



University of North Texas
College of Health and Public Service
Department of Rehabilitation and Health Services
PUBH 1010 Introduction to Public Health

Welcome to the PUBH 1010 Introduction to Public Health Spring 2025 course. My name is Shyamkumar Sriram. I will be your instructor for this class. I look forward to introducing you to the science of public health.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number and Title: PUBH 1010 Introduction to Public Health

Meets: Tuesday and Thursday

12:30pm – 1:50pm

Location: Matt 312

3 Credit Hours

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor Name: Shyamkumar Sriram MD, MPH, MS, MHS, MBA, PhD

Office Location: Chilton Hall 218K

Email: Shyamkumar.Sriram@unt.edu

Email will be the best way to communicate with me this semester. I will usually respond to emails within 48 hours.

Office Hours: Friday 2 to 4pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to the history of public health, key public health concepts and theories, and the interdisciplinary links between public health and other fields. Students will also learn about both domestic and global public health programs.

PRE- REQUISITES

Recommended prerequisite(s): None

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the basic tenants of public health and their importance
2. Identify major events in the history of public health
3. Explain the various research methods used in public health
4. Apply population-based health concepts to public health topics
5. Examine public health interventions for evidence for relevance, application, and evaluation
6. Illustrate the role of public health in confronting issues at the local, state, federal, and global level
7. Identify the principal determinants of health and disease, including the determinants of inequalities in the health of groups differentiated by race, ethnicity, economic status, geographic location, and ability
8. Analyze international interconnectedness and global interdependence
9. Appreciate perspectives different from one's own and incorporate them into the problem solving process

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Required Textbook:

Introduction to Public Health By Schneider, Mary-Jane Edition: 6TH Edition
 Publisher: Jones and Bartlett ISBN 13: 9781284220230

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 and Canvas. 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 six different ways including weekly participation, quizzes, case study, American Healthcare System Reflection, Global Awareness Activities, and a final exam. See below for the points breakdown, details about the assignments, and late work policies. Additional information for each assignment will be posted in Canvas.

Assignment	Points Possible	Percentage of Final Grade
Participation	15 @ 10 points each Total 150 points	15%
Quizzes	10 @ 20 points each Total 200 points	20%
Global Awareness Activities (GAA)	Total 200 points	20%
American Healthcare System Reflection	Total 150 points	15%
Case Study	Total 100 points	10%
Final Exam Online	Total 200 points	20%
Total Points Possible	1000 points	100%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS continued**Participation:**

Participation points are earned by participating in weekly discussions. Students are required to post and respond to another student's post. Weekly questions will be posted on the Tuesday of each week. Students are required to submit their original post **by Thursday at 11:59 pm** of each week. Students will have until **Sunday at 11:59 pm of the same week** to reply to another student's original post. Late posts will not be graded and will receive no points.

Quizzes: Students are required to complete weekly quizzes in-class in the Tuesday's class every week. The quizzes will usually include questions from the material presented the previous week. Quizzes can only be taken once and only in-class. A student may be able to make up quizzes only with written permission from the instructor.

Global Awareness Activities: Students will complete one [Worldview Upgrader](#) activity for each Sustainable Development Goal. See course calendar for dates due. Detailed instructions will be included in Canvas.

American Healthcare System Reflection: Students will watch two documentaries and compare them.

Students will also reflect on the differences and similarities between the American healthcare system and another healthcare systems from around the globe.

Case Study: Students will explore a public health topic of their choice. They will compare a public health initiative related to their topic in the United States to an initiative in a country of their choice.

Final Exam: Students will be tested on the information presented throughout the course. Questions will be taken from the weekly quizzes.

See Canvas or the Course Calendar on page 10 for due dates

AI (Artificial Intelligence)

1. Please do not complete assignments using AI.
2. If you turn in an assignment that is returned more than 50% AI, you will receive a zero.

LATE WORK POLICY

I will not accept late work unless you have a university excuse, (i.e., death in the family, sick with a doctor's note, etc). Please contact me if you have any issues meeting a deadline. Any work submitted after the deadline will lose points. All assignments are set to close in Canvas 24 hours after 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 = 1,000

1000 – 900 = A
899 – 800 = B
799 – 700 = C
699 – 600 = D
599 – 500 = 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

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 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 recommendations and their medical provider's treatment advice. Students, faculty, and staff should handle COVID-19-related absences like other health-related absences.

