Instructor: Dr. DawnElla M. Rust  
Office: HPE 215  
Office Phone: 936-468-1495  
Other Contact: 936-468-3503 (Main Office)  

Course Time & Location:  
Office hrs: MW 2-3; TTh 9:30-10:45 & 1:30-2:30  
Credits: 3 hours  
Email: drust@sfasu.edu

The mission of SFASU’s Health Science Program is to provide quality academic education and structured professional experiences designed to prepare students to promote health and enhance the quality of life for individuals and their communities.

Prerequisites: 12 hours of HSC

I. Course Description: Individual study of a selected special problem under the direction of a faculty member. One to six variable semester hours. Conference between the student and faculty are required during the semester. Approval from the faculty member directing the study and the department chair or school director is required.

II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives:
- This course links with SFA Initiative #4: Develop a learner-centered environment.
- This course links with SFA’s COE Goal and Initiative #2: Prepare educators and industry professionals.
- This course links with SFA Initiative #5: Create new learning opportunities through additional interdisciplinary, international, service learning, and civic engagement experiences.
- This course links with SFA’s COE Goal and Initiative #6: Collaborate with external partners.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Community Health Program
1. The student will be able to plan and evaluate a community based health lesson.
2. The student will construct a professional portfolio to be used as a personal career-marketing tool for employment opportunities.
3. The student will demonstrate the knowledge and skills to search for and write a grant proposal to address a specific health-issue.
4. The student will be able to communicate health information.
5. The student will design and implement a health behavior change plan that they will monitor for the semester.

Student Learning Outcomes: At the conclusion of this class, the student will be able to:
1. Develop a knowledge and understanding of the chosen topic
2. Conduct project and present findings on the chosen topic

III. Course Assignments & Evaluation Requirements:

Methods of Instruction:
The course syllabus, course assignments, mail, and grades will be available on the Desire2Learn (D2L) web page. Students are expected to check the homepage and D2L email regularly. This course is an independent study; therefore, the student will work closely with the instructor to create a timeline and course expectations before beginning the independent study. A HSC 475 Contract will be completed by both the instructor and student, which will be signed by both parties and reviewed by the department chair before a student can enroll.

IV. Evaluation and Assessment (Grading):

Evaluation Criteria: Various based on instructor

Grade Scale:
A = 90% and above  
B = 80-89%  
C = 70-79%  
D = 60-69%  
F = Below 59%
V. Tentative Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 17-20</td>
<td>The instructor and student will meet to go over project expectations,</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>sign HSC 475 Contract, and student will obtain all necessary signatures to</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>enroll in the course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-15</td>
<td>Jan. 17- May 5</td>
<td>Work on Independent Study Project based on the timeline created with</td>
<td>Various Based on Timeline Created with</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>course instructor</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>May 8-12</td>
<td>Finals Week</td>
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VI. Readings (Required and recommended—including texts, websites, articles, etc.):
- Readings will be accommodated by completing the project. Additional readings might be assigned.
- D2L

VII. Course Evaluations:
Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the College of Education electronically evaluate courses taken within the COE. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including: 1. Course and program improvement, planning, and accreditation; 2. Instruction evaluation purposes; and 3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, pay, and retention. As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the COE faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical! In the College of Education, the course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.

VIII. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information:

Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7
Attendance and active participation are expected and required of all professionals; therefore, your participation in the course, will affect your final grade. Students should contact the Judicial Office (Rusk Bldg., Room 315 or 936-468-2703) and provide documentation for excused absences. I DO NOT want to see the documentation, for an excused absence - it must come from the Judicial Office for it to be excused. Students will be allowed to makeup 3 weeks (9 days for a MWF course or 6 days for a TTh or MW course) of coursework for documented excused absences as stated by the university attendance and excused absence policy found at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class_attendance_excused_abs.asp.

You may jeopardize your financial aid for this course if you are not an active participant prior to the 12th Day Class.

Late Assignments
- If you miss an exam or assignment due to an excused absence you must take the exam or turn in the assignment within one week of your return.
- If you miss an exam or assignment due to an unexcused absence you cannot take the exam nor are you eligible for the assignment points.

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.
Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or;
- helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or,
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Penalties for Academic Dishonesty
Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university

Student Appeals
A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5
At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not participating in class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

Additional Information
To complete Certification/Licensing Requirements in Texas related to public education and other professional settings, you will be required to:

1. Undergo criminal background checks for field or clinical experiences on public school campuses; the public school campuses are responsible for the criminal background check; YOU are responsible for completing the information form requesting the criminal background check. If you have a history of criminal activity, you may not be allowed to complete field or clinical experiences on public school campuses. At that point, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

2. Provide one of the following primary ID documents: passport, drivers license, state or providence ID cards, a national ID card, or military ID card to take the TExES exams (additional information available at www.texas.ets.org/registrationBulletin/). YOU must provide legal documentation to be allowed to take these mandated examinations that are related to certification/licensing requirements in Texas. If you do not have legal documentation, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

3. Successfully complete state mandated a fingerprint background check. If you have a history of criminal activity, you may want to reconsider your major while at SFASU.

For further information concerning this matter, contact Katie Snyder 936-468-1740 or snyderke1@sfasu.edu.

IX. Other Relevant Course Information:
**Class Expectations:**
1. Late assignments will not be accepted
   a. Without prior approval
   b. Except for unforeseen circumstances (appropriate documentation required)
2. Respect your instructor, your classmates, and yourself.
3. Assigned readings should be completed prior to meeting with instructor based on timeline for project completion