

University of North Texas
School of Public Affairs and Community Service
**COMS 4500.900/5500.900 COMMUNITY RESOURCE MAPPING AND
COLLABORATION**

(3 credit hours)

Dr. Norman Dolch, Chilton Hall, Room 261 A, 972-369-2395(C), 940-369-8974

Course Description: The course will analyze the systems that measure community assets and resources; will explore the means of identifying and approaching potential collaborative community partners; and focus on the development of joint proposals and/or business plans. It will also provide an overview of the role of volunteer managers and agency leadership of community organizations that provide resources in the development of a collaborative, capacity building community. An ecological approach will be used to analyze the full range of human service agency services: health, social, educational, diagnostic, enrichment, religious, civic, and legal. Students will have an opportunity to do field work with agency staff on assigned community projects. **Students who have received undergraduate credit for this course may not re-take it for graduate hours credit.**

Required Texts: Available through the UNT Bookstore and online vendors.

1. Homan, Mark S. Promoting Community change, 5th Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Thompson Brooks/Cole, 2008.
2. Dolch, Norman A. and Edward C. Polsun, Ree Simpkins-Lewis, and Helen Wise (Editors). Social Problems: A Case Study Approach. Debuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing. 2011.

General Objectives: A student who has successfully completed the course should be able to:

1. Define the basic elements of community resource mapping, community collaboration, and community capacity building.
2. Be knowledgeable about specific examples of community resource mapping, community collaboration, and community capacity building.
3. Understand the ecological philosophy in the development of services to families in a healthy community.
4. Be familiar with local agencies and their full range of services available for families in health, social, legal, educational, religious, social, diagnostic, and enrichment areas.
5. Be able to respond to identified community problems on the basis of theory and research in the social and behavioral sciences.

Understand the role of the volunteer manager and professional staff in the

1. process of community resource mapping, community collaboration, and community capacity building.

2. Develop a resource file of local, state, and national agencies that will include contact person, agency goals and objectives, and a summary of agency activities.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the need for advocacy activities in order to develop and support community resources.
4. Understand the advocacy process and to acquire the skills needed to become a community advocate.
5. Understand the role the media plays in carrying out plans for community collaboration and community capacity building.
6. Understand how to help build communities of inclusion, where every citizen has a role in shaping community solutions.
7. Understand how to use the resources of the Internet in order to support community asset building and collaboration activities.
8. Have a "hands-on" experience with an agency on a community collaboration project which will result in a funding proposal or business plan.

Topics to be Covered: Ecological approaches to analysis of community organizations.

1. Community resource mapping, community collaboration, community capacity building.
2. The role of the volunteer manager and professional staff in community resource mapping and collaboration.
3. Overview of community agencies which provide the following types of services to families: health, social, religious, educational, legal, civic, enrichment, and diagnostic.
4. The role and process of advocacy in community capacity building.
5. The process of building a collaborative community.
6. Development of grants and /or business plans.
7. Special topics: Diversity and building an Inclusive community: The role of the media and the Internet in building a collaborative community.
8. Common community concerns with social problems.

Student Evaluation Procedures: Students will be required to successfully complete all of the following assignments described below: Please note all reports, presentations, and papers will be delivered on-line as specified in the assignment.

Demographic Analysis of Volunteerism and Program Need: Each student will select a Texas city or community and produce a report discussing the implications for both volunteerism and nonprofit programming on the basis of census data for their city or community. These may be made available to nonprofit organizations throughout the state. This is 20% of the final grade.

Environmental Scan/NP Program: On the basis of the Demographic Analysis of Volunteerism and Program Need, each student will develop a nonprofit program or discuss ways to improve the existing nonprofit program for a nonprofit in the community on which the demographic analysis was done. This is 20% of the final grade.

Ethics Web Site: Students will locate a web site dealing with nonprofit organizations, preferably in Texas, and issues of ethics relevant to the course material. In addition to the web site, a paragraph or two discussing the web site will be provided. These may be made available

to nonprofit organizations in Texas and throughout the United States. This is 10% of the course grade.

Class Attendance and Participation: Class attendance must at minimum meet university requirements. Full attendance, preparation, and evidence of participation will be measured and graded for discussion assignments. Students are expected to participate in discussions and group work with high quality contributions. This is 30% of the final course grade.

Exams: There will be a midterm and final exam in this course worth 100 points each and combined they will account for 20% of your total grade. These will be essay exams and timed.

Course points and Grade: Total Undergraduate course points will be weighted to 100 and final course grades based on the following grade equivalents:

90-100 = A
89-80 = B
79-70 = C
69-60 = D.

Graduate students will be required to work as a group to produce a comprehensive community mapping of Sierra Leone, a country in West Africa that includes a demographic analysis, identification of domestic and international assistance programs, etc. The expectation is that this report will be delivered to the Kroo Bay Initiative, a U.S.A based nonprofit involved in international development for Sierra Leone started by UNT students. Graduate students will be responsible for portions of the report and their grade will be based on both the portion they produce and the whole project.

