



# HLTH200

## Contemporary Health Issues

S2 Day 2014

*Department of Health Professions*

### Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	3
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	7
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	8
<u>Graduate Capabilities</u>	10
<u>Changes from Previous Offering</u>	15

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## General Information

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Credit points

3

Prerequisites

12cp

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit provides an introduction to the multidisciplinary field of health studies. The unit focuses on the social and environmental determinants of health that result in inequalities both between and within countries. Specific topics include the leading causes of mortality and morbidity; impacts of globalisation on health; and how population health is increasingly affected by the natural and man-made environment.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.

Identify the leading causes of death and disability, nationally and globally.

Identify the major determinants of health.

Critically analyse the political, biological, socio-economic and environmental contexts of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.

Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.

Critically analyse academic writings on health issues available through peer-reviewed publications.

Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

## General Assessment Information

### Assessment/Standards

Macquarie University uses the following grades in coursework units of study:

HD	High Distinction	85-100
D	Distinction	75-84
CR	Credit	65-74
P	Pass	50-64
F	Fail	0-49

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the Macquarie University Grading Policy, which is available at: <http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn.

All final grades in the Department of Health Professions are determined by a grading committee

and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded one of these grades plus a Standardised Numerical Grade (SNG). The SNG is not necessarily a summation of the individual assessment components. The final grade and SNG that are awarded reflect the corresponding grade descriptor in the Grading Policy.

To pass this unit, students must complete all assessments and receive a total mark of at least 50%.

### **Extensions for Assessment Tasks**

Applications for assessment task (including exam) extensions must be submitted via [www.ask.mq.edu.au](http://www.ask.mq.edu.au). For further details please refer to the Disruption to Studies Policy available at [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption\\_studies/policy.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html)

### **Late Submission of Work**

All assignments which are officially received after the due date, and where no extension has been granted by the course convenor or tutor, will incur a deduction of 10% for the first day, and 5% for each subsequent day including the actual day on which the work is received. Weekends and public holidays are included. For example:

Final Mark	Raw Mark	Deduction	Days Late	Received	Due Date
45%	e.g. 65%	20%	3	Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup>

The University **examination period** information is available at [http://students.mq.edu.au/student\\_admin/exams/](http://students.mq.edu.au/student_admin/exams/)

The timetable will be available in draft form approximately eight weeks before commencement of the examination period, and in final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations.

**NB:** It is Macquarie University policy **not** to set early examinations for individuals or groups of students. **All** students are required to ensure that they are available until the end of the teaching semester, i.e. the final day of the official examination period.

Work commitments, holidays, pre-booked flights etc **are not** accepted by the University as legitimate reasons to miss a scheduled exam. Please don't assume anything about the exam schedule **e.g. the HLTH200 exam was on a Saturday in a previous session.**

## **Assessment Tasks**

Name	Weighting	Due
<a href="#">Quiz 1</a>	10%	Due 29th August 2014
<a href="#">Written Report</a>	25%	Due 15th September 2014
<a href="#">Quiz 2</a>	10%	Due 14th October 2014

Name	Weighting	Due
Quiz 3	10%	Due 3rd November 2014
Final Examination	45%	Exam Period

## Quiz 1

Due: **Due 29th August 2014**

Weighting: **10%**

This is the first of three (3) quizzes and will consist of 20 multiple choice questions. The content will be drawn from lectures and readings weeks 1-3 (lectures 1-10)

Due: (week 4) 29<sup>th</sup> August

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

## Written Report

Due: **Due 15th September 2014**

Weighting: **25%**

This assignment requires students to develop a report of no more than 1500 words (excluding the abstract, references or any included figures or tables) on **one** (1) of two topics. Further information is available in the online iLearn space.

Due: (week 7) 15th September

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Identify the leading causes of death and disability, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Critically analyse the political, biological, socio-economic and environmental contexts of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.

- Critically analyse academic writings on health issues available through peer-reviewed publications.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

## Quiz 2

Due: **Due 14th October 2014**

Weighting: **10%**

This is the second of three (3) quizzes and will consist of 20 multiple choice questions. The content will be drawn from lectures and readings weeks 4-7 (lectures 11-24)

Due: (week 9) 14th October

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Identify the leading causes of death and disability, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.

## Quiz 3

Due: **Due 3rd November 2014**

Weighting: **10%**

This is the third of three (3) quizzes and will consist of 20 multiple choice questions. The content will be drawn from lectures and readings weeks 8-11 (lectures 25-33)

Due: (week 12) 3rd November

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.

