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| A green and white sign with white text  Description automatically generated | University of North TexasCollege of Health and Public ServiceDepartment of Rehabilitation and Health ServicesPUBH 2015: Research Methods in Public Health |

Welcome PUBH 2015 (Research Methods in Public Health). My name is Andrea Traylor. I will be your

instructor this semester. I live on a mini farm. When I'm not teaching, I enjoy spending time with my family,

traveling and reading!

**COURSE INFORMATION**

Course Number and Title: PUBH 2015: Research Methods in Public Health

Meets/Location: asynchronous online

3 Credit Hours

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

* **Professor**: Andrea Traylor
* **Office**: Chilton 218J
* **Phone**: (940) 565-4938
* **Email address**: andrea.traylor@unt.edu
* Email will be the best way to communicate with me this semester. I try to respond withing 24 hours. On holidays and weekends I try to respond within 48 hours.
* **Office hours**: Tuesday and Thursday 10:30pm-12:00pm and by appointment on Zoom

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to research study designs, methods and data collection in public health.

Public health research does no longer focus mainly on traditional epidemiological designs. It uses a

plethora of methodological tools from several other fields. It covers a series of research methodologies

currently used by researchers in public health. Students will learn the steps for planning, preparing, and

conducting research. They will also learn specific research methodologies and theories for public health

research such as outbreak investigation, and case-control studies, using secondary data, mixed methods,

participatory approaches to research, etc. Topics such as ethical issues in conducting research and clinical

trials will also be covered. This course is intended to provide a foundation from which students will use the

knowledge gained for public health-related activities.

**PRE- REQUISITES**

Recommended prerequisite(s): None

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Learning Objectives

* Discuss epidemiologic methods and designs that are traditionally used
* Describe structural and operational research
* Acquire skills to investigate public health issues and problems to better inform public health policy and practice
* Identify health disparities among populations.
* Identify key events in the history of public health research
* Devise solutions for public health problems using a systems thinking approach.
* Describe behavioral and social science research
* Apply critical thinking skills to resolve ethical issues

## Core Competencies (student will be able to …)

* Garner knowledge of different research methods used in public health
* Integrate and synthesize theory and practice related to public health issues
* Develop ability to translate research findings into action.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

Crosby, R. A. & Salazar, L. F. (2021). Essentials of public health research methods. Jones & Bartlett Learning.



ISBN: **978-1284175462**

Required Readings: Additional readings will be made available on Canvas.

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

UIT Help Desk: [UIT Student Help Desk](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) site (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Sage Hall, Room 130

(940)565-2324

Walk-in Availability: 8 am–9 pm

**For additional support, visit** [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328) **(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)**

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

We will be using Canvas as our main platform for interaction this semester. You will need regular access to the internet, Canvas, and Zoom (including a webcam and microphone). We will be using programs in the Microsoft Office Suite including Word and PowerPoint. You will also need to have access to Adobe Acrobat Reader for pdf files. Finally, you will need to have the ability to upload and download files, send and receive emails with/without attachments, and communicate with fellow students in various electronic formats. Check the electronic resources available to students through the College of Health and Public Service as well as the library to see if they offer laptops for students to check out.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

A student’s performance in this course will be assessed in five different ways including weekly participation, quizzes, group activities, a research proposal and two exams. See below for the points breakdown, details about the assignments, and late work policies. Additional information for each assignment will be posted in Canvas.

**Readings and Assignments**: Students are expected to do all assigned readings for each week and be prepared to share their views on the different issues raised in the readings.

**Assignments are done and submitted ONLINE.**

1. Quizzes. (**60 points total**). There will be four quizzes total. The quizzes are designed to test your knowledge and help you study for the exams. You will determine whatever score you want because you will have multiple attempts until you earn a perfect score, if that is what you want. Please note, there will be no make-up for a missed quiz.
* **Quiz 1 –DUE February 2 (Quiz 1 is over chapters 1 to 3).**
* **Quiz 2 –DUE February 23 (Quiz 2 covers chapters 4-6).**
* **Quiz 3 –DUE March 30 (Quiz 3 covers chapters 8-10).**
* **Quiz 4 – DUE April 20 (Quiz 4 covers chapters 12 to 14).**
1. Video Evaluations. **(100 points total**). 4 videos will be shown in this class. The purpose is to provide students with an opportunity to think about and comment on particular issue(s) that is/are being covered. You are required to submit at least a one-page **typed-written (font size =12)** reaction paper of the video (At least **300 words**).
	* 1. **Video 1 – Available January 13 DUE January 19**
		2. **Video 2 – Available January 21 DUE January 26**
		3. **Video 3 – Availabe February 10 DUE February 16**
		4. **Video 4—Available April 7 DUE April 13**
2. Participation. (**40 points total-extra credit opportunities**). Activities will be found in the modules. There are 10 activities. Each is worth 4 points. No make-up will be given.
3. Exams. (**200 points total**). There are two exams, each is worth 100 points.
* **Exam 1 –DUE 3/2 (Chapters 1 to 7 covered)**
* **Exam 2 – (final exam) – Available May 4 to May 7. Chapters 8-15 will be covered. No make-up allowed.**
1. **Missed assignments**. You will be given an opportunity to make up for only ONE missed exam, discussion, and/or video during **pre-finals week**. However, you will have only **24 hours** to make up for a missed assignment instead of a week. Dates for make-up assignments will be posted. Make-up assignments will be given toward the end of the term**. I do not need to know if you missed an assignment. Please do not e-mail to inform me about your missed assignments.** Make-up assignments will **NOT** cover the same materials that you missed. There is **no make-up exam for the final exam**.

