



University of the Incarnate Word
UIW-Heidelberg

REHS 3320 CULTURAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. Logistics

UIW- Heidelberg Study Center

Physical Address:

Heidelberg, Germany - Bergstrasse 106, 69121

Instructor: Shandra Ezparza, Ph.D. – email: sesparza@uiwtx.edu

Term: Summer I

II. Course Description

This course focuses on an overview of the U.S. healthcare system, both past and present, coupled with an in-depth analysis of modern trends and those expected in the future. It also includes an evaluation of the current status of our healthcare system with emphasis on cultural diversity and competency. It provides the rehabilitative sciences student with an increased understanding of the cross-cultural factors that can influence health and disease practices across a wide range of cultural groups. This course has a field experience required outside the traditional classroom setting.

III. Course Objectives & Assessments

Course outcomes:	Assessment:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:	The objectives will be assessed
1. Interpret the relationship between culture and health behavior in the United States.	By written assignment and case study participation
2. Distinguish how individuals of different cultures select medical care in the United States.	By written examination(s) and case study participation
3. Communicate with patients of different cultures and demonstrate respect for individual differences in their clinical field experience	By field experience assessment tool and written assignments.
4. Appraise the differences between culturally bound diseases.	By written examination(s) and case study participation
5. Illustrate cultural stereotypes and cultural biases of individuals.	By written examination(s), case study participation, and cultural assessment tools.
6. Apply the evolution of the U.S. healthcare system to future trends.	By written examination(s) and case study participation
7. Categorize global and community-level health disparities among ethnic groups in the United States.	By written examination(s) and field experience participation
8. Recognize cultural and socioeconomic barriers to healthcare in the local community.	By reflection paper on the field experience required in the course.



IV. Course Texts/Supplies/Materials

Rose, P. R. (2013). Cultural Competency for the Health Professional. Jones & Bartlett. ISBN 9781449672126

- V. The following matrix reflects the general guideline of topics, readings, and/or assignments for each session. **The instructor reserves the right to modify weekly activities, assignments, projects, and/or assessments required for this class. Adjustments and/or changes will be stated before and/or during class. If the student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and/or classmates about any adjustments and/or updates.**

A. Tentative Schedule

	Preparation	Topic	Project/Assignment
Week 1		Syllabus, Chap 1-terminology	“Me Bag”
	Chapter 1	Introduction	
	Chapter 7	Cultural Competency & Assessment	Sociocultural Heritage Discussion
		Windshield Tour of East Side SA	
	Chapter 3	Relevancy of CC to various Health Professions	Current Event #1 Due
	Chapter 2	Overview of Various Racial, Cultural, & Ethnic Groups	
Week 2	EXAM 1		
	Chapter 4	Health Professions and Understanding Cultural Concerns	Current Event #2 Due
	Chapter 5	US Ed System & Intersection of CC w/ Health Literacy	Cultural Competence Among Groups Discussion
	Chapter 6	CC & Need to Eliminate Health Disparities	
Week 3	Exam 2		
		Medical Tourism Introduction	Current Event #3 Due
		Medical Tourism Activity	
		Group Case Study	



Week 4	Chapter 8	Cultural Competence Training	Current Event #4 Due
	Chapter 11	Psychosocial Impact of Culturally Incompetent Healthcare	Case Study Evaluation & Culturally Competent Actions Discussion
Exam 3			
Week 5	Chapter 13	CLAS Standards (Cartwright)	Current Event #5 Due
		Walking Gallery Exhibit	Walking Gallery Project Due
Final Exam Review			

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to adjust and/or change the above schedule at any time during the semester. Adjustments and/or changes will be stated before and/or during class. If the student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and/or classmates about any adjustments and/or updates.

VI. Grading Activities, Criteria and Guidelines

This class will include a variety of instructional methods and learning activities intended to engage the student in the learning process. This may include, but not be limited to: lecture, written assignments, group discussion and problem solving exercises, media presentation, article and case analysis, student-led discussion, student presentation, reflection on what was learned and documentation of planned application. Some assignments will be individual while some may be group or team assignments. Class will be participative, and each student must be prepared for each class.

VII. Grades

The course syllabus describes to the student how the final grade is tabulated for the course. The program will use objective measures in determining the clinical courses grade. The grade will be assessed by using the following

Exams (3 each)	15% each X3=45%
Final Exam	20%
Projects	10%
Walking Gallery	10%
Participation	15%

Assessment tools: assignments, attendance/participation, project rubrics, written examinations.



EXAMINATIONS

There will be three (3) written section examinations covering information from classroom preparation, lectures, and textbook reading. Each examination will be worth 15% of your total grade for a total of 45%. There will also be one comprehensive final given during the designated final time established by the university. This examination will be worth 20% of your final grade.

PROJECTS/ASSIGNMENTS

This course will incorporate several projects and writing assignments to widen your understanding of course materials. Each project can be found on blackboard and will have a grading rubric attached to it. All projects will count as 20% of the total course grade. Some projects or assignments will be assigned as group activities. Group assignments are critical to creating a networking and collaborative community. Your participation is critical to your success. The students will evaluate each other at the end of the group assignment and the responses will play into the individual grade. Should a student have an issue with a non-participating student for group work, they should contact the instructor about the issue as the issue arises and before the assignment is due.

