class notes, readings or websites for either assignments or exams. You will not receive credit for an answer that is lifted from these sources, even if you quote it and offer a citation. Do not repeat examples covered in class. If I believe that your work matches another students too closely, I will ask both of you to explain yourselves. If you cannot, you will be reported for plagiarism and may fail the course. Avoid this problem by doing your own work (this is graduate school folks).

ASSIGNMENTS (120 POINTS): There will be a set of assignments/activities for each module such as a worksheet, a website to explore, and/or a response paper of 500 words. Each module will include instructions for each assignment. Assignments must be completed by the date noted or you will not be able to submit them. Do not procrastinate.

Discussions (25 points): Most weeks you will post your response to a class discussion question based on the reading assignments or a related topic. Give your answer in a
sentence or two, then explain your position (i.e., WHY) in another couple of sentences. You must respond to at least one of your classmates.

**Powerpoint Presentations (30 points):** students will develop a Powerpoint presentation (10 slides not including title and references), on an approved public health topic. Students will peer review other presentations. A one page abstract must accompany each presentation. Presentations must be posted on Web campus by **Midnight April 23**nd, so plan accordingly.

**Exams (125 points):** There will be two (2) exams, a midterm (50 points) and a final (75 points). The midterm will cover modules 1 – 6 and will be available from **March 7**th to **March 13**th. The final will cover modules 7-12 and some material from the first 6 modules and will be available from **May 9**th to **May 14**th (exam week). Exams will be available through the “assessments” tab. The exams are timed and must be completed within the specified timeframe. Once you begin you will have two (2) hours to complete each exam.

You may keep track of your points in the “my grades” tab under the “my tools” menu. It is your responsibility to notify me if there are any errors in your point calculations.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Expectations/Grading Evaluation Criteria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>286 - 300</td>
<td>Student demonstrates mastery of the concepts; completes all assignments with a high degree of effort and skill; shows initiative and goes well beyond the minimum requirements; has excellent attendance; consistently participates and contributes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>271 - 285</td>
<td>Student understands and integrates terms and concepts; completes all assignments with a moderate level of effort and skill; has attended almost every class and is an active participant.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>256 - 270</td>
<td>Student understands the core concepts; completes all assignments at an acceptable level and shows willingness to improve skills; has attended most classes and usually participates.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>240 - 255</td>
<td>Student understands the core concepts; completes the minimum work required; has attended most classes and occasionally participates/contributes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>&lt;240</td>
<td>Student has not performed at the level expected for graduate school. <strong>NOTE:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;220</td>
<td>Anything below a B (240 points) will not qualify for graduate credit.</td>
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**Additional Information**

**Academic Misconduct** – Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the **Student Academic Misconduct Policy** (approved December 9, 2005) located at: [http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html](http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html).

**Copyright** – The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws.** The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.
Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC) – The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you.

If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy – Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor no later than the end of the first two weeks of classes, January 29, 2016, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.

Incomplete Grades - The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Tutoring – The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring and academic assistance for all UNLV students taking UNLV courses. Students are encouraged to stop by the ASC to learn more about subjects offered, tutoring times and other academic resources. The ASC is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Students may learn more about tutoring services by calling 702-895-3177 or visiting the tutoring web site at: http://academicsuccess.unlv.edu/tutoring/.

UNLV Writing Center – One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/

Rebelmail – By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.
Final Examinations – The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: [http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars](http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars).

Library Use – Students may consult ([https://www.library.unlv.edu/consultation](https://www.library.unlv.edu/consultation)) with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is Xan Goodman. UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students’ access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at [https://www.library.unlv.edu/](https://www.library.unlv.edu/).

Any other class specific information - (e.g., absences, make-up exams, extra credit policies, plagiarism/cheating consequences, policy on electronic devices, specialized department or college tutoring programs, bringing children to class, policy on recording classroom lectures, etc.)

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**Course Schedule***

NOTE: In order to provide you with state-of-the art literature, assigned readings may change. Any changes will be posted on the course website and announced on the announcements tab.

January 19 – January 31  **Module 1: What is Public Health?**  
Required Readings for this Module: 1) Declaration of Alma-Ata; 2) Binns, What is Public Health?; 3) Johnson, Raising Awareness of Public Health Among Americans  
Assignments and Discussion due January 31

January 25 – February 7  **Module 2: A Brief History of Public Health**  
Required Readings for this Module: 1) Mullan, Don Quixote 2) Fairchild, Exodus of Public Health; 3) Paneth, John Snow  
Assignments and Discussion due February 7

February 1 – February 14  **Module 3: Core Concepts in Public Health**  
Required Readings for this Module: 1) Ratcliffe, et al., Perspectives on Prevention; 2) Sallis, Ecological Models of health behavior; 3) Viner, Health Promotion  
Assignments and Discussion due February 14

February 8 – February 21  **Module 4: Data and Measurement in Public Health**  
Required Readings for this Module: 1) Schoenbach, Relating Risk Factors to Health; 2) Vardell, FastStats; 3) Wilson, Statistics at the Forefront  
Assignments and Discussion due February 21

February 15 – February 29  **Module 5: Infectious and Communicable Diseases**  
Required Readings for this Module: 1) Fauci et al., Emerging Infectious Diseases; 2) Buttner, MRSA in Pregnant Women and Newborns; 3) Bloomfield, Infectious Disease Control  
Assignments and Discussion due February 29

February 22 – March 6  **Module 6: Chronic Diseases**  
Required Readings for this Module: 1) Zimmet et al., Global Implications of the Diabetes Epidemic; 2) Pinheiro et al, Cancer survival and the Hispanic Paradox; 3) Moonie et al., Grade Retention among Children with Asthma  
Assignments and Discussion due March 6
Midterm Exam Available March 7 – March 13
February 29 – March 13  
**Module 7: Injury Prevention and Control**

Required Readings for this Module: 1) Krug et al., The Global Burden of Injuries; 2) Pharr et al., Injury and Death in Las Vegas, NV. 3) Cohen, Injury Prevention

Assignments and Discussion due March 13

March 14 – April 3  
**Module 8: Disease Surveillance**

Required Readings for this Module: 1) Schrag et al., SARS Surveillance; 2) Fischer, Hepatitis C Infections in Las Vegas; 3) Brownstein, Digital Disease Detection

Assignments and Discussion due April 3

Note: this module is open for 3 weeks due to spring break

March 28 – April 10  
**Module 9: Determinants of Health**

Required Readings for this Module: 1) Link, Social Conditions and Diseases 2) Marmot, Determinants of Inequality; 3) Cohen, Broken Windows and Gonorrhea

Assignments and Discussion due April 10

April 4 – April 17  
**Module 10: Healthy Environments**


Assignments and Discussion due April 17

April 11 – April 24  
**Module 11: Healthy Communities**

Required Readings for this Module: 1) Srinivasan et al., Creating Healthy Communities: 2) Bungum et al, Physical Activity among Hispanic Adults; 3) Chino et al., Commodity Food Use

Assignments and Discussion due April 24

April 18 – May 1  
**Module 12: Policy and Preparedness**


Assignments and Discussion due May 1

April 25 – May 8  
**Class Powerpoint Presentations**

Required Readings for this Module: None

Powerpoints and abstracts must be posted by midnight April 23rd

May 9 – May 14  
**Final Exam Available**

**NOTE:** Dr. Chino reserves the right to modify the schedule and adjust requirements for this course. Any changes to the syllabus and/or class assignments will be posted on web campus along with a revised syllabus. You are responsible for adhering to any changes.