



HSHS 1013 Global Health and Wellness Spring 2026

Contact Information:

Instructor: Martha Gibson, PhD, MSN

Office: Virtual

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Office Hours: As posted and by appointment



Class Information:

Class Meeting: Virtual

Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to global health and give them an understanding of how the global community affects and is affected by changes in economic, political, and social factors. Influences such as education, income levels, governmental policies, regulation of health care provision, and transnational economic and political relations will be discussed. The importance of the globalization of disease and wellness and the importance of including all citizens in global health concerns will be deeply discussed.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Describe various factors that contribute to approaches to health care.
- Identify key terms and concepts in global health and wellness.
- Discuss ecological foundations of global health.
- Examine communicable diseases as transnational threats to human health and non-communicable disease burden on global health.
- Explore inequities in global health.
- Investigate issues related to global health and security and human rights issues.
- Discuss issues related to the top-down and bottom-up promotion of global health.
- Identify his/her role in the global health community.

Required Course Materials and Text:

Global Health 101, 4th Edition, Richard Skolnik, Jones & Bartlett, 2021.

Attendance and Punctuality:

This is an online course. ***You must be vigilant in logging onto D2L. *Regular checks will ensure that messages from the instructor are received in a timely manner.** This course is on a schedule that will be strictly adhered to. See the Course Schedule for specific information about activities and due dates.

Communication with the Professor:

Individual questions and concerns should be handled through an email directly to the professor using the email address at the top of this syllabus or through D2L email. Email is the best way for contacting the instructor. The instructor does allow you to text with any questions or concerns. Just make sure to identify yourself and the class in the text. 251-751-1120. Throughout the semester, the professor may post announcements on D2L. Contact information for the professor is listed at the beginning of this syllabus.

Email is the preferred mode of communication. Students must use the MSU Student Email system through d2L. The professor will respond or at least acknowledge email messages from students within a maximum of five (5) business days when MSU is in session. Beyond standard university holidays and breaks, the professor will notify students of any extended periods of time when email contact is not practical (professional meetings, etc.). Emails need to have HSHS 1013 in the subject area. The professor will be available to meet virtually via Zoom with any interested students if they request it. This meeting is optional and must be confirmed by email ahead of time with the professor.

Teaching Strategies:

Independent reading assignments, D2L open book module quizzes, drop box assignments, discussions, and a final project.

Evaluation:**Grade Items and Grade Determination:**

Assignments	Grade Percentage
Discussion Boards	10%
Quizzes	15%
Assignments	50%
Final Behavior Change Project	25%

Approximate Grading Scale:

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-79

F: 59 and below

The last opportunity to drop this course with a grade of "W" is 4:00 p.m. on ***April 29th**. Refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin for details about receiving a grade of "Incomplete" in a course. In an emergency or

extenuating circumstance, a student may request a grade of “Incomplete” in a course before grades are submitted. If the instructor grants the “Incomplete,” the student has until thirty (30) days after the beginning of the next long semester to complete the course requirements. If the student does not complete the course requirements within the deadline, the grade of “Incomplete” will automatically convert into a grade of “F.”

Course Submissions:

All assignment submissions made by students in D2L are considered final submissions. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the correct and complete file has been uploaded. If a student submits an incorrect document, an incomplete draft, or any unintended version, the assignment will be graded as submitted. Students are strongly encouraged to double-check their upload before finalizing the submission.

Additionally, Apple file formats such as .pages or Keynote files will not be accepted. All submissions must be uploaded in Microsoft Office formats—such as .doc, .docx, .ppt, or .xlsx—or as otherwise specified in the assignment instructions.

COURSE MODULES

(Activities and Assignments)

Students can proceed through the course content at their own pace within the boundaries set by the Course Schedule and the MSU Academic Calendar. See the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus for specific information about activities and due dates.

If students have technical difficulties, they should use the “Help” link on D2L, contact the MSU Information Systems Support Staff, and send an email to the professor explaining what happened.

- **All work submitted to the instructor will be considered complete and final and will be graded as such.**
- **All reading assignments are mandatory, and the student's comprehension of the content will either be graded in the form of a quiz or applied in an assignment.**
- **All assignments must be written at the baccalaureate level and will be graded for accuracy, completeness, quality, spelling, grammar, and integrity.**
- **All assignments must be submitted in the requested format that the instructor request. It will either be in a requested template, a pdf, WORD, or a PowerPoint if requested. **If an assignment is not in the correct format, the assignment will not be accepted.***
- **Because of the nature of the assignments, late submissions are discouraged. **For dropbox submissions, there will be a 5% deduction per day up to 2 days the assignment is late. *There will be no acceptance of late discussions.***

Welcome (Students should start here!)

Students should begin the course by viewing the documents found in the Welcome module. There is an overview of the course and the textbook, as well as a document about discussion board etiquette. Finally, in this section, you will find the library use video along with a quiz about the video. **Complete the Introduction Discussion Board and the Library Quiz. Please note this quiz is for a grade and must be completed independently by the students.**

Module 1 – Introduction and Key Concepts in Global Health

Students should begin by reading the course notes for an overview of the module and Chapters 1 & 2 in the text. There are assigned reading materials found in this module that the student must complete, as well as a Drop box assignment for the Behavior Change Project. **Complete the discussion board (Where do I fit in?)**

and the quiz for this module.

Module 2 – Burden of Disease, Communicable and Non-communicable Disease

Students should begin by reading the course notes for an overview of the module and Chapters 3, 13 & 14 in the text. **There is also a discussion board question for this module. Complete the Dropbox assignment for foreign country disease burden assessment. Complete the discussion board (Surprising facts about disease burden) and the quiz for this module.**

Module 3 – The Ecological and Nutritional Impact on Health

Students should begin by reading the course notes for an overview of the module and Chapters 8 & 9 in the text. **Complete 2 Dropbox assignments (Update to Behavior Project & WHO Challenges Essay). Complete the discussion board (Personal Ways to Prevent Disease Physically or Attitude Adoption), and the quiz for this module.**

Module 4 – Inequities and Human Rights in Global Health

Students should begin by reading the course notes for an overview of the module and Chapters 4 & 5 in the text. **Complete the discussion board (Pick one of four vignettes at the beginning of Chapter 5 and explain the ethical or human rights issue in essay form), and the quiz for this module. Complete the Drop box assignment for foreign country health statistics comparison.**

Module 5 – Natural Disasters and Complex Humanitarian Emergencies

Students should begin by reading the course notes for an overview of the module and Chapters 16 & 17 in the text. **Complete the discussion board (Find a global health organization and describe its mission and global objectives relating to SDGs). Complete the Dropbox assignment about environmental and natural disasters.**

Module 6– Global Health and Health Systems

Students should begin by reading the course notes for an overview of the module and Chapter 6 in the text. **Complete the discussion board (Choose from discussion questions # 4, 6 7, 8, 9, or 10 on page 159 in Chapter 6 and compose a response). Complete the discussion board on Island Healthcare System.**

Module 7 - Course Completion

Students should review the Module 7 notes. **Complete the discussion board (Your vision of healthcare). Submit your completed Behavior Change Project in the drop box.**

Campus Concealed Handgun Carry Policy

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at [MSU Texas Campus Carry Policies](#)

If you have questions or concerns, please contact MSU Chief of Police Steve Callarmansteven.callarman@msutexas.edu

Special Needs

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable adjustments in its policies, practices, services, and facilities to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational programs and activities.

Disability Support Services provides information and assistance, arranges accommodations, and serves as a liaison for students, instructors, and staff. The Disability Office has assistive devices such as books on tape, recorders, and adaptive software which can be loaned to qualified individuals. A student/employee who seeks accommodations on the basis of disability must register with Disability Student Services in Clark Student Center Room 168. Documentation of a disability from a competent professional is required. Individuals with grievances related to discrimination or lack of accommodation on the basis of a disability are encouraged to resolve the problem directly with the area involved. If the matter remains unresolved, advice and/or assistance will be provided by Disability Student Services for resolution. The grievance procedure may be found in the Student Handbook and Activities Calendar.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, at (940) 397-4140.

Administrative Process

Unresolved issues related to this course should be first addressed between the student and the course instructor. If there is no resolution, students must follow this sequence:

College Dean – Dr. Jeff Killion (940-397-4594) Dean of Students – Matthew Parks (940-397-7500)

Appeal of Course Grade:

The two bases on which a student can appeal a course grade are as follows:

The student has not been evaluated according to the same criteria as his/her classmates, OR

An error has been made in grading and/or posting of the grade.

Students wishing to appeal the final course grade given in this course will find additional information regarding the appeal process at the following link: [Appeal of Course Grade](#)

Honor System

HSHS 1013 adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct. In particular, academic dishonesty, however small, creates a breach of academic integrity. A student's participation in this course comes with the expectation that his or her work will be completed in full observance of the MSU Code of Student Conduct. A student should consult the current Student Handbook for answers to any questions about the code.

Many components of HSHS 1013 are designed to be highly interactive with students helping each other learn. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including online D2L course resources, Internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers when answering objectives. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive to lifelong learning.

Specific components of HSHS1013 are designed to represent the efforts of each student INDIVIDUALLY and are NOT to be shared or copied (plagiarized) from other sources. These components include the module activities, D2L Open Book Module Quizzes, and the D2L Comprehensive Final Exam. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in drafting papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or completing other assignments; or (3) the acquisition of tests or other academic materials belonging to the university faculty or staff without permission.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to, the use of, by paraphrase or direct quotation without correct citation in the text and on the reference list, the published or unpublished works of another person. Students may NOT submit papers and assignments that they have previously submitted for this or other courses. The use of

materials generated by agencies engaged in "selling" term papers is also plagiarism. Students are encouraged to review the tutorials and suggested websites for more information about plagiarism. Papers and other assignments may be submitted to an external agency for verification of originality and authenticity. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever a student is unsure of whether a particular situation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty, he/she should ask the instructor for clarification. If students are guilty of academic dishonesty, a grade of zero (0) may be given for the quiz, assignment, etc. Cases may also be referred to the Dean of Students for possible dismissal from the university.

AI Generated-Submissions:

Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments should be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare you for a competitive workplace. Therefore, AI-generated submissions are not permitted and will be treated as plagiarism. There is a plagiarism explanation in the Welcome module for you to review. Turn-It-In will be used in this course for submitted assignments. Any assignment deemed to not be the student's original work will not be accepted.

Student Honor Creed

"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."

As students at MSU, we recognize that any great society must be composed of empowered, responsible citizens. We also recognize universities play an important role in helping mold these responsible citizens. We believe students themselves play an important part in developing responsible citizenship by maintaining a community where integrity and honorable character are the norm, not the exception. Thus, we, the Students of Midwestern State University, resolve to uphold the honor of the University by affirming our commitment to complete academic honesty. We resolve not only to be honest but also to hold our peers accountable for complete honesty in all university matters. We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one's own, work or ideas which are not entirely one's own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests within each individual student. We expect of ourselves academic integrity, personal professionalism, and ethical character. We appreciate steps taken by University officials to protect the honor of the University against any who would disgrace the MSU student body by violating the spirit of this creed.

PLEASE NOTE

By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes. Specifically, faculty may submit student papers and assignments to an external agency to verify originality and authenticity, and to detect plagiarism.

2026 Tentative Spring Course Schedule

(Requirements for each activity can be found in the appropriate module instructions; all activities are due by 11:59 pm, CST)

Date	Activity Due
*Monday, January 20th	Classes Open
Friday, January 23rd	Discussion Board Introduction Due
Monday, January 26th	Library Quiz Due
Friday, January 30th	Discussion Board for Module 1 Due
Friday, February 6th	Module 1 Behavior Change Project Form Due
Wednesday, February 11th	Module 1 Quiz Due
Wednesday, February 18th	Discussion Board Module 2 Due (Initial post is due Wed. Feb. 18 with peer response due Fri. Feb 20)
Wednesday, February 25th	Module 2 Quiz Due
Friday, February 27th	Module 2 Dropbox
Wednesday, March 4th	Discussion Board Module 3 Due (Initial post is due Wed., Mar 4th with peer response due Fri. Mar 6.)

March 9-14	Spring Break
Wednesday, March 18th	Module-3 Behavior Project Part 2 Due
Friday, March 20th	Module 3 – Dropbox Assignment Due
Wednesday, March 25th	Module 3 Quiz Due
Wednesday, April 1st	Module 4 Discussion Board Due
April 2-4	Holiday Break
Monday, April 6th	Module 4 Dropbox Assignment Due
Friday, April 10th	Module 4 Quiz Due
Monday, April 13th	Module 5 Dropbox Due
Wednesday, April 15th	Module 5 Discussion Board Due (Initial post is due Wed., Apr 15th with peer response due Fri., Apr 17th)
Wednesday, April 22nd	Module 6 Discussion Board #1 Due (Initial post is due Wed., Apr 22nd with peer response due Fri., Apr 24th)
Wednesday, April 29th	Module 6 Island Health Care System Discussion Board #2 Due (Initial post is due Wed., Apr 29th with peer response due Fri., May 1st)
Wednesday, May 6th	Module 7 Discussion Board Due (Initial post is due Wed., May 6 with peer response due Fri., May 8)
Friday, May 8th	Complete Behavior Change Project Due