

UMBC UGC New Course Request: HAPP 350 Public Health Ethics

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Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2016

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COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Number(s)	HAPP 350
Formal Title	Public Health Ethics
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Public Health Ethics
Recommended Course Preparation	HAPP/SOCY 354 Community and Public Health; PHIL 350 Ethical Theory; PHIL/HAPP 355 Bioethics
Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	Pass HAPP 100 with a C or better.
Credits	3
Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Max. Total Credits	3 <small>This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.</small>
Grading Method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words):

This course serves to introduce central concepts and key issues in public health ethics. Students will learn various proposed frameworks for analyzing ethical issues in public health, and how public health ethics differs from traditional medical ethics. Students will use a case-based approach to analyze ethical issues in public health, and practice applying the frameworks to real and fictitious cases through class discussions and written assignments.

RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:

Training in how to identify and think through ethical issues is considered to be a core competency for most health related or public health programs. Public Health Ethics will be a required course for at least two of the three HAPP tracks, and may become part of the core curriculum. This course will initially be taught every other semester; however, additional sections will be added once this becomes a requirement following the curriculum revision. This course will primarily serve HAPP majors, but will be open to sociology and anthropology majors, and other students as space allows. The course is at the 300 level because it requires a basic knowledge of public health and the U.S. healthcare system. HAPP 100 will be a requirement with additional recommended courses. The expectations for students will be that they are comfortable making arguments in class and have previously developed research and writing skills. The prerequisite of HAPP 100 will be necessary for students to understand the basic public health vocabulary which students in Public Health Ethics will be expected to know. It may also be necessary to limit the number of students who can enroll in what I expect will be a very popular course, particularly as it potentially becomes a requirement for all HAPP majors. Ideally, if space permits, I would like pre-professional students to be able to take Public Health Ethics so they have a different perspective on the U.S. health care system. Because this will likely be a required course for HAPP majors, students who fail will need an opportunity to repeat the course. This course has been taught 3 times: F2012 (31 students), F2013 (19 students), and S2015 (32 students).