

**College of Micronesia-FSM
Course Outline**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Course Code and Title: PH 151 Introduction to Pacific Health Care System and Traditional Medicine		
Course owner by program: Health Sciences/ASDPH		
Campus: Kosrae, National	Initiator: Frehiwot Teshome	Date: August 2025
Course description: This course introduces students to the Pacific health care systems, with emphasis on the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and neighboring Pacific nations. It explores the integration and interplay of traditional medicine and modern health care practices, the role of culture in health decision-making, and the challenges in balancing traditional healing practices with contemporary health care delivery. Students will examine case studies, engage with community perspectives, and evaluate public health issues within Pacific contexts.		

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: Advisor's Approval

PSLOs OF OTHER PROGRAMS THIS COURSE MEETS:

PSLO#	Program
5	NU Level I & II

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

VPIA signature:  Date approved: 2/20/2026

I. 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.
[]	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.
[]	4. Problem solving: 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. Describe the structure, organization, and functions of Pacific Island health care systems, with emphasis on FSM.
2. Analyze the role of traditional medicine and cultural beliefs in shaping Pacific Island health practices and health-seeking behaviors.

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

CSLO (General) 1: Describe the structure, organization, and functions of Pacific Island health care systems, with emphasis on FSM

Student Learning Outcome (specific)	ISLO	PSLO	Assessment Strategies
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<p>1.1. Identify the key agencies, facilities, providers & their roles in FSM's health care system.</p> <p>1.2. Compare and contrast health care delivery models in Pacific Island countries.</p> <p>1.3. Explain the challenges in financing and delivering health services in small island states.</p>	<p>1,2,6*</p>	<p>1,2, 6</p>	<p>Written assignment on the agencies and providers of health care and their roles to be graded with rubric.</p> <p>Written report on health care delivery models to be graded with a rubric.</p> <p>Report on the challenges for financing and delivering health services to be graded with a rubric.</p>
<p>CSLO (General) 2: Analyze the role of traditional medicine and cultural beliefs in shaping Pacific Island health practices and health-seeking behaviors.</p>			
<p>Student Learning Outcome (specific)</p>	<p>ISLO</p>	<p>PSLO</p>	<p>Assessment Strategies</p>
<p>2.1. Identify common traditional healing practices across FSM and neighboring Pacific cultures.</p> <p>2.2. Discuss the influence of cultural beliefs on disease prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.</p> <p>2.3. Analyze the interaction between traditional medicine and biomedical care in selected case studies.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Reflection paper on personal or community experiences with traditional medicine to be graded with a rubric.</p> <p>Presentation on traditional health practices of a selected Pacific Island to be graded with a rubric.</p> <p>Written assignment on the interaction between traditional medicine and biomedical care to be graded with a rubric.</p>

5) COURSE CONTENT:

1. Introduction to Pacific Health System
2. FSM Health System Structure
3. Pacific Islands Health System: Comparative Perspectives
4. Introduction to Traditional Medicine
5. Common Traditional Practices in FSM
6. Cultural Beliefs and Health-Seeking Behavior
7. Case studies on traditional Medicine Use
8. Interaction between Traditional and Modern Health system

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 type="checkbox"/> Other: online | |

7) Suggested TEXT(S) AND COURSE MATERIALS:

WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014 – 2023.
<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241506096>

8) REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Lee, Roberta & et al.(2010). Pohnpei primary health care manual : health care in Pohnpei, Micronesia : traditional uses of plants for health and healing. [Pohnpei, Micronesia] : Pohnpei Council of Traditional Leaders ; Bronx, N.Y. <https://catalogue.nla.gov.au/catalog/5744633>

9) INSTRUCTIONAL COSTS: None

10) EVALUATION: Students must have a grade of 70%[C] or better on the presentation of traditional health practices of selected Pacific Island states to pass this course.

11) CREDIT BY EXAMINATION: None