Graduate Grade equivalents:

110-125: = A
109-95 = B
94- 80 = C
79-65 =D

Course Policies: The policies for this course are as follow:

1. This course will be governed by all policies in the current Faculty Handbook and the Student guidebook of the University of North Texas .
2. Students are prohibited from soliciting and or receiving assistance for this class unless they have received prior approval from the instructor.
3. Any and all deviations from this syllabus must be obtained from the instructor IN WRITING or by e-mail communication.
4. Students without acceptable reasons will not be permitted to make-up missed work. The reason must be acceptable to the professor.
5. All students must abide by the Internet Policies and Procedures as outlined in their enrollment agreements.

6. Please note that students will be dropped for non-attendance in this course. In this Internet class non-attendance will mean that a student has not posted any assignments by the 12 th day audit or will have exceeded 3 unauthorized absences during the semester. It is the student's responsibility to watch the University official "drop" dates.
7. Students are expected to abide by the Student Code of Conduct at UNT.
8. Students are responsible monitoring the important dates for withdrawing, dropping, etc.
9. Students are expected to be courteous at all times in course discussions, emails related to the course, etc. Comments in this regard by the professor are the final word in this course.
10. The course syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. If a change occurs, you will be notified by email and through a class announcement.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is defined in the UNT Policy on Student Standards for Academic Integrity. Any suspected case of Academic Dishonesty will be handled in accordance with University policy and procedures. Possible academic penalties range from a verbal or written admonition to a grade of "F" in the course. Further sanctions may apply to incidents involving major violations. You will find the policy and procedures at <http://vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>.

Student Behavior in the Classroom:

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 Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities 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 classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.

Student Requiring Special Accommodation:

If you have a condition that requires accommodation in this course, please notify the instructor during the first week of class. Any necessary or appropriate accommodations will be made provided that timely notice is received, and that the arrangement is consistent with recommendations from Disability Services, when applicable. Students who require this type of assistance should contact the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) at (940) 565-4323, or at TTY (940) 369-8652 to make appropriate arrangements. Information on the services provided by the ODA as well as application procedures is available at <http://www.unt.edu/oda/index.html>. Information on UNT's policies related to disability accommodations is available at <http://policy.unt.edu/policy/18-1-14>. Please note that disability accommodations are not retroactive. Accommodations will be made only after a disability is officially verified.

Course Calendar of Weekly Assignments

January 17-20

- Read the lesson titled "Start Here". Be sure to email the information sheet requested in the lesson by 9/02/11 at 11:55 p.m.
- Also note that the lesson asks you to do the DP1-Get Acquainted discussion.

January 23-27

- Read and study Lesson 1
- Read and study Homan Chapter 1/ Dolch Chapter 1
- Discussion Post 2 (DP2)/ Discussion Post 3 (DP3)/ Discussion Post SP1

January 30- February 03

- Read and study Lesson 2
- Read and study Homan Chapter 2/Dolch Chapter 2
- DP4/SP2

February 06-10

- Read and study Lesson 3
- Read and study Homan Chapter 3/ Dolch Chapter 3
- Assignment of Demographic Analysis of Volunteerism and Program Need
- DP5/SP3

February 13-17

- Read and study Lesson 4
- Read and study Homan Chapter 4/ Dolch Chapter 4
- DP6 and DP7/SP4

February 20-24

- Read and study Lesson 5
- Read and study Homan Chapter 5/ Dolch Chapter 5
- Read and study the article titled "Building Communities From the Inside Out" found here: <http://www.nhi.org/online/issues/83/buildcomm.html>
- DP8 and DP9/SP5
- Assignment of Ecological Scan/ Nonprofit Program

February 27- March 02

- Read and study Lesson 6
- Read and study Homan Chapter 6/ Dolch Chapter 6

Assignment of the mid-term exam due March 19 at 11:30 p.m.

- DP10/SP6

March 05-09

- Read and study Lesson 7
- Read and study Homan Chapter 7/ Dolch Chapter 7
- DP11/SP7

March 12-16

Mid-Term Exam due March 19 at 11:30 p.m.

- Dolch Chapter 8
- SP8
- Submit Demographic Analysis of

Demographic Analysis of Volunteerism and Program Need due on March 19 by 11:30 p.m.

March 19-23

Spring Break

March 26-30

- Read and study Lessons 8 & 9
- Read and study Homan Chapters 8 & 9/ Dolch Chapter 9
- DP12/ SP9.

April 02-06

- Read and study Lessons 10a
- Read and study Homan Chapter 10 / Dolch Chapter 10
- SP10

April 09-13

- Read Lesson 11
- Read and study Homan Chapter 11/ Dolch Chapter 11
- Ecological Scan/ Nonprofit Program Projects due April 09 by 11:55 p.m.
- DP13/SP11

April 16-20

- Read and study Lesson 12
- Read and study Homan Chapter 12/Dolch Chapter 12
- Begin work on Ethics Web Site assignment
- DP14/SP12

April 23-27

- Read and study Lesson 13
- Read and study Homan Chapter 13 /Dolch Chapter 13

- DP15/ SP 13
- Ethics Web Site assignment due on April 30 at 11:55 p.m.

April 30- May03

- Read and study Lesson 14/ Chapter 14/Lesson 15/chapter 15
- Read and study Dolch Chapter 14
- DP16/ SP 14&15

Ethics Web Site assignment is due

***Graduate Project is due on April 30, 2012 at 11:30 p.m.

May 05-11

- Read the Final Lesson
- Final exam due on May 6 at 11:30 a.m.
- Course reflection and evaluation

May 12

Graduation