

Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School: Institute of Health and Wellbeing

Unit Title: PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS

Unit ID: HEAPH7001

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): Nil

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED: 061311

Description of the Unit:

This unit will provide the basic concepts of ethical issues relevant to public health research and practice. All health professionals need to abide by a professional Code of Ethics and all researchers are expected to work within a framework of ethical conduct. This subject will provide an overview of foundations and development of public health ethics, principles of ethics, core challenges of public health ethics, evaluation and communication of ethical issues in public health work and policy, and application of ethical principles in public health practice. Students will be able to explore ethical issues embedded in everyday health practice and issues to be aware of so that people are protected from harm and coercion.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

No work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Appraise principles of ethics relevant to public health research and programs
- K2.** Comprehend key concepts, approaches and frameworks for public health ethics
- K3.** Summarise the process of ethical analyses for any public health issue

Skills:

- S1.** Identify and analyse ethical implications relevant to any public health issue
- S2.** Apply theoretical concepts into public health ethics
- S3.** Critically appraise ethical issues from any public health literature

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Demonstrate higher level of thinking skills to resolve any ethical challenges in public health
- A2.** Ability to work productively with multidisciplinary teams to make informed decision on ethical aspects of a public health issue
- A3.** Demonstrate competency on resolving ethical dilemmas on public health practice and policy

Unit Content:

Topics may include:

- Introduction and development of Public Health Ethics
- Ethical theories and principles
- Codes of ethics
- Application of ethics in Public Health Research
- Application of ethics in Public Health Practice
- Equity in health
- Smoking, health and ethics
- Population screening ethics
- Vaccination ethics
- Ethical decision making

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, S1, A1, A2, A3	Research proposal presentation	Digital presentation	20-30%
K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Discuss ethical principles and theories in relation to the proposed research proposal	Critical Analysis Essay	30-40%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Draft Human Research Ethics application (HREA) including Participant Information and Consent Form (PICF)	Ethics application	40-50%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

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