



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

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| Course Code BIOL-442 | Course Title Public Health I: Health Care Systems | ECTS Credits 8 |
| Department Life and Health Sciences | Semester Spring/Fall | Prerequisites BIOL-231 Biostatistics; BIOL-251 Introduction to Microbiology and Virology |
| Type of Course Health Sciences Elective | Field Health, Medicine | Language of Instruction English |
| Level of Course 1 st Cycle | Year of Study 3 rd or 4 th | Lecturer Dr. Heather Mercer |
| Mode of Delivery Face-to-face | Work Placement N/A | Co-requisites None |

Objectives of the Course:

The course aims to provide a comprehensive overview of public health concepts and practices at the international, national and community levels. The main objectives of the course are to:

- Provide students with in depth knowledge on concepts and ideas concerning the distribution of health and disease in society.
- Discuss the organization and activities of the health care system and its relationship to society.
- Introduce the components and players of public health care systems.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Discuss the current public health concepts, practices, resources and the players involved.
2. Demonstrate how public health is related to health care delivery system as a whole.
3. List the approaches to program planning and evaluation for public health interventions.
4. Differentiate and evaluate the role of public health activities (epidemiological investigations, biomedical research, environmental issues, policy development etc.) in health promotion and disease prevention.
5. Discuss the political role of local and national government to Public Health.
6. Read and critically evaluate public health literature.

Course Contents:

1. History and development of Public Health; concepts and definitions
2. Understanding and measuring health
3. Law, government and Public Health functions and practices
4. The infrastructure of Public Health, resources: human, organizational, information, fiscal
5. Performance measurements and management of Public Health
6. Public and private roles in health care (social and behavioral factors; health education)
7. Public Health Interventions, programs and services; Health promotion and diseases prevention effectiveness
8. Market failure in Public Health care (public goals, insurance market, provider market, income distribution)
9. Public Health emergency preparedness and response (bioterrorism, war, disasters)
10. Inventing and reforming the Health Sector: public and private roles (Public Health model systems: USA, Europe, Cyprus).
11. Epidemiology, infectious diseases and the environment in Public Health
12. Genetics and Public Health
13. The future of Public Health in the 21st Century; Global Health

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Case studies discussions

Assessment Methods:

Group and individual assignments, oral presentations, Mid-term Exam; Final Exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

| Authors | Title | Publisher | Year | ISBN |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Bernard J. Turnock | Public health: what it is and how it works. | Jones and Bartlett | 2004, 2 nd ed. | ISBN - 0763724998 |
| 2. Arlene Fink | Evaluation fundamentals: insights into the outcomes, effectiveness and quality of health programs | SAGE | 2005, 2 nd ed. | ISBN-: 0761988688 |

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

| Authors | Title | Publisher | Year | ISBN |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| 1. Williams, Stephen J. | Essentials of health services | Delmar Publishers, | 2001, 2 nd ed. | ISBN- |

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| <p>2. F. Douglas Scutchfield, C. William Keck</p> | <p>Principles of public health practice</p> | <p>Thomson/Delmar Learning,</p> | <p>2003 2nd ed.</p> | <p>0471227692 ISBN: 0766828433</p> |
| <p>3. Michael H. Merson, Robert E. Black, Anne J. Mills</p> | <p>International public health :diseases, programs, systems, and policies</p> | <p>Jones and Bartlett</p> | <p>2006 2nd ed.</p> | <p>ISBN: 0763729671</p> |