



## SYLLABUS: HLTH 2383 (Spring 2018)

### Course Information

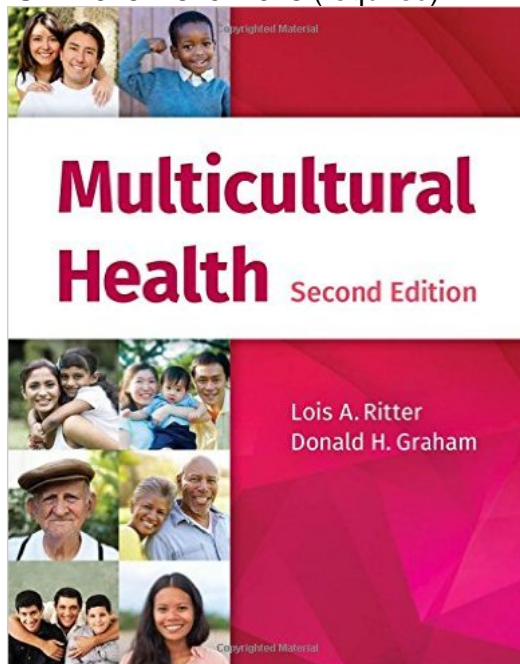
*Course:* HLTH 2383 – Multicultural Health Issues  
*Term:* Spring 2018  
*Meeting time:* Online  
*Instructor:* Alex Garcia  
*Telephone number:* 956-566-2560  
*Email address:* aag046@shsu.edu  
*Office hours:* By appointment  
*Office location:* online instructor

### Course Description

This course addresses health issues that various ethnic groups face in the United States. Cultural differences in health behaviors, health beliefs, health care access, and health disparities. Health promotion and prevention programs and cultural competence strategies are emphasized. The course assists students to prepare for effectively communicating and implementing health promotion programs and effectively evaluating these programs across cultures.

### Textbook and/or Resource Material

Multicultural Health 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (2016) by Lois A. Ritter and Donald Graham  
ISBN: 9781284021028 (required)



Students are responsible for all handouts and materials posted on blackboard.

## Course Objectives

<b>Multicultural Health Issues Domains</b>	<b>Course Objectives</b> <i>By the end of the course, you should be able to:</i>
Overview of Multicultural Health Issues	<i>Explain how historical factors, behaviors, and belief systems within a particular culture influence a person's views of health, illness, treatments, and health care</i>
	<i>Explain the causes and extent of health disparities. Explore future priority areas in health disparities and strategies to eliminate health disparities</i>
	<i>Describe and explain major concepts and principles governing the multicultural healing approaches or alternative healing systems presented throughout this course</i>
	<i>List and explain some of the emotional, spiritual, psychological, physical, geographical, and behavioral factors influencing health, the manifestation of illnesses, and the therapeutic techniques used in the various cultural healing systems presented in this course.</i>
	<i>Understand laws and ethics relating to multicultural health</i>
	<i>Use models for cross-cultural health and communication</i>
	<i>Understand differences in specific cultural and ethnic groups and various issues related to their health concerns</i>
	<i>Explain various approaches practitioners use to diagnose and treat illnesses within their particular medical system</i>
	<i>Explore future priority areas in health disparities and strategies to eliminate health disparities.</i>

## Grading

Exams (3)	40%
Assignments (4)	25%
Project	25%
<u>Discussion board (4)</u>	<u>10%</u>

Grades are assigned as follows:

- 90 and above = A
- 80 - 89 = B
- 70 - 79 = C
- 60 - 69 = D
- 59 and below = F

**\*Students are responsible for calculation of their own grades. Blackboard does not reflect the weighted grading system for this class.**

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## EXAMS

There will be a total of 3 exams for this course. Exams are worth a total of 40% of your grade. Tests must be completed in one sitting and they must be completed by the due date. Please ensure that you have a reliable internet connection and computer so that there are no interruptions while you are taking your test. Each exam will have a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and essay question format. Essay questions are usually worth around 8-10 points while other questions are worth 2 – 3 points. Make-up exams are only allowed for those who have medical, legal, extracurricular, or other extenuating circumstances. Please plan with me if you have one of these. Exams must be taken by yourself. Please view the class calendar as well as email communications so that you will be aware of when exams are released. **No late exams will be accepted.**