UNT POLICIES**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. 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](#).

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](#) 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 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 or at (940) 565 2759.

Class Recordings & Student Likenesses

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.

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](#). 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](#) for more information

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

Student Programs/Services/Organizations

Academic Support Services

[Academic Resource Center](#)

[Academic Success Center](#)

[UNT Libraries](#)

[Writing Center](#)

[Math Lab](#)

Library Resources

[UNT Libraries](#)

[UNT Library Research Support](#)

Public Health Subject Librarian – Brea Henson

Email: brea.henson@unt.edu

Phone: (940)565-3980

[PUBH Subject Library Resources Page](#)

[PUBH 1010 Introduction to Public Health](#)

Student Support Services

[Registrar](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

[Student Legal Services](#)

[Career Center](#)

[Multicultural Center](#)

[UNT Care Team](#)

[Counseling and Testing Services](#)

[CARE Team](#)

[Student Health and Wellness Center](#)

[Pride Alliance](#)

[UNT Food Pantry](#)

[ALL Programs and Services](#)

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](#)

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

Future Without Poverty

UNT Rotaract Club

Black Health Professions Organization

Global Medical Brigades

Student Health Advisory Committee

Alternative Breaks

Health Occupation Students of America

Pre-Physician Assistant Club

Collaborative Urban Planning Association

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Public Administration Student Association

Alpha Epsilon Delta Health Pre-Professional Honor Society

CALENDAR

Calendar below contains 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 weekly instructions, supplemental materials, weekly participation assignments, quizzes, case study instructions, the Midterm and Final exams, grades, and more. These dates and topics are subject to change.

Week Dates	Module Topic	Materials to Review	Participation and Assignments
Week 1 01/13 – 01/19	Introduction to the Course	Readings in Module 1	Participation 1
Week 2 01/20 – 01/26	Introduction to Public Health	Chapters 1 - 3 Readings in Module 2	Participation 2 Quiz 1 GAA - SDG 1, 2, & 3
Week 3 01/27 – 02/02	Analytical Methods in Public Health Epidemiology	Chapters 4 - 6 Readings in Module 3	Participation 3
Week 4 02/03 – 02/09	Analytical Methods in Public Health Statistics and Data	Chapters 7 - 8 Readings in Module	Participation 4 Quiz 2 GAA - SDG 4 & 5
Week 5 02/10 – 02/16	Infectious Disease	Chapter 9 - 10 Readings in Module	Participation 5 GAA - SDG 6 & 7
Week 6 02/17 – 02/23	Chronic Disease and Genetic Disease	Chapter 11 - 12 Readings in Module	Participation 6 Quiz 3 GAA - SDG 8 & 9
Week 7 02/24 – 03/02	Determinants of Health Psychosocial Factors and Health	Chapter 13 - 14 Readings in Module	Participation 7 GAA - SDG 10 & 11
Week 8 03/03 – 03/09	Public Health Challenges Injury Prevention	Chapter 15 - 17 Readings in Module	Participation 8 Quiz 4 GAA - SDG 12 & 13
Week 9 03/10 – 03/16	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES		
Week 10 03/17 – 03/23	Maternal and Child Health Mental Health	Chapter 18 - 19 Readings in Module	Participation 9 Quiz 5 GAA - SDG 14 & 15
Week 11 03/24 – 03/30	Environmental Health Air and Water Quality	Chapter 20 - 22 Readings in Module	Participation 10 Quiz 6 GAA - SDG 16 & 17
Week 12 03/31 – 04/06	Solid and Hazardous Waste Safe Food and Drugs	Chapter 23 - 24 Readings in Module	Participation 11 Case Study Due 04/04
Week 13 04/07 – 04/13	Human Population's Impact	Chapter 25	Participation 12 Quiz 7
Week 14 04/14 – 04/20	Medical Care Systems	Chapter 26 - 27 Readings in Module	Participation 13
Week 15 04/21 – 04/27	Health Services Research Public Health and the Aging Population	Chapter 28 – 29 Readings in Module	Participation 14

			American Healthcare Reflection Due – 04/25 Quiz 8
Week 16 04/28 – 05/04	The Future of Public Health Concluding Thoughts	Chapter 30 -31 Readings in Module	Participation 15 Quiz 9 and 10
Week 17	Final Exam	Final available Online 5th May to 7th May	Final Exam Due by 7th May, 11:59pm