

**University of Florida**  
**College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus**  
HSC 4930: Global Health Disparities and Disabilities (**3 credits**)  
Summer A 2022  
Delivery Format: Online Course  
Course website: E-Learning via Canvas

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**Instructor:** Heather Stark, MD, MPH  
**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 9 am – 10 am via zoom, other times by appointment  
**Office location:** HPNP 4145  
**Email Address:** [Hastark@ufl.edu](mailto:Hastark@ufl.edu)

**TA:** Chloe Schlitt  
**TA's Email:** CSchlitt@ufl.edu

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## I. PURPOSE AND OUTCOME

### COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides students, interested in addressing health disparities among people living with disabilities, with the knowledge and understanding of health determinants that maintain their current health status globally. Special focus will be devoted to low and middle-income countries.

### Relation to Program Outcomes:

This course serves as a college approved elective for students admitted to the Bachelor of Health Science or Bachelor of Public, or with instructor approval.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Summarize the global burden of disease and disability related to communicable and non-communicable diseases, environmental exposures, war, and violence.
  2. Explain terms associated with global health disparities and disabilities
  3. Summarize the medical and social models of disability
  4. Recognize the global rehabilitation needs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and how these may differ among countries and populations.
  5. Discuss health determinants that maintain health disparities among people with disabilities living in low and middle-income countries.
  6. Describe the roles of multilateral, bilateral, governmental, and non-governmental organizations and public health practitioners in eliminating health disparities among people living with disabilities.
  7. Articulate the relationship between health disparities and the health systems' structure and the role of the regulatory system, and discrimination.
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## II. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT

### COURSE MATERIALS

#### Required Equipment:

Computer with high speed internet access and use of either Internet Explorer or Firefox. This course is delivered entirely online using the University of Florida's Canvas Course Management System (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>). To access this course, you will use your Gatorlink ID and password to login to the course (via Canvas, not Sakai). If you need technical assistance, please call the UF Help Desk at 1-352-392-HELP.

#### Instructional Methods:

The course is asynchronous and housed in UF e-Learning in Canvas. The weeks, listed on the syllabus will run Wednesday through Tuesday. Each Monday, the following week's material will be released and students will have until the following Tuesday to complete the course material. Students will watch online lectures and read assigned articles/reports. Students will have until the following Tuesday to complete their assignments. The instructor will provide regular feedback by way of reaction paper comments and discussion posts. In addition, the instructor will post current events and other meaningful stories related to the course and discuss their relevance to the learned material.

### COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY

#### Books:

There is no required textbook for this course. Readings will be given through the eLearning course site.

Required book for book club. Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World. By Tracy Kidder ISBN-139780385743198

**Lectures & Videos:** Posted within each module on the course website.

**Course Website:** The course website is available at <http://elearning.ufl.edu> . The weekly schedule, all modules, and all course materials (including links for quizzes) are available through this website. Grades will be posted on this website. You will log into the course website using your gatorlink ID and password; if you have trouble logging in, please contact the Help Desk at 352-392-HELP.

**Announcements:** Class announcements will be sent via the announcements tool in eLearning. Depending on your CANVAS notification settings, you may or may not be notified via email; you are responsible for all information in these announcements whether or not you see them in your email.

#### Honorlock Account:

Computer with high speed internet access and use of either Internet Explorer or Firefox. This course is delivered entirely online using the University of Florida's Canvas Course Management System (<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/>). To access this course, you will use your Gatorlink ID and password to login to the course (via Canvas). For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at: ● Learning-support@ufl.edu ● (352) 392-HELP - select option 2 ● <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

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- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

### III. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Course Components: (Note: Detailed instructions will be provided on eLearning as due dates get closer). Students' progress towards achieving the course learning objectives will be assessed through four major types of assignments.

**Syllabus Quiz** (2 points; 2% of total grade) **To access course material, students must first complete a syllabus quiz.** Students will have two chances to earn full credit. If a student fails to earn full credit following the second attempt, please contact Dr. Stark.

#### Exams (15 points each)

There will be three, non-cumulative assembly exams assessing your understanding of the course material. Each exam will be open-note and consist of 30 multiple-choice questions. Students are to work independently on each exam, without any electronic devices other than your computer. Students will have 60 minutes to complete each exam, and all exams will be completed using Canvas and administered using Honorlock.

