



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Course title: PUBH7620 Social Perspectives in Population Health

Course coordinator: Dr Lisa Fitzgerald

Mode: Internal and External

Course introduction:

This is a core defining course designed to introduce students to the contribution of social science disciplines to the identification and solution of public health problems. It uses particular health problems such as diabetes, cancer and HIV/AIDS which are relevant to both domestic and international students, to examine individual and social issues and responses.

Course aims:

The principal aim of this course is for you to gain an understanding of the many and varied contributions social science makes to public health interventions and investigations. It is also to introduce you to the different disciplines (such as sociology, anthropology, social geography) and their specific contributions to conceptualising and understanding public health issues.

Course content:

The course uses a problem-focused approach to introduce students to the social context of public health issues. Some specific topics are:

- Structural inequalities in health: Social epidemiology
- Structural inequalities in health: social and cultural dimensions
- Intro to qualitative research and methods
- Diabetes
- Cancer
- Complementary & alternative medicine
- HIV/AIDS
- Community-based participatory research and intervention

Method of assessment:

Assignments consist of a short written assessment and two essays

Recommended text:

Germov, J. (2005) *Second Opinion*. Melbourne: Oxford Uni Press.

Required resources:

Study guide: This contains the week-by-week learning materials for each module. These include clear learning objectives, the required reading, introduction, a brief synopsis and key definitions, case studies, and then a series of practical exercises.

Online Blackboard site: This provides an interactive environment for you and teachers. Reliable and regular access to the Internet is required.

Further details are provided in the [Course Profile](#):

http://www.uq.edu.au/study/course.html?course_code=PUBH7620