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## MAJOR PROJECT

There will be a major project that pertains to multicultural health. This project is worth 25% of your total grade. I will provide a lecture on blackboard that will explain the project in depth. Please refer to the class calendar so that you will be aware of when the due date is. I strongly encourage you to start this project early. The project will involve a written report with research and citations. Please refer to project instructions for the details. **No late projects will be accepted.**

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## ASSIGNMENTS

There will be a total of 4 assignments that you will be expected to complete for this course related to material presented in class. These assignments will be worth 25% of your total grade. Please view the class calendar so that you will know when they are due. Please follow the assignment instructions and rubric closely for grading criteria. These assignments are mostly writing assignments. I strongly encourage you to use the SHSU writing center if you are having trouble with this. **No late assignments will be accepted.**

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## CLASS DISCUSSION BOARD

There will be a total of 4 discussions on blackboard at designated dates that you will be required to participate in. The discussions are worth 25 pts each and combined they are a total of 10% of your total grade. Please ensure that you follow the class calendar so that you will know when the discussion board will close. You will be expected to create 1 original response (10 pts / 7-10 sentences) pertaining to the discussion topic as well as comment on at least 3 of your peer's responses (5 pts each 2-3 sentences) for a **total of 4 discussion posts (25 pts each discussion)**. On the discussion posts I'm looking for quality discussion. Please ensure that threads and responses you create are well written and argued. Refrain from using simple comments such as "I agree" or "that's good", rather if you agree or disagree please explain why in several sentences. Try not to post short one liner responses. You don't have to write me page long responses but give me decent responses worthy of the points you are trying to gain. Obviously your original topic response should be longer than your peer responses. Please review the class calendar so that you will be aware of what weeks the discussions will take place. **No late discussion posts will be accepted.**

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## PARTICIPATION

I expect that you will be logging into blackboard on a weekly basis as well as checking your email at least twice a week. Even though this is an online class with no set meeting dates, I recommend logging in at the beginning of the week to check in as due dates are usually at the end of the week. Also, I usually communicate with my classes and students regularly through email. I ask that you get into the habit of checking your email daily so that you will be able to aware of any changes in the class. I usually notify students when grading is done for a certain assignment or exam so you can keep track of your grades in case you thought something was submitted and maybe it wasn't received. I encourage you to turn in assignments, exams, and projects early, however I do not allow resubmissions once you turn something in. Please make sure that you follow the class calendar so that you are aware of the due dates and the recommended reading / lecture schedule.

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## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- ❑ You are expected to log into blackboard on a weekly basis and prepare for class by reading the textbook chapters before you access the lecture videos.
- ❑ I urge you to complete assignments/exams/projects early. **No late assignments / projects / discussion boards / exams will be accepted. Only medical, legal, extracurricular excuses will be accepted. If you have a valid excuse please notify me before the due date.**
- ❑ If an assignment seems unclear, it is **YOUR** responsibility to talk to the instructor **early before the assignment is due.**
- ❑ If you desire academic accommodation for a documented disability, contact the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.
- ❑ *Plagiarism* is a big word that simply means using someone else's work or writing without giving credit. **I do not tolerate plagiarism of any form. All items that you turned in are scanned through Blackboard for plagiarism. If your assignment scores high on matching other sources you may lose points or the assignment will not be accepted.** If you copy a paragraph, sentence or even phrase from someone else's work, you must paraphrase in your own words and cite the author. If you borrow an idea from someone else, but don't quote them exactly, you don't need to add the quotes, but you still must cite the author. When citing an author, use either MLA or APA style. This is your warning; if you borrow without giving credit or if you turn in someone else's work as your own you will get a zero and could face further academic penalties. If you are working on an assignment that requires all your own work (or an exam), you should not be citing other authors anyway. Also do not submit a paper that you wrote for another professor to my class. Blackboard will flag it and I will not accept it. From time to time students do get desperate and ask their friends that have taken my class for their work so that they can submit as their own. **This is a big NO NO.** Blackboard flags things like this and I do read your papers very carefully. Do not do this ever. If you are found doing these sort of things I will submit the incident for investigation and all proper procedures according to SHSL will apply.