- Exam 1 (By Tuesday, Sept 27<sup>th</sup>@11:59pm) will cover lectures and readings presented in Module 1 (week 1 – 4).
- Exam 2 (By Tuesday, Nov 1<sup>st</sup>@11:59pm) will cover lectures and readings presented in Module 2 (weeks 6 – 9).
- Exam 3 (By Tuesday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup>@11:59pm) will cover lectures and readings presented in Module 3 (weeks 11 – 14)

#### Reaction Papers (10 points each)

Each student will watch two, 15-20 minute videos throughout the semester pertaining to global health disparities and disabilities. Each student will write a minimum 800 word reaction paper to the question or questions posed regarding the video (please note that your name, title, or any words that are not a part of your narrative do not count toward the 800 word count). Once completed, you upload your assignment to the link provided on the Canvas course site. Submissions of less than 800 words will lose 2 points for every 10 words below the 800 word threshold. Late submissions (even by a minute) will automatically be docked 3 points.

#### Peer group Introduction (3 points)

Prior to the group discussion post, students will introduce themselves to other members in their group via a short (2 min or less) videos. Students will receive full credit upon completing the assignment and responding to at least two of their peers.

**Group Discussion** (10 points) Students will participate in a 2-part online discussion post. Students will be assigned into groups of 5 to 6 and work together to address a public health crisis following a natural disaster. Each part will be due at different points throughout the semester. Additional instructions for each part will be

provided in Canvas. Late submissions to any part of the discussion will not be accepted, but you can participate in future posts.

**Book Group Discussion** (10 points) Students will participate in an online discussion through posts over a two-week period. Students will be assigned into groups and work together to discuss the book *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World*, by Tracy Kidder. Additional instructions for each part will be provided in Canvas. Late submissions to any part of the discussion will not be accepted, but you can participate in future posts.

**Global Health Disparities and Disabilities Infographic** (10 points; 10% of total grade)

Students will create an original infographic depicting various health disparities and/or disability trends for any low- or middle-income country in the world. An infographic is a visual representation of data, knowledge, or information, (DKI) presented in a clear, concise manner that is easily interpretable by the audience. Additional instructions will be provided in Canvas. Late submissions will not be accepted.

| Requirement           | Points     | Due Date  |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|
| Syllabus Quiz         | 2 points   | Aug 28th  |
| Peer Introduction     | 3 points   | Aug 30th  |
| Exam 1                | 15 points  | Sept 27th |
| Exam 2                | 15 points  | Nov 1st   |
| Exam 3                | 15 points  | Dec 7th   |
| Reflection Paper 1    | 10 points  | Sep 20th  |
| Reflection Paper 2    | 10 points  | Oct 25th  |
| Group Discussion 1    | 5 points   | Sept 13th |
| Group Discussion 2    | 5 points   | Oct 18th  |
| Book Group Discussion | 10 points  | Nov 15th  |
| Infographic           | 10 points  | Nov 22nd  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | 100 points |           |

## Grading

|                      |           |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |     |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----|
| <b>Points Earned</b> | 93 to 100 | 90 to 92.9 | 87 to 89.9 | 83 to 86.9 | 80 to 82.9 | 77 to 79.9 | 70 to 76.9 | 67 to 69.9 | 63 to 66.9 | 60 to 62.9 | <60 |
| <b>Letter Grade</b>  | A         | A-         | B+         | B          | B-         | C+         | C          | D+         | D          | D-         | E   |

For greater detail on the meaning of letter grades and university policies related to them, see the Registrar's Grade Policy regulations at:

<http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

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### III. STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

#### Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

##### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

**“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”**

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

**“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”**

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

##### Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

### V. SUPPORT SERVICES

#### Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, you must register with the Dean of Students Office <http://www.dso.ufl.edu> within the first week of class. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please make sure you provide this letter to me by the end of the second week of the course. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

#### Counseling and Student Health

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the

potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The **Counseling and Wellness Center** 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>. On line and in person assistance is available.
- **U Matter We Care** website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The **Student Health Care Center** at Shands is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at Shands offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the website at: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from: Alachua County Crisis Center: (352) 264-6789 <http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>
- **University Police Department:** [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.](#)

