

PUBH6300: Introduction to Public Health

Callaghan and Online
Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description

Public Health is the discipline that seeks to understand patterns and causes of disease within populations and brings evidence-based interventions to address those diseases of significance within populations. It requires an understanding of the current Burden of Disease in Australia, the Region and Globally. In order to effectively respond to the challenge of this Burden of Disease students will need to understand the biological, social and environmental courses of these patterns of disease; as well as an understanding of economic and political processes in determining a response to the burden of disease.

An understanding of how health systems and organisations are structured and function to respond to this Burden of Disease in Australia, the Region and Globally is central to understanding how Population Health Responses are mounted.

Academic Progress Requirements

Nil

Contact Hours

CALLAGHAN

Online Activity

Online

2 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

Self-Directed Learning

Self-Directed

8 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

Tutorial

Face to Face On Campus

2 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

ONLINE

Online Activity

Online

2 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

Self-Directed Learning

Self-Directed

8 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1

Unit Weighting

10

Workload

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Callaghan and Online Dr Tazeen Majeed Tazeen.Majeed@newcastle.edu.au (02) 40420618
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Medicine and Public Health Education Office SMPH-edoffice@newcastle.edu.au (02) 404 20550

SYLLABUS

Course Content	The course will include the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Public Health;• Social Determinants of Health and Healthy Public Policy;• Health Inequities and Inequalities;• Burden of Disease;• Aboriginal Health;• Non-Communicable Diseases and Injury;• Communicable Disease;• Environmental Health;• Ageing;• Biological Threats;• Globalisation and Health;• Ethics and Public Health;• Health Care Systems; and• Comparative Global Health Systems.
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Define Public Health and its historical development;2. Identify and explain the impact of social determinants of health, health inequities and inequalities, ethics, globalisation and ageing on the Burden of Disease;3. Describe the current Burden of Disease from non-communicable, communicable, and environmental causes, including biological threats;4. Analyse how health systems and agencies are organised in Australia, the Region and globally to respond to current and projected Burden of Disease; and5. Evaluate the processes underpinning public health policy formulation, implementation and evaluation.
Course Materials	See Canvas for course material

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Assignment 1	See Canvas for due date	Individual	35%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
2	Online Learning Activities	See Canvas for due date	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
3	Assignment 3	See Canvas for due date	Individual	45%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Assignment 1

Assessment Type	Written Assignment
Description	See Canvas for Assignment details
Weighting	35%
Due Date	See Canvas for due date
Submission Method	Online

Assessment 2 - Online Learning Activities

Assessment Type	Online Learning Activity
Description	See Canvas for Assignment details
Weighting	20%
Due Date	See Canvas for due date
Submission Method	Online

Assessment 3 - Assignment 3

Assessment Type	Student presentation
Description	See Canvas for Assignment details
Weighting	45%
Due Date	See Canvas for due date
Submission Method	Online

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

**Adverse
Circumstances**

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s).

Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

**Important Policy
Information**

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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