## Final Examination

Due: **Exam Period**

Weighting: **45%**

The final examination conducted on campus will cover material from the entire course and will consist of short answer responses and an essay or long response. The exam will represent 45% of your final grade and will be structured so that there are:

- 10 short answer questions – worth a total of 25. Mark value will be indicated for each question and will range from 2-4
- one (1) essay worth 20 marks.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Identify the leading causes of death and disability, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Critically analyse the political, biological, socio-economic and environmental contexts of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.
- Critically analyse academic writings on health issues available through peer-reviewed publications.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

## Delivery and Resources

### About this Unit

HLTH200 *Contemporary Health Issues* provides an introduction to the multidisciplinary field of Health Studies. It provides an in-depth introduction to many of the key public health issues facing contemporary society including health and inequality; infectious and non-communicable diseases; indigenous health; environmental health; and impacts of globalisation on health.

The unit consists of three (**3 x 1 hour**) lectures per week. Assessment is based on three on-line quizzes, one written assignment and a final exam.

### Technology

HLTH200 has an online learning space accessed via iLearn.mq.edu.au. You are required to have available appropriate technology e.g. a laptop or a desktop computer and a reliable internet connect to access course content, online assessment tasks and recorded lectures.

### Textbooks and Readings

There is no set textbook for the unit. Required readings for lectures are identified on the HLTH200 iLearn page under the relevant weeks. These readings are readily available via the library online catalogue; public access websites (e.g. PLoS Medicine, WHO). The complete list of

readings can be found in the *Student Guide to HLTH200* available on the HLTH200 iLearn page. You will get more out of the lectures if you familiarise yourself with the readings in advance. The readings expand upon the key points covered during lectures and will be part of the material covered in the quizzes, the assignment and the exam.

## Attendance

All lectures are scheduled in your individual timetable. In most cases lectures are recorded, however, attendance is expected at lectures as this is where the majority of learning occurs. Failure to attend may impact your final results. The structure and content of the lecture program, including related readings, are available in iLearn.

The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/>

## Anticipated Workload

This is a 3cp unit. It is generally expected that students will commit about 3 hours per week per credit point in their studies, or a total of approximately 117 hours. Thus, in addition to attending the weekly class for three hours, students are expected to complete appropriate reading, research and other activities equivalent to at least 6 hours per week. You should note that there are peak times of study during the semester when several more hours per week will be required in order to complete the required assignments. Students are advised to consider the due date for all their assessment tasks as these peak times may coincide with similar demands from other units of study.

Activity	Approx. hours per week	Total hours over session
Lectures	3	39
Reading	2	26
Research	1	13
Assessment	3	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>117</b>

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic\\_honesty/policy.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>



Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance\\_management/policy.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html)

Disruption to Studies Policy [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption\\_studies/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html) *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student\\_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

## Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

## Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

## Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

## Graduate Capabilities

### Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

#### Learning outcomes

- Critically analyse the political, biological, socio-economic and environmental contexts of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.

#### Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Final Examination

### Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

#### Learning outcomes

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Critically analyse academic writings on health issues available through peer-reviewed publications.

#### Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Written Report

- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Final Examination

## Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcomes

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Identify the leading causes of death and disability, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Critically analyse the political, biological, socio-economic and environmental contexts of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

### Assessment tasks

- Quiz 1
- Written Report
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Final Examination

## Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Critically analyse the political, biological, socio-economic and environmental contexts of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Quiz 1
- Written Report
- Quiz 2
- Final Examination

## **Problem Solving and Research Capability**

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- Define and describe the key terms, agencies and sources of information for current major health issues, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Critically analyse the political, biological, socio-economic and environmental contexts of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.
- Critically analyse academic writings on health issues available through peer-reviewed publications.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

## Assessment tasks

- Written Report
- Final Examination

## Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## Learning outcome

- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.

## Assessment task

- Final Examination

## Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## Learning outcomes

- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

## Assessment tasks

- Written Report
- Final Examination

## Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should

have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcomes**

- Identify the leading causes of death and disability, nationally and globally.
- Identify the major determinants of health.
- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

### **Assessment tasks**

- Quiz 1
- Written Report
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Final Examination

## **Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible**

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### **Learning outcomes**

- Make informed opinions about global trends including globalisation and climate change and their impact on the changing health status of different areas around the world.
- Describe a major health issue in terms of its size, nature, determinants and opportunities for prevention.

### **Assessment tasks**

- Quiz 1
- Written Report
- Quiz 2
- Quiz 3
- Final Examination

## Changes from Previous Offering

HLTH200 as offered in S2 2014 has changed from previous years in terms of the assessment. Previous years had a report, an essay and a final exam as the three forms of assessment. To provide students with more feedback, and more immediate feedback, on how well they are grasping the key concepts of the Unit, as well as to provide a greater variety of types of assessment, in S2 2014 the essay assignment is replaced by three (3) online quizzes. Thus the assessment consists of three quizzes, one written report, and a final exam.