



COURSE OUTLINE: BSCN3101 - POPULATION HEALTH

Prepared: Jennifer Flood

Approved: Rebecca Keown - Dean

Course Code: Title	BSCN3101: POPULATION HEALTH
Program Number: Name	3401: HONOURS BSCN
Department:	BSCN - NURSING
Academic Year:	2025-2026
Course Description:	This course addresses population-centered health issues and risks. The student will learn about governmental structures for public health protection, principles that guide population health, and health policy development aimed to address recognized health disparities. Using epidemiology, students will gain a greater understanding about conditions that produce disease, disability, and death across Canada and around the world.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	36
Prerequisites:	BSCN2100, BSCN2102, BSCN2110
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Substitutes:	BSCN3151
This course is a pre-requisite for:	BSCN3001, BSCN4000, BSCN4001, BSCN4002, BSCN4010
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:	3401 - HONOURS BSCN
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	VLO 1 Meet professional practice requirements as identified in the current Entry-to-Practice Competencies and Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario.
	VLO 2 Provide safe, competent, holistic care to diverse individuals, groups and populations in a variety of contexts based on the principles of nursing knowledge, ways of knowing, ethics, relationships, and cultural safety.
	VLO 3 Build professional relationships in a collaborative environment with other health care providers and actively engage in collaborative decision making around client care.
	VLO 4 Contribute to the nursing profession and healthcare through the practice of critical inquiry, self-reflection, and a commitment to professional growth through lifelong learning.
	VLO 5 Utilize critical thinking and reasoning to make evidence-informed clinical judgements.
	VLO 6 Practice nursing while demonstrating advocacy and leadership at the professional, political, and societal levels, in accordance with the values of social justice and equity.
	VLO 7 Utilize available technologies to communicate, educate, and provide appropriate care in a variety of contexts.
	VLO 8 Manage the care of people across the lifespan who have stable and unstable



	<p>outcomes.</p> <p>VLO 9 Practice in a broad range of settings, with an emphasis on rural communities.</p> <p>VLO 10 Practice with an understanding of the history, ways of knowing, and culture of the Indigenous Peoples of Canada.</p> <p>VLO 11 Identify, support, and effect appropriate change in healthcare.</p>						
Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:	<p>EES 1 Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.</p> <p>EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.</p> <p>EES 4 Apply a systematic approach to solve problems.</p> <p>EES 5 Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.</p> <p>EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.</p> <p>EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>EES 8 Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.</p> <p>EES 9 Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.</p> <p>EES 10 Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.</p> <p>EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.</p>						
Course Evaluation:							
Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:	<p>To be successful in the course the minimum grade must be obtained and all course assessments must be completed.</p> <p>ETPs: 1.17, 1.23, 1.25, 5.9, 6.1, 6.8, 6.10, 7.4, 7.5, 7.8, 7.11, 7.14, 9.5, 9.6</p>						
Books and Required Resources:	<p>Stanhope & Lancaster’s Community Health Nursing in Canada by Macdonald and Jakubec Publisher: Elsevier Hlth Sciences Division Edition: 4th ISBN: 9780323693950</p> <p>Population Health for Nursing by OpenStax, Rice University Publisher: n/a ISBN: HARDCOVER BOOK ISBN-13 978-1-711472-81-2 B&W PAPERBACK BOOK ISBN-13 978-1-711472-80-5 DIGITAL VERSION ISBN-13 978-1-961584-39-6</p>						
Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Course Outcome 1</th> <th>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Define the meaning of population health.</td> <td> 1.1 Describe population health and the population health approach. 1.2 List factors that determine health. 1.3 Describe the philosophical foundations of population health promotion. 1.4 Identify the principles of primary healthcare and contrast to primary care. </td> </tr> <tr> <th>Course Outcome 2</th> <th>Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2</th> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1	1. Define the meaning of population health.	1.1 Describe population health and the population health approach. 1.2 List factors that determine health. 1.3 Describe the philosophical foundations of population health promotion. 1.4 Identify the principles of primary healthcare and contrast to primary care.	Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
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Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2						

