

**College of Micronesia-FSM
Course Outline**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Course title: PH 250 Health Policy and Ethics		
Course owner by program: Health Sciences/ASDPH		
Campus: Kosrae, National	Initiator: Frehiwot Teshome	Date: April 2025
Course description: This course introduces students to the foundational concepts of health policy and public health ethics. Students will examine the roles of government, institutions, and stakeholders in shaping health outcomes through laws, policies, and regulations. Ethical frameworks will be applied to real-world dilemmas involving resource allocation, health equity, individual rights, and public responsibility. Topics include U.S. and global health policy systems, the policymaking process, social justice in health, and ethical challenges in health promotion, disease prevention, and research. Students will analyze current policy debates and propose ethically sound and evidence-informed policy solutions to public health issues.		

COURSE HOURS/CREDITS:

	Hours per Week		No. of Weeks		Total Hours		Semester Credits
Lecture	3	x	16	=	48 /16	=	3
Laboratory		x		=		=	
Workshop		x		=		=	
Co-op		x		=		=	
Total Semester Credits							3

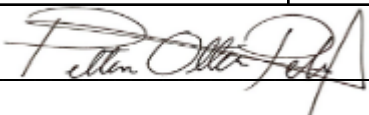
PURPOSE OF COURSE:

- Degree requirement
- Degree elective
- Certificate
- Other

PREREQUISITES: PH 101, EN 120a

PSLOs OF OTHER PROGRAMS THIS COURSE MEETS:

PSLO#	Program

CC Chair signature:  **Date recommended:** 02/10/2026

VPIA signature:  Date approved: 2/20/2026

1) INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

[X]	1. Effective oral communication: capacity to deliver prepared, purposeful presentations designed to increase knowledge, to foster understanding, or to promote change in the listeners' attitudes, values, beliefs, or behaviors.
[X]	2. Effective written communication: development and expression of ideas in writing through work in many genres and styles, utilizing different writing technologies, and mixing texts, data, and images through iterative experiences across the curriculum.
[X]	3. Critical thinking: a habit of mind characterized by the comprehensive exploration of issues, ideas, artifacts, and events before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion.
[X]	4. Problem solving: the capacity to design, evaluate, and implement a strategy to answer an open-ended question or achieve a desired goal.
[X]	5. Intercultural knowledge and competence: a set of cognitive, affective, and behavioral skills and characteristics that support effective and appropriate interaction in a variety of cultural contexts.
[X]	6. Information literacy: the ability to know when there is a need for information, to be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and share that information for the problem at hand.
[]	7. Foundations and skills for life-long learning: purposeful learning activity, undertaken on an ongoing basis with the aim of improving knowledge, skills, and competence.
[]	8. Quantitative Reasoning: ability to reason and solve quantitative problems from a wide array of authentic contexts and everyday life situations; comprehends and can create sophisticated arguments supported by quantitative evidence and can clearly communicate those arguments in a variety of formats.

2) PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (PSLOs): The student will be able to:

1. Deliver effective public health presentations.
2. Develop well-researched written public health reports.
3. Analyze public health data using critical thinking.
4. Design and evaluate community health solutions.
5. Apply cultural competence in public health interventions.
6. Utilize credible sources and research for public health decision-making.
7. Engage in professional development for lifelong learning.
8. Apply quantitative reasoning to epidemiological and statistical data.

3) COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (CSLOs) (General): The student will be able to:

1. Examine the ethical principles guiding public health practice.
2. Analyze the role of health policies in shaping population health outcomes.
3. Discuss the impact of government and private sector policies on health equity.

4. Propose ethically sound and evidence-based policy solutions.

4) COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (CSLOs) (Specific): The student will be able to:

CSLO (General) 1: Examine the ethical principles guiding public health practice.			
Student Learning Outcome (specific)	ISLO	PSLO	Assessment Strategies
1.1 Differentiate between major ethical theories and their application to case scenarios in health policy.	2,3	2,3	Ethical analysis essay, class discussion to be graded with rubrics.
CSLO (General) 2: Analyze the role of health policies in shaping population health outcomes.			
Student Learning Outcome (specific)	ISLO	PSLO	Assessment Strategies
2.1 Interpret the impact of legislation and regulation on population-level health indicators.	6*	6	Exam on the impact of legislation and regulation of health policies to be graded with rubrics.
CSLO (General) 3: Discuss the impact of government and private sector policies on health equity.			
Student Learning Outcome (specific)	ISLO	PSLO	Assessment Strategies
3.1 Evaluate a current policy using a social justice and equity lens.	1,5	1,5	Presentation evaluating current health policy to be graded with a rubric.
CSLO (General) 4: Propose ethically sound and evidence-based policy solutions.			
Student Learning Outcome (specific)	ISLO	PSLO	Assessment Strategies
4.1 Develop a policy brief addressing a public health challenge with ethical analysis and data support.	4	4	Policy brief assignment, to be graded with a rubric.

5) COURSE CONTENT:

1. Introduction to Health Policy and Ethics
2. Public Health Law and Governance
3. Ethical Theories in Public Health
4. Global Health Governance
5. Social Determinants and Health Equity
6. Policy Analysis and Advocacy
7. Research Ethics and Human Subjects
8. Emergency & Pandemic Policies
9. Current Issues in Health Policy
10. Policy Writing Workshop

6. METHOD(S) OF INSTRUCTION:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cooperative learning groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-class exercises |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audio visual | <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: online | |

7. RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK AND COURSE MATERIALS: Online Textbook.
Gostin, O. Lawrence (2010). Public Health Law and Ethics, California/MILBANK Books on Health and the Public; 2nd ed.
<https://dokumen.pub/qdownload/public-health-ethics-and-practice-9781847421043.html>

8. REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Online Resources:

- Open Access Government – Health Policy
- KFF (Kaiser Family Foundation)
- Global Health Policy at WHO
- CDC Public Health Law Program
- The Hastings Center – Bioethics and Public Health

9. INSTRUCTIONAL COSTS: None

10. EVALUATION: Students must have at least a grade of 70% (C), or better to pass this course. Students are required to submit a presentation on the evaluation of current health policy.

11. CREDIT BY EXAMINATION: None