

Mayville State University

HPER 340 – Modern Issues and Materials in Health

Fall 2025 – 3 Credits – On Campus

Tuesday & Thursday 12:00PM-1:15PM

Course and Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Ryan Rodriguez, MS

Contact Information: (Office): HPER 129, ryan.rodriguez@mayvillestate.edu

Hours of Availability: I am in the office from 9am-11am. Please email me and inquire about a time to meet in person if needed.

Instruction Mode: on-campus face-to-face/online

Time Zone: All times indicated throughout this syllabus reflect Central Time (CT).

Meeting Times and Location: Fieldhouse 142 / Tuesday & Thursday 12:00PM-1:15PM

Zoom Link: N/A

Course Description

Instructions: Emphasis on current trends in health and a collection of health materials that include contemporary topics of diseases, drug abuse, environmental problems, sexuality, smoking and tobacco, consumer products, and others. Students will be responsible for collecting data and information on disease prevention. Aids control, reducing the risks of accidents, and promoting health enhancing dietary practices.

Pre-/Co-requisites: HPER 217

Course Objectives

To successfully complete this course, the learner will be expected to meet the following objectives, as aligned to Health Education Program Approval Standards through North Dakota's Education Standards and Practices Board ([ND ESPB](#)):

1. Develop analytical skills necessary to assess contemporary health topics.
2. Synthesize health information through group discussions, debates, and collaborative activities.
3. Apply critical thinking to evaluate health-related data and prevention strategies.
4. Demonstrate awareness of personal and community roles in promoting public health.
5. Reflect on personal values and experiences to inform health-related decision-making.
6. Create a public health intervention plan addressing a local or national health issue.
7. Communicate health concepts effectively through oral and written formats.
8. Recognize ethical considerations in health education and public health planning.

Standards Alignment (Health Education Program Approval Standards-ND ESPB):

- 18015.1 Content Knowledge-Component 1.a: Candidates demonstrate knowledge acquisition in multiple health content areas.
- 18015.1 Content Knowledge-Component 1.c: Candidates analyze local and/or state standards, as well as the National Health Education Standards, to determine how the standards contribute to healthy behaviors in learners.
- 18015.2 Planning-Component 2.c: Candidates construct measurable, developmentally appropriate, performance-based objectives that are aligned with local and/or state standards, as well as the National Health Education Standards.
- 18015.2 Planning-Component 2.d: Candidates plan instruction that facilitates skill development and application of functional health knowledge for all learners, adding accommodations and/or modifications specific to individual learners.
- 18015.3 Implementation-Component 3.a: Candidates use a variety of instructional strategies to facilitate students' development of health-related skills and their application of functional health knowledge, in order to meet the students' diverse needs.
- 18015.3 Implementation-Component 3.c: Candidates implement instructional strategies that support all learners regardless of race, ethnic origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, cognitive ability or physical ability, in order to create and sustain a productive, inclusive and supportive learning environment.
- 18015.3 Implementation-Component 3.d: Candidates apply communication skills, feedback and classroom management strategies equitably to promote a safe, inclusive and supportive learning environment that meets the diverse needs of all learners.

Course Materials and Technologies

Instructions:

It is recommended that the student find peer-reviewed, scholarly materials of your own interest in the week's topic.

Textbook (REQUIRED): Taking sides: Clashing views in Health and Society 14th edition

Author: Eileen Daneil

Course Expectations

Daily classroom expectations

- Come to class with an open mind, ready to learn, and actively participate
- Always be respectful of classmates and the instructor
- Show up to class on time and communicate if you are running late or will be absent from class
- Show up prepared to class with any course materials that are expected to be brought to class
- Read all assignments or research needed for each class period
- Students should communicate in person or via email if they need help with any homework or assignments

Assignments and Assessments

- Complete all assignments are due the Sunday of the week they are assigned by midnight
- Late assignments will result in points being taken off (5% for each day it is late)
- The student will be expected to submit assignments and test by the posted deadlines through blackboard. The student may work at a faster pace if the assignments are available.
- Make references to any work that is copied or quoted (APA format)
- Each student's work should be of college quality, which includes proper sentence structure, proper grammar, and correct spelling and punctuation. Elaboration of concepts within the content area, ability to verbalize these concepts in class and in article reviews, and brief research papers is crucial to student's success in the course.

Instructor/Student Communication

- Students are accountable for all academic communications sent to their Mayville State University email address. It is expected that you will check it daily and respond to messages accordingly. Monitor junk mail; Blackboard-generated messages may appear there.
- I will occasionally send messages via Blackboard announcements; you can either view these in your email or in the designated forum.
- You may ask questions in person, via phone, email (private), or designated Blackboard Q&A forums (visible by everyone in the class), or through Starfish (varied levels of privacy).
- I loosely monitor my email outside of my hours of availability, but you should generally expect a 24 hour/1 business day turnaround time for response. Any exceptions to this will be announced in class or through Blackboard. You may visit me face to face during hours of availability or make an appointment.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading Policies

-It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor prior to the assignment's due date if they are having problems finishing the assignment. You can expect an assignment to be graded within two weeks of its due date. This is subject to change and students will be notified if more time is needed for the instructor to grade an assignment.

-Communicate with the instructor in a timely manner if you are struggling with an assignment.

Attendance/Participation Policies

-Regular attendance and active participation are the expectations in this course.

-Please be on time for class, if you will be late or are going to be late please inform the instructor prior to class

-More than three unexcused absences in class will result in your final grade dropping one letter grade.

Grading Scale

A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	0 – 59%

Proctor Notification

No proctors are required for this course.

Enrollment Verification

On-Campus Course Statement

The U.S. Department of Education requires instructors to conduct an activity which will validate student enrollment in this course. Class attendance will be used to verify enrollment in on-campus courses. If you do not attend, your enrollment in this course will be at risk.

Important Student Information

In the Announcements section of the Blackboard Institution Page, you can view and download the Important Student Information document for the current academic year. It includes information about:

- ✓ Land Acknowledgement Statement
- ✓ Academic Grievance Concerns and Instructor English Proficiency
- ✓ Starfish - Student Success System
- ✓ Students with Documented Disabilities
- ✓ Student Learning Outcomes / Essential Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Academic Honesty
- ✓ Emergency Notification
- ✓ Continuity of Academic Instruction for a Pandemic or Emergency
- ✓ Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
- ✓ Diversity Statement (Title IX)

Late Arrivals

The grading system for students adding this course after the first day of instruction will be modified. The student will be graded only on the activities that transpired while the student is enrolled. Students will not be penalized for missed assignments, but the student is still responsible for learning the course material that was covered during their initial absence.

Course Timeline/Schedule

Check Blackboard Daily for updated information about assignments

Please also check your email daily for coursework updates

Course schedule and Syllabus is subject to change

<u>Day</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Week 1		
8/26/2025	Introduction/ Syllabus review	
8/28/2025	Fighting Diseases with Mosquitos	
Week 2		
9/2/2025	Single Price Health Care	
9/4/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
Week 3		
9/9/2025	Smart Pills	
9/11/2025	No Class	
Week 4		
9/16/2025	Alcohol and Breast Cancer	
9/18/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
Week 5		
9/23/2025	IVF	
9/25/2025	In Class assignment for the week	

	Week 6	
9/30/2025	Fracking	
10/2/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 7	
10/7/2025	Obesity	
10/9/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 8	
10/14/2025	Food Allergies	
10/16/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 9	
10/21/2025	Genetically Modified Foods	
10/23/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 10	
10/28/2025	Vaccines	
10/30/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 11	
11/4/2025	Pornography and Sexual Dysfunction	
11/6/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 12	
11/11/2025	Vaccines and Autism	
11/13/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 13	
11/18/2025	Drugs and Addiction	
11/20/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 14	
11/25/2025	Gene Editing	
11/27/2025	No Class	
	Week 15	
12/2/2025	Sugary Beverages	
12/4/2025	In Class assignment for the week	
	Week 16	
12/9/2025	Artificial Intelligence	
12/11/2025	No Class	
	Finals Week	
12/18/2025	Final Exam 12pm	