2. Explain the steps in the evidence-informed public health process for working at the population level of care.	2.1 Explain evidence-informed practice. 2.2 Discuss the evidence-informed practice process.
Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
3. Identify the many aspects of disease burden in the examination of population health across the lifespan.	3.1 Define disease and disease prevention and their relationship to population health. 3.2 Outline how disease burden is commonly measured and understood. 3.3 Describe why the concept of disease burden is important to nursing. 3.4 Explore how the concept of disease burden has evolved.
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
4. Explore public health theories/frameworks that lend themselves to management of disasters and complex humanitarian situations.	4.1 Explain the impact of natural and human-made disasters on the health of populations. 4.2 Describe and appraise Canada's emergency management framework. 4.3 Describe considerations for personal, professional, and community preparedness in disasters. 4.4 Define the roles of the nurse in disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.
Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
5. Identify risk factors that lend themselves to the development of disease, disability, and death within populations.	5.1 Define structural vulnerabilities, with a focus on oppression, inequity, social justice, and the complex determinants of health that impact populations. 5.2 Discuss the effects of poverty on health and wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities. 5.3 Explain the effects of mental illness and substance use on individuals, families, and communities. 5.4 Identify the determinants of health that affect communicable and infectious diseases.
Course Outcome 6	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 6
6. Seek out credible data sources to obtain accurate and current information on the health status of a population.	6.1 Investigate various tools to support population health and population health data. 6.2 Recognize how to identify if sources are credible.
Course Outcome 7	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 7
7. Utilize epidemiology and other tools to obtain, analyze, evaluate, and report findings in health surveillance of population health.	7.1 Describe the common epidemiological measures used in population health. 7.2 Describe the epidemiological triangle and the web of causation. 7.3 Apply principles of epidemiology to population health. 7.4 Define surveillance and discuss the role of the nurse.
Course Outcome 8	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 8



	8. Identify institutions that monitor the health of the Canadian population (local, regional, provincial, and federal).	8.1 Identify and explore reputable Canadian and global sources providing population health information. 8.2 Identify barriers to collecting and accessing timely and credible information.
	Course Outcome 9	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 9
	9. Examine the role laws and policies play in efforts to promote health in Canada.	9.1 Describe the cycle of policy development. 9.2 Discuss the role of nurses in policy development. 9.3 Explain healthy public policy and health in all policies approach. 9.4 Acknowledge the need for critical social analysis in developing healthy public policy.
	Course Outcome 10	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 10
	10. Identify ethical issues associated with health disparities in Canada (i.e. Indigenous peoples, refugees, etc.) and with residents in other countries.	10.1 Identify how health and empowerment are culturally contingent constructs. 10.2 Understand how empowerment is mediated by power-culture dynamics and the relevance of critical theory in explaining these processes. 10.3 Identify ethical challenges in population health practice and apply ethical principles, foundations, and strategies for their resolution. 10.4 Describe health disparities present in Canada and globally.
	Course Outcome 11	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 11
	11. Explore the consequences of climate change and the role of politics in environmental health and addressing climate change in Canada.	11.1 Describe how the environment, as a determinant of health, influences human health and disease. 11.2 Identify Canadian legislative and regulatory policies that influence the effects of the environment on health and disease patterns. 11.3 Explain adaptation and mitigation in relation to climate change. 11.4 Illustrate the role of the nurse in relation to climate change adaptation and mitigation.
Course Outcome 12	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 12	
12. Explore global health issues/situations and identify the impact to health status and identify resources and efforts by organizations to support global health.	12.1 Identify major global health challenges. 12.2 Define and explain key concepts in global health, such as determinants of health, health disparities, and health systems. 12.3 Recognize the role of the nurse in addressing global health issues/situations.	

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Advocacy Knowledge Sharing	5%
Advocacy Proposal	20%
Advocacy Report	15%



	Midterm	25%
	Reflection(s)	15%
	Video Rant	20%

Date: August 13, 2025

Addendum: Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.