OUTSIDE COURSE OBSERVATIONS

This course requires 30 hours of outside course observations. Such observations are a course requirement and will factor into the participation grade for the course. Participation counts as 15% of the total course grade. Failure to complete all 30 hours will result in a 0 for participation and will significantly impact your success in this course. The course observation requirements will be outlined on blackboard and will be focused on course content. If you believe you will be unable to complete these requirements, you must notify the instructor within the **first week of class**, and the instructor will assist you in determining the best path forward.

Due to the international component of this course, observations will be modified by the instructor and/or will be completed as a class, as opposed to individually.

VIII. Attendance and Participation

Attendance and active classroom participation are required of each student. Tests will cover for all course material provided through lectures and presentations, readings, discussions, cases, and videos during class. **Absences and/or a lack of participation in discussions will impact negatively on the final grade.** Each student is responsible for all material covered and/or assigned and any announcements made in any class session, whether student is present or not. Group activities require all students to participate and contribute to group discussions and projects.

Students are expected to come to class on time and to have read assigned material before class. There may be an occasional pop quiz to verify whether students have read the assignments before class. **All work must be turned in on time.** Late work may be accepted but points will be taken off if work is not turned in to instructor when it is due. At all times, in class and group



discussions, students are expected to respect contributions, questions, and opinions of other people. Demeaning others in any way is not acceptable.

Rehabilitative Sciences Program Policy on Course Attendance

Dependability and attendance are the utmost responsibility of the future professional. Attendance and participation are integral parts of the learning experiences provided from lectures, labs, activities and discussions with the other level specific students and educators. Therefore, students are expected to attend class and be active learners at all times. However, an occasional absence may be considered justified at the discretion of the professor (personal or family illness, funerals, personal days, etc.). It is the responsibility of the student to acquire materials (including assignments) through the instructor or other students and be prepared for the next class day.

In the event of an absence during an examination, the general policy is the student will *not* be able to make up the examination without prior approval. In the event of a scheduled absence with prior approval on an examination date, the student will need to be prepared to take the examination prior to the absence. If an assignment is due the date of the absence, it will be subject to a deduction of 10 percentage points for each course day it is late.

In the event of an unexcused tardiness or absence, in-class assignments (i.e., quizzes, labs) will receive a grade of 0. If the absence is excused, any quiz / lab assignment missed must be completed no later than one week following the absence.

Each major level course incorporates a participation grade of 10% into the grading schema. Each class has a sign-in attendance sheet as a record of timely course attendance. Missing a class will result in a loss of 15% of the total participation course grade. Tardies will result in a loss of 5%. Previously arranged absences with the instructor of record for the course are the exception. This includes doctor's visits and sport requirements for athletes. For those students who require remediation, absence or tardies from those appointments will be held with the same penalty.

In the event of an absence during an examination, the general policy is the student will not be able to make up the examination without prior approval. In the event of a scheduled absence with prior approval on an examination date, the student will need to be prepared to take the examination prior to the absence. If an assignment is due the date of the absence, it will be subject to a deduction of 10 points for each course day it is late.

IX. Academic Integrity Policy

Examples of scholastic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating on assignments or tests, taking, unauthorized reuse of work, etc. If it is determined that a student has engaged in scholastic dishonesty, the faculty shall adhere to the [Academic Integrity Policy stated in the UIW Catalog](#).



X. Grading Scale

The University of the Incarnate Word operates on a semester basis using a 4-point grading scale as follows. Registrar Online Resource: <https://my.uiw.edu/registrar/academics/grading-scale.html>. However, the Rehabilitative Sciences program has adopted the below grading scale:

Letter	University System of Grading	Interpretation for this
A and A-	Indicate a superior grasp of the subject matter initiative and originality in attacking problems, relate knowledge to new situations.	A ≥ 92.00 A- 90.00 - 91.99
B+, B and B-	Indicate better than average grasp of the course and ability to apply principles with intelligence.	B+ 87.00 - 89.99 B 83.00 - 86.99 B- 80.00 - 82.99
C+ and C	Indicate an acceptable grasp of the essentials of the course.	C+ 77.00 - 79.99 C 75.00 - 76.99
D	Indicate less than average performance in the	D 65.00 - 74.99
F	Indicates failure to master the minimum essentials of the course.	F < 65.00

Note: Extra credit will be left up the discretion of the instructor.

Overall Course Average: Students must make a grade of “C” or better in all major courses to meet graduation standards.

Exam Average: All students must achieve a final test average of 75% or better. Failure to do so will result in failure in the course. All course exams, including the final, are equally weighted in this calculation.

XI. Course Add/Drop Procedure

Students are responsible for communicating and updating any potential changes, including dropping a course, to the UIW Heidelberg Academic Director **and** their Academic advisor at UIW before implementing any changes.

Dropping or changing a course may delay a student’s intended graduation date due to classes not adhering to their degree plan.

The Study Abroad Advisor, UIW European Liaison and/or any other administrative personnel are **not** responsible for the student’s academic planning.