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

### **Inclusive Learning Environment**

Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act." If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: [www.multicultural.ufl.edu](http://www.multicultural.ufl.edu)

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## VI. Course Schedule:

| Dates   | Week | Topics  | Assignments  |
|---|------|---|--|
| Aug 24 <sup>th</sup> -Aug 30 <sup>th</sup>    | 1    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Health and Disability terminology</li> <li>Global Self Awareness: Who am I?</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Syllabus Quiz</li> <li>Peer Introduction</li> </ul> |
| Aug 31 <sup>st</sup> -Sept 6 <sup>th</sup> -  | 2    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Burden of Disease Study</li> <li>IHME Background</li> </ul>   |  |
| Sept 7 <sup>th</sup> -Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>   | 3    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medical and Social Models / ICF Model</li> <li>WHO Disability Facts</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group Discussion 1</li> </ul>                       |
| Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> - Sept 20 <sup>th</sup> | 4    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convention on Rights of People With Disabilities</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reaction Paper 1</li> </ul>                         |
| Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> - Sep 27                | 5    | Exam 1  |  |
| Sep 28 <sup>th</sup> - Oct 4 <sup>th</sup>    | 6    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Burden of Communicable Diseases Overview</li> <li>Global Burden of Communicable Diseases - HIV</li> </ul>   |  |
| Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> - Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>    | 7    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Burden of Communicable Diseases - TB</li> <li>Global Burden of Communicable Diseases – Neglected Tropical Disease</li> </ul>                        |  |
| Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> – Oct 18 <sup>th</sup>   | 8    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Burden of Chronic Health Conditions_ Part 1</li> <li>Global Burden of Chronic Health Conditions_ Part 2</li> </ul>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group Discussion 2</li> </ul>                       |
| Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> - Oct 25 <sup>th</sup>   | 9    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Burden of Illness and Disability Caused by Violence</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reaction Paper 2</li> </ul>                         |
| Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> –Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>     | 10   | Exam 2  |  |
| Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup> –Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>      | 11   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Disparities and Disabilities in Industrialized Countries</li> <li>Health Disparities and Disabilities in Latin America and The Caribbean</li> </ul> |  |
| Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> - Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>    | 12   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Disparities and Disabilities in Asia and Middle East</li> <li>Health Disparities and Disabilities Programs in Sub-Saharan Africa</li> </ul>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book Club Discussion 1</li> </ul>                   |
| Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> - Nov 22 <sup>nd</sup>   | 13   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Book Club Discussion 2</li> </ul>                   |
| Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>   | 14   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Rehabilitation Needs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Health Infographic</li> </ul>                |
| Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> - Dec 7 <sup>th</sup>    | 15   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exam 3</li> </ul>  |  |

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- <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>
  - <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/conductcode.php>
  - <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studenthandbook/studentrights.php>
- <http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior. All

quizzes, reaction papers, assignments, and tests are to be completed on your own.

### **CLASS ATTENDANCE**

Attendance will not be taken for this course as it is online.

### **POLICY RELATED TO MAKE UP EXAMS OR OTHER WORK**

Consistent with University policy, students are allowed to make up work with either instructor permission, or if the missed/late work is the result of illness, or serious family emergencies. Students requesting make-ups or extensions for reaction papers, quizzes/exams, or discussion posts must contact the instructor through the “Request” feature on the Canvas homepage and provide the necessary documentation (e.g., verifiable documentation from a health care provider) to support/justify the make-up/extension.

Because this course is offered online asynchronously, it is assumed that students should be able to complete course requirements around anticipated obligations such as professional conferences, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities. However, students may contact the instructor through the “Request” feature in the event of a conflict. Under these circumstances, students are expected to include documentation that supports their request.

### **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, you must first register with the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu>). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to you, which you then give to the instructor when requesting accommodation. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

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Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The Counseling and Wellness Center (352) 392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: [www.counseling.ufl.edu](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu). Online and in-person assistance is available.



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- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from the Alachua County Crisis Center at: [www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx](http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx), or call at (352) 264-6789. DO NOT WAIT until you reach a crisis to talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone.