



HHPH 497 – 0W1: Society and Health

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

Professor: Kim Rahebi, PhD, MPH, CPH

Office Location: Virtual (Zoom or Teams)

Office Hours: 7am-7pm, M-F, or by appointment

Email Address: Kim.Rahebi@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: EMAIL

Communication Response Time: 1-2 business days

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required:

Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Context, Controversies, and Solutions

Will be available as an eBook within D2L!

SECOND EDITION

Patti R. Rose, MPH, EdD ISBN:9781284197792

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Additional Resources:

APA formatting is required on all written assignments unless otherwise noted in the assignment directions. All students are encouraged to consult the **Writing Center** for guidance on correct APA format, embedded citations, and reference sections.

<https://www.tamuc.edu/writing-center/>

Course Description

Social justice aims to assure that every person has equal opportunity to reach the highest level of health. This course will introduce students to social justice as a public health issue and assist them in discovering their ability to create positive change in their own world. Social justice will provide a foundation for students to explore social justice concepts, issues, and remedies, thereby developing the necessary analytical tools and information to see inequality and injustice and address historical and contemporary issues relevant to students' present-day lives.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify, analyze, and interpret social determinants of health in shaping health
2. Understand community developmental theoretical frameworks associated with social change, such as empowerment, community participation, and capacity building
3. Identify roles and responsibilities of the public health educator, other practitioners, and community members as agents of change in tackling social justice issues
4. Learn to apply participatory education methods in tackling social injustices and demonstrate sensitivity to diversity in communities
5. Explore social injustices experienced based on various social identities globally - - both historically and currently. Students will view themselves as engaged citizens within an interconnected and diverse world

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course:

I want you to be successful both in this course and in life. The work we will be doing this semester will carry over into several areas of your personal and professional life.

One major tip that I like to give my students is to be open and honest and communicate with me. We all have lives outside of this class, which sometimes affects us while in class.

Help me help you by looping me in when you feel as if something may hinder your success.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following percentages	Total points corresponding to the final letter grades
A = 90%-100%	A = 900 - 1000 Points
B = 80%-89%	B = 800 - 899 Points
C = 70%-79%	C = 700 - 799 Points
D = 60%-69%	D = 600 - 699 Points
F = 59% or Below	F = 0 - 599 Points

Points of the assessments in the calculation of the final letter grade

5 discussions @ 20 points each	100
15 quizzes @ 40 points each	600
Midterm & Final @ 100 points each	200
Impact Paper	100
TOTAL	1000

Assessments

The student will be responsible for obtaining all materials presented online and assigned readings from the textbook. All class assignments must be turned in online. No emailed work will be accepted. **Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are due ONLINE in D2L by 11:30pm on the Sunday of that module week.**

Late work will lose 10 points per day.

If you turn in your assignment on Sunday at 11:31pm, it will be graded out of 90 points, rather than 100 points, etc.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released.

New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers.

However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution.

Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.

For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.

The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
<i>Microsoft® Edge</i>	<i>Latest</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Microsoft® Internet Explorer®</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Mozilla® Firefox®</i>	<i>Latest, ESR</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Google® Chrome™</i>	<i>Latest</i>	<i>N/A</i>

<i>Apple® Safari®</i>	<i>Latest</i>	<i>N/A</i>
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Tablet and Mobile Support

<i>Device</i>	<i>Operating System</i>	<i>Browser</i>	<i>Supported Browser Version(s)</i>
<i>Android™</i>	<i>Android 4.4+</i>	<i>Chrome</i>	<i>Latest</i>
<i>Apple</i>	<i>iOS®</i>	<i>Safari, Chrome</i>	<i>The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.</i> <i>Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.</i>
<i>Windows</i>	<i>Windows 10</i>	<i>Edge, Chrome, Firefox</i>	<i>Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.</i>

You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection.

The minimum computer requirements are:

512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred.

Broadband connection required courses are heavily video-intensive.

Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution

You must have a:

Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer

Speakers or headphones.

**For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.*

Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine.

At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)

Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed. JavaScript is enabled. Cookies are enabled.

You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:

[Adobe Reader https://get.adobe.com/reader/](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)

[Adobe Flash Player \(version 17 or later\) https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)

[Adobe Shockwave Player https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) or [Apple Quick Time http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and

Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

***Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems DO NOT excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup computer PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.*

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here: <https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

If you encounter a technical issue during a quiz, exam, or submission of an assignment on D2L, contact the Help Desk, file a ticket FIRST, then email the ticket information to the professor.

*If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words "[click here](#)" to submit an issue via email.*



System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

Interaction with Instructor

Please email your questions or concerns to me.

A reasonable response time to emailed questions is 2 – 3 business days.

Questions emailed on weekends may not receive a response until Monday.

I may answer emailed questions regarding assignments, tests, discussion boards, etc., in a direct email/announcement to everyone for the benefit of all students.

Please be courteous and professional in all of your interactions with **everyone**.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

How is the Course Organized?

The course is organized by weekly modules.

What Should Students Do First?

Thoroughly review the syllabus.

Familiarize yourself with the course layout.

Take the syllabus quiz!

How Should Students Proceed Each Week for Class Activities?

The student will access and follow all course instructions found in the weekly module content areas. The weekly module content area of our course is found on the left navigation bar.

The student will read chapters and read/listen to all online lectures provided.

The student will complete all assignments: respond to online course discussion questions and exams.

Attendance, Late or Missing Coursework, and Extra Credit

Participation in class is required.

If you are unable to participate in class (actively logged in and completing requirements), please notify me through email.

Make-up of coursework will only be given in very rare circumstances: serious illness with a note from your clinician, a death in your family or if you have an officially excused absence while representing the university.

If any of these situations occur, you **MUST** email me **PRIOR TO** the module end date.

Make-ups will only be given if I have been notified prior to the end of the course module in order to verify your reason for missing coursework. All missed coursework not meeting the criteria for a make- up will be given a grade of 0.

Extra credit is **NOT** guaranteed.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

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 for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion,

sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&MCommerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url; <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, connection to community resources for students.

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support.



COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week #	Activity / Chapters	Assignments Due 11:30pm on Sunday
1	Ch 1 & Ch 2	Chapter Quizzes Discussion Post
2	Ch 3 & Ch 4	Chapter Quizzes
3	Ch 5	Chapter Quizzes
4	Ch 6	Chapter Quizzes Discussion Post
5	Ch 7	Chapter Quizzes
6	Ch 8	Chapter Quizzes
7	MIDTERM EXAM: Ch 1 – 8	Midterm Exam Discussion Post
8	Ch 9	Chapter Quizzes
9	Ch 10	Chapter Quizzes

10	Ch 11	Chapter Quizzes Discussion Post
11	Ch 13	Chapter Quizzes
12	Ch 14	Chapter Quizzes
13	Ch 15	Chapter Quizzes Discussion Post
14	Ch 17 Impact Paper	Chapter Quizzes Impact Paper Due
15	FINAL EXAM: Ch 9 - 17	Final Exam