## Sam Houston State University Policies

### Attendance and Make-up Policies

The University views class attendance as the responsibility of an individual student. Attendance is essential to complete the course successfully. University rules related to excused and unexcused absences are located on-line at [SHSU Attendance Policy](#)

You will be graded during each one of the course sessions. For these reason, it is imperative you be in class every day we meet.

### STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

### Other Pertinent Course Information

Every effort will be made to ensure that power point lecture files, notes, articles and assignments are available online in a timely manner. Written assignments will be delivered thru the Blackboard course website. Handouts, changes in assignments or the schedule of class modules will be announced on the Bb course webpage. E-mail contact will be initiated with all students the first week of class. If you do not have access to your assigned SHSU e-mail account, it is your responsibility to make the instructor aware of that fact so that other arrangements may be made. You are expected to use SHSU e-mail address for all official correspondence.

### Blackboard (Bb Statement)

Blackboard (Bb): This course will be supported via Blackboard, your online learning community, where you will interact with your classmates and with me. Within the course Blackboard site you will access the learning materials, tutorials, and syllabus; discuss issues; submit assignments; take quizzes; email other students and the instructor; participate in online activities; and display your projects.

In order to access the course material you will need to go to <https://shsu.blackboard.com> or look for Campus Tools on the top of the University's homepage. **Please do not contact your instructor with technical problems.** If you are having a technical problem with the course, review the support resources at <http://distance.shsu.edu/tech-support/>. You will need to possess the required computing technology to be successful in an online course. **Important!!!** Save your work as you go along. Nothing is more discouraging than to lose an assignment due to a computer hang ups! You may want to also make hard copies of your work to have "proof" and save yourself time and trouble!

### Plagiarism Virtual Course

Plagiarism is the leading form of academic dishonesty that the Department of Health Services and Promotion has to address. As a HSP student, you are responsible for knowing what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

## **End of Course Evaluation**

Constructive feedback from students on course evaluations is taken very seriously at the College of Health Sciences. I am asking for your assistance in helping the Department in its assessment of courses and faculty through your participation in the evaluation of your courses. As health professionals you will one day have the responsibility to evaluate colleagues and health initiatives. The College views providing feedback on the Department's courses as part of your professional responsibility.

## **HSP Mission**

The mission of the Department of Health Services and Promotion is to foster student-centered learning for early and advanced health professionals; to conduct applied, evidence-based research in population health; and to improve health and wellbeing through community engagement at the local and global levels.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities that may affect adversely their work in this class should register with the SHSU Counseling Center and talk with their University supervisor and classroom mentor teachers about how they can help. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until registration with the Counseling Center is complete.

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified individual with disabilities shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Students with disabilities may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

## **Academic Integrity**

According to the administration's guidelines: "All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials."

"Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, [chewing gum], using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with the university policy."

The full policy for "Code of Student Conduct and Discipline" is found at the following link:  
<https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>

## **FERPA**

The Federal Education Rights & Privacy Act requires that we advise students that by registering for this course, their SHSU assigned e-mail address will be revealed to classmates and the instructor. By continuing your enrollment in the course you acknowledge your understanding of this policy. By enrolling in this course you agree to the following statement: "I understand that as a result of registering for this course, my SHSU/Blackboard assigned e-mail address will be revealed to classmates and the instructor."

## **Equal Opportunity Statement**

Sam Houston State University is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Institution.

## **DISCLAIMER**

This syllabus is representative of materials that will be covered in this class; it is not a contract between the student and the institution. It is subject to change. These changes will be communicated via email or posted as announcements. If you have any problems related to this course, please feel free to discuss them with the instructor.

## **Title IX**

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education.

### **NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Sam Houston State University complies with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act. Sexual misconduct, as defined in the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy, constitutes a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX and Title VII.

### **TITLE IX CONTACTS**

Sex discrimination includes sexual harassment and sexual assault. While it is often thought of as a law that applies to athletics programs, Title IX is much broader than Athletics and applies to many programs at Sam Houston State University. While compliance with the law is everyone's responsibility at SHSU, below is a list of staff members that have primary responsibility for Title IX Compliance.

Title IX Coordinator--Jeanine Bias  
Associate Dean of Students --Lowman Student Center, Suite 215  
936-294-3026 or [jbias@shsu.edu](mailto:jbias@shsu.edu)

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