**Please Do Not Ask for extra work at the end of the semester. While I encourage students to reach out to me if they have internet problems, note that CANVAS tracks your time log and history.**

## **ASSESSMENT & GRADING**

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| Assignment | Points Possible | Percentage of Final Grade |
| Quizzes | 4@ 15 points each | 60 points |
| Video Evaluations  | 4 @ 25 points each  | 100 points |
| Group Activities (Extra Credit opportunities) | 10 @ 4 points each  |  |
| Exams |  2 @ 100 points each | 200 points |
| **Total Points Possible** |  | **360 points** |

*This course is made up of a series of assignments and assessments to assist you in achieving the course*

*learning objectives/outcomes. You have readings for each week and will work on various combinations of*

*assignments, quizzes, video evaluations, group activities, etc.*

**\*See Canvas or the Course Calendar on last page for due dates\***

**AI Policy**

1. Please do not complete assignments using AI.
2. If you are using AI to generate ideas, you must cite.
3. If you turn in an assignment that is flagged 100% AI, you will receive a zero. You will be asked to account for the grade. Your goal for for Turnitin score should be less than 30%.

**LATE WORK POLICY**

All assignments are set to close in Canvas at the deadline. Once a quiz, assignment, or exam is closed, you may not submit work. Please contact me if you have any issues meeting a deadline.

**GRADING**

**All the components of a student’s grade will have a point value system, based on an A being equivalent to a 4.0. Points will be given based on a student’s performance, such as the quality of information posted in the weekly discussions, writing skills, research skills, and ability to illustrate comprehension of all course topics. Each assignment will include a rubric for specific details on grading criteria.**

**Total Points Possible for Semester/Grading Scale = 360**

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| **360 – 314 = A** |
| **313 – 268 = B** |
| **267 – 222 = C** |
| **221 – 176 = D** |
| **175 and below = F** |

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

As the instructor in this course, I am responsible for:

1. Providing course materials that will assist and enhance your achievement of the stated course goals
2. Providing timely and helpful feedback within the stated guidelines
3. Assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone

As a student in this course, you are responsible for:

1. Reading and completing all requirements of the course in a timely manner
2. Working to remain attentive and engaged in the course and interact with your fellow students
3. Assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone

**UNT POLICIES**

**COVID-19 Policies**

#### **Guidelines for individuals who test positive for COVID-19**

As of April 29, 2022, the University will no longer offer contact tracing for positive test cases. Individuals who test positive for the virus should follow current [Centers for Disease Control Isolation and Precautions for People with COVID-19](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html) and follow the treatment advice of their medical provider. Students, faculty, and staff should handle COVID-19-related absences like other health-related absences.

#### **Guidelines for individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19**

Individuals exposed to the virus should follow the current [Centers for Disease Control](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/if-you-were-exposed.html) recommendations and their medical provider's treatment advice. Students, faculty, and staff should handle COVID-19-related absences like other health-related absences.

**Academic Integrity Policy**

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. *Work submitted may be analyzed by software for academic integrity.*

**ADA Policy**

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. I aim to make success in this course attainable for all students. Please reach out to me about accommodation options. Students seeking accommodation should register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://disability.unt.edu/>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)**

The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

**Emergency Notification & Procedures**

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Access to Information - Eagle Connect**

Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at [my.unt.edu](https://my.unt.edu/). All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail [Eagle Connect](https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

**UNT POLICIES Continued**

**Acceptable Student Behavior**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

**Sexual Assault Prevention**

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off-campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjdl0126%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5COneNote%5C16.0%5CNT%5C0%5CSurvivorAdvocate%40unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at [oeo@unt.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cjdl0126%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5COneNote%5C16.0%5CNT%5C0%5Coeo%40unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.

**Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses**

This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings. I will provide accommodations for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor's image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

**Class Recordings & Student Likenesses**

Synchronous (live) sessions in this course will be recorded for students enrolled in this course to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

**Copyright Notice**

Some or all of the materials on the course website may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law

prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials

without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption

under copyright law applies. Additional copyright information may be located on the UNT website.

