

California State University, Chico

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

CONSUMER HEALTH-Online

HCSV 325-01, Intersession 2008

Instructor: Dr. Peter L. Cruise, Associate Professor, HCSV Department

E-mail: Post e-mail messages for me in the Blackboard Vista mail folder for this course or at pcruise@csuchico.edu

Online office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 7:00-8:00pm (Pacific Time) in the Course General Chat Room

1. Scope of Course

This online course will examine major consumer health perspectives from historical and contemporary viewpoints. Issues of cost, availability, and quality of health care and their relationship to political and economic activity will be discussed. National, regional, and local health trends (including the rise of alternative and non-traditional health care consumer choices) will be identified and analyzed. Individual and collective consumer strategies will be analyzed.

HCSV 325 fulfills the requirements of the General Education Upper Division Theme, Contemporary Health Issues, Area D. The course addresses concepts of well being, health and disease; focuses attention on how class, ethnicity, and gender affect selected health problems; teaches methods for distinguishing hearsay from valid information; develops knowledge and skills for making effective decisions that enhance health, and facilitate and understanding of public policy; and addresses the impact of biology, ethics, morality, politics, economics, and culture upon health, health care, and public policy.

Students enrolled in this course will receive General Education Upper Division Theme credit only if they have completed 45 or more credits prior to taking this course.

2. Required Reading Materials

- Stephen Barrett, William Jarvis, Manfred Kroger and William London. *Consumer Health: A Guide to Intelligent Decisions, 8th Edition*. (New York: McGraw-Hill Publishers, 2007). ISBN 0-07-297223-8
- Online readings found on the Blackboard course web pages

3. Course Format

This class is entirely web based. **There are no in person sessions.** All readings, assignments and tests are found in the assigned textbook or on the Blackboard course pages. All assignments and tests must be completed online and posted in the appropriate sections of the Blackboard course pages.

4. Grading

There are a total of **three** assignments for this course. There will be **one** objective (true/false, multiple choice, fill in the blank) test at the end of the intersession on the dates indicated on the course outline (assignment 1, worth a maximum of 300 points). There will be **TWO** weekly postings and assignment folder assignments required for each student (assignments 2 and 3, worth a maximum of 350 points for each week; 700 points for both weeks).

NO extra credit or make up work is available.

The total possible points for the three assignments are 1000.

If assignments are late (e.g., tests not taken during the appropriate time period, assignments not posted before the due date), there will be a point deduction penalty imposed. The amount of points lost will be at the discretion of the instructor. If an assignment is missing, there can be no points available for that particular activity.

Final Course Grade Scale:

A 930 - 1000 C+ 770 - 799

A- 900 - 929 C 730 - 769

B+ 870 - 899 C- 700 - 729

B 830 - 869 D+ 660 - 699

B- 800 - 829 D 600 - 659

5. Projects and Activities

- Course readings and assignment folder activities (700 total points possible; up to 50 points for each day's posting): Based on the assigned textbook chapters and online web readings there will be various posting assignments due each week. The specific details for each weekly assignment folder posting assignment are contained on the Blackboard course content pages for that week.

6. Weekly assignment folder postings

All assignments for this course must comply with the following requirements:

- Items must be free of typographical and spelling errors and must be grammatically correct. Incorrect grammar and misspellings will have points deducted from the assignment score.

7. Assignment postings

Each week, you will need to read all assigned textbook chapters and online web articles. From these readings, you will post responses to various questions or complete specific assignments on the appropriate Blackboard assignment folder section. Your grades for this section of the course are based upon the instructor's assessment of both the **QUALITY** and **QUANTITY** of your individual postings. Short, incomplete or late postings will receive lower point totals than longer, more thoughtful, more complete and timely postings.

Students should expect that the weekly **MINIMUM** writing requirement will entail **AT LEAST** three to six paragraphs (250-500 words) of well developed responses to the subject(s) for that week.

Individual assignment postings are developed out of both the assigned reading and question material presented by the instructor and the comments and insights from other students.

To develop a coherent and concise assignment posting after reading the instructor assigned material, students should examine existing responses on the assignment folder before posting their own item. Early in the week, the first student assignment postings on a particular subject will likely introduce additional comment areas. Students posting later in the week should incorporate these additional comment areas into their assignment responses.

Each week, the instructor will review all assignment postings and responses, assign a point total, and will e-mail the student with the feedback results. The "**My Grades**" section of the Blackboard course home page will track each student's ongoing grade point total throughout the semester.

8. Timeliness of readings and assignments

Each week, you will need to read the assigned chapters listed on the course outline below. You will also need to read and complete the additional online readings and assignments in Blackboard for that week. You will have seven days to log in and complete the postings part of the assignment for Weeks One and Two. **Once Week One closes on Sunday January 13, 2008, you will not be able to add additional material for that Week.**

The assignment week starts at 12:01am on Monday and ends at 11:59pm on Sunday. After that time and date, the assignment is late and will not be graded.

Therefore, you cannot wait or delay in this online course, or you will be unable to complete major portions of the work assigned.

9. Online testing

There is **one** test scheduled for this course. It is worth a maximum of 300 points. The dates for the test are on the syllabus. Further instructions on the test taking procedures are provided on the Blackboard course page.

The online test is based entirely on the textbook readings. They are objective in nature (e.g., multiple choice, true/false questions) and are open book, open notes.

The test is timed (lasting up to two hours) by Blackboard. You have **ONE** timed test session during the test period to log in and complete the test. One can only log on once. You must complete the test all in one session. You cannot log off and log in later to finish. Blackboard is unforgiving with violations of these few rules, so please understand them before the first test.

After you complete and submit the test, you will receive your score automatically from Blackboard.

Please read the online test taking instructions on our course homepage **BEFORE** the first test.

COURSE OUTLINE

(This outline is subject to modification by the instructor)

The chapters here refer to the assigned textbook for this course, Consumer Health: A Guide to Intelligent Decisions, 8th Edition

STUDENTS MUST ALSO VISIT THE Blackboard DISCUSSION PAGES EACH DAY TO READ ADDITIONAL MATERIAL AND COMPLETE COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Week of 1/7/08, Week 1 (worth up to 50 points for each Chapter, or up to 350 points for the entire week)

Chapter 1: Consumer Health Issues

Chapter 2: Separating Fact from Fiction

Chapter 3: Frauds and Quackery

Chapter 4: Advertising and Other Promotional Activities

Chapter 5: Science-Based Health Care

Chapter 6: Mental and Behavioral Help

Chapter 7: Dental Care

First week's writing assignment due no later than Sunday January 13, 2008 by 11:59 pm.

Week of 1/14/08, Week 2 (worth up to 50 points for each Chapter, or up to 350 points for the entire week)

Chapter 8: The "CAM" Movement

Chapter 9: Self-Care

Chapter 10: Health-Care Facilities

Chapter 11: Basic Nutrition Concepts

Chapter 12: Nutrition Fads, Fallacies, and Scams

Chapter 13: Weight Control

Chapter 14: Exercise Concepts, Products, and Services

Second week's writing assignment due no later than Sunday January 20, 2008 by 11:59 pm.

Course Test (covers all 14 Chapters)

Test availability **starts** Tuesday January 22, 2008 at 12:01 am

Test availability **ends** on Friday January 25, 2008 at 11:59 pm.
