

HTH 231: Population Health Determinants

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Course Description

Many factors combine together to affect the health of individuals and communities. In an effort to advance public health, health professionals must be cognizant not only of behaviors which may compromise or promote health, but also the interaction of social and physical factors which impact health outcomes.

Service-Learning

Service-learning in the community provides the opportunity to break out of the “JMU bubble” and experience the world outside the university. This is important because life after graduation is filled with diverse communities, unique people, and complex challenges that are much different than those found here at JMU. Service-learning encourages students like you to develop new skills, engage in critical thinking, and come up with creative ways to change things for the better on broad levels. It allows you to put theory into practice; through meeting new people, applying the knowledge you've gained and confronting the status quo, you become the change you want to see in the world.

Through service-learning students learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized community service. The service experience is integrated into and enhances the academic curriculum of the student. Service-Learning courses provide structured time for the students to reflect on the service experience as it relates to their coursework, personal development and civic involvement. (Modified from the Corporation for National Service definition).

- Each student will be required to engage in 15 service-learning hours for the semester (about one hour a week). In order to receive the 10 points for service-learning you need to complete ALL 15 hours. In order to participate in your reflection project, you need to complete at least 10 service-learning hours at your agency.
- Students will be assigned service-agencies in class through the JMU Community Service-Learning Office.