**UNT POLICIES Continued**

**Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

**Federal Regulation**

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken online or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to the completion of the class. An online or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no online or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, they should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

**Rules of Engagement**

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

* While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
* Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
* Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
* Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
* Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
* Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
* Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
* Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
* Proofread and fact-check your sources.
* Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

See these [Engagement Guidelines](https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information

**For all other UNT Policies, please go to the Student Handbook.**

**Student Programs/Services/Organizations**

**Academic Support Services**

[Academic Resource Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc)

[Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc)

[UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/)

[Writing Center](https://writingcenter.unt.edu/)

[Math Lab](https://math.unt.edu/mathlab)

**Library Resources**

[UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/)

[UNT Library Research Support](https://library.unt.edu/research-support-services/)

Subject Librarian - Jennifer Rowe

Phone: 940-369-7815

Email: jennifer.rowe@unt.edu

[PUBH Subject Library Resources Page](https://guides.library.unt.edu/PublicHealth)

[PUBH 1010 Introduction to Public Health](https://guides.library.unt.edu/PUBH1010)

**Student Support Services**

[Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/index.html)

[Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/index.html)

[Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services)

[Career Center](https://careercenter.unt.edu/)

[Multicultural Center](https://idea.unt.edu/multicultural-center)

[UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team)

[Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)

[CARE Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team)

[Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)

[Pride Alliance](https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance)

[UNT Food Pantry](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/food-pantry)

[ALL Programs and Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/push/unt-resources)

**Student Organizations**

Did you know there are more than 400 student organizations at UNT? Joining an organization is a great way to meet other students with similar interests. There are clubs related to academics, recreation, advocacy, entertainment, and so much more. Many organizations offer students opportunities to gain leadership skills and network with others to expand career opportunities.

[Student Organization Homepage](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-org)

**UNT Student Organizations Related to Public Health**

For a full list of public health-related Student Organizations, go to the Student Organization page and search “public health”

[Public Health Alliance](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/public-health-alliance)

[Future Without Poverty](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/future-without-poverty)

[UNT Rotaract Club](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/rotaract-club)

[Global Medical Brigades](https://fundraise.globalbrigades.org/empowered/chapter/university-of-north-texas-medical-brigades)

[Student Health Advisory Committee](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/student-health-advisory-commitee)

[Alternative Breaks](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/center-for-leadership-and-service/programs/alternative-breaks)

[Health Occupation Students of America](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/hosa-unt)

[Pre-Physician Assistant Club](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/pre-physician-assistant-club)

[Collaborative Urban Planning Association](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/apaso_unt)

[Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/delta-sigma-theta-sorority-inc)

[Public Administration Student Association](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/public-administration-student-association)

[Alpha Epsilon Delta Health Pre-Professional Honor Society](https://unt.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/alphaepsilondelta)

**CALENDAR**

**The semester calendar is posted below. It includes information for each week’s topic, required weekly readings, and due dates for assignments. Be aware, weekly supplemental material is not listed in this calendar. It is your responsibility to go to Canvas to find the posted material for the week. Canvas is where you will find the assignment details and instructions, supplemental materials, grades, and more. The material will be posted throughout the semester. These dates and topics are subject to change.**

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| **Week** | Topic | Materials | Assignments/Activities |
| **Week 1**1/13-1/19 | Shaping public health through research and practice  | IntroductionChapter 1 | Participation 1Video 1 |
| **Week 2**1/21-1/26 | Framing the research questionEthical standard and practice for public health research | Readings in Week 2 | Participation 2Video 2 |
| **Week 3**1/27-2/2 | Community-based participatory research | Chapter 4 | Participation 3Quiz 1 |
| **Week 4**2/3-2/9 | Qualitative research methods for public health | Chapter 5 | Participation 4 |
| **Week 5**2/10-2/16 | Observational research design | Chapter 6 | Participation 5Video 3 |
| **Week 6**2/17-2/23 | Experimental research designs | Chapter 7 | Quiz 2Participation 6 |
| **Week 7**2/24-3/2 | Investigating disease outbreaks | (See articles in Canvas) | Exam 1 |
| **Week 8**3/3-3/9 | Quasi-experimental research designsDefining the study population  | Chapter 8Chapter 9 | Participation 7 |
| **Week 9**3/10-3/16 | **SPRING BREAK!!!** |  |  |
| **Week 10**3/17-3/23 | Sampling techniques  | Chapter 10 |  |
| **Week 11**3/24-3/30 | Measurement  | Chapter 11 | Participation 8Quiz 3 |
| **Week 12**3/31-4/6 | Data management and cleaning  | Chapter 12 |  |
| **Week 13**4/7-4/13 | Parametric data analysis | Chapter 13 | Video 4 |
| **Week 14**4/14-4/20 | Nonparametric data analysis | Chapter 14 | Quiz 4 |
| **Week 15**4/21-4/27 | Disseminating findings and informing new research | Chapter 15 | Participation 10 |
| **Week 16**4/28-5/4 | Make up Assignments |  | Make-up DiscussionMake-up ExamMake-up Video |
|  | FinalNo make-up for a missed final exam. | **Final Exam****NOTE**: Final exam availableon May 4 andcloses May 7.  | Final (Exam 3) due 5/7 by 11:59pm |