HLTH3500

Legal, Ethical and Policy Directions in Human Sciences

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2023

Department of Health Sciences

Contents

Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Sophie Osborne sophie.osborne@mq.edu.au
Credit points 10
Prerequisites (130cp at 1000 level or above including HLTH200 or HLTH2000) or (130cp and admission to BHumanSc)
Corequisites
Co-badged status
Unit description This unit examines how law, ethics and policy affect population health in Australia and globally. Lectures and tutorial discussion will equip students with the knowledge and ability to engage meaningfully in debate and discourse surrounding the role of ethical and legal considerations and the policy process in health provision. Topics include debate around vaccination programs, infectious disease control, and the impact of corporate conduct on public health.

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:

ULO1: Define main terms in relation to key legal, ethical and policy aspects of public health

ULO2: Exemplify the impact and influence of legal, ethical and policy concerns on public health both nationally and internationally

ULO3: Summarise and analyse, individually and as a group, key developments in health policy with an emphasis on legal and ethical contexts

ULO4: Critique the social, cultural, economic and political factors that can influence public health initiatives and the legal and ethical decisions underpinning these decisions

ULO5: Exemplify, individually and as a group, the key elements involved in planning, implementing and evaluating public health policies with due regard for ethical and legal aspects

ULO6: Deconstruct the evolving cross-sectional nature of public health law globally and the effect on public health and health promotion

General Assessment Information

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the Macquarie University Assessment Policy.

All final grades are determined by a grading committee, in accordance with the Macquarie University Assessment Policy, and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded a final grade and mark which must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the Assessment Procedure (clause 128 and 129).

To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and achieve a final mark of 50 or better.

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

Late Submissions

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MARK) will be applied each day an assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

 For example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65
3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40
>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to

submit an application for Special Consideration.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Case study analysis	35%	No	Week 5
Group Presentation and Individual Reflection	25%	No	Part A: Week 8 Part B: Weeks 9-12, Self Ref: Week 10-13
Final Examination	40%	No	MQ Exam Period

Case study analysis

Assessment Type [1]: Case study/analysis
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 20 hours
Due: **Week 5**
Weighting: **35%**

This assessment task will require analysis of the legal and ethical implications of a series of contemporary case studies.

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- Critique the social, cultural, economic and political factors that can influence public health initiatives and the legal and ethical decisions underpinning these decisions
- Exemplify, individually and as a group, the key elements involved in planning, implementing and evaluating public health policies with due regard for ethical and legal aspects
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Group Presentation and Individual Reflection

Assessment Type [1]: Presentation
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 30 hours

Due: **Part A: Week 8 Part B: Weeks 9-12, Self Ref: Week 10-13**
Weighting: **25%**

Group presentation on the legal, ethical and policy issues of a health topic, including an individual reflection report on the group work, group processes, and the health topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:
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- Critique the social, cultural, economic and political factors that can influence public health initiatives and the legal and ethical decisions underpinning these decisions
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Final Examination

Assessment Type [1]: Examination
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 25 hours
Due: **MQ Exam Period**
Weighting: **40%**

Final examination

On successful completion you will be able to:
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- Summarise and analyse, individually and as a group, key developments in health policy with an emphasis on legal and ethical contexts

- Critique the social, cultural, economic and political factors that can influence public health initiatives and the legal and ethical decisions underpinning these decisions

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[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[2] Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of in person and online learning activities, including: tutorials, readings, online activities, videos and lectures, zoom sessions. Details can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Unit Organisation

This is a ten credit point unit run over a 13 week session.

Lectures and tutorials

Weekly recorded lectures are available on the web through the Echo360 lecture component. It is important to listen to all lectures.

The unit comprises of two one-hour lectures and a one-hour tutorial held on a weekly basis. In the tutorial students will discuss issues and questions arising from the lectures and prescribed readings. They are expected to base their arguments/discussions on evidence from published research and other relevant material. Attendance at all tutorials is adviseable.

Students are required to participate in small group activities, whole class discussion, to read the weekly material in advance, and to complete brief tasks. The weekly program for the unit with the accompanying readings/ preparation is available in the Weekly Schedule on the iLearn site.

Recommended Readings

The readings for each week will be listed on iLearn using the Leganto system. Leganto is the reading list management system, which you can access through your iLearn unit. More information on Leganto is available here: http://libguides.mq.edu.au/leganto

Readings marked as 'required' are essential for completion in the marked week. Some readings may be included that are marked as 'recommended' or 'secondary sources', these are additional materials that may be of interest to you. Please use these at your discretion.

Technology Used

Active participation in the learning activities throughout the unit will require students to have access to a tablet, laptop or similar device. Students who do not own their own laptop computer may borrow one from the university library.

Unit Schedule

Topics to be covered include (but are not limited to):

Week 1: Introduction to key terms and concepts

Legal and ethical considerations in public health

Week 2: Vulnerable populations

Ethics in public health research

Week 3: Rights to adequate housing, the issue of poor housing policies and its impact on the health of vulnerable groups

Global issues: Environmental degradation and health

Week 4: Ethics: Issues surrounding environmental change

Legal, ethical and policy considerations surrounding the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Week 5: Global issues: Refugee health

Week 6: Communication: Media, social media and public health

Ethics and health promotion: Obesity

Week 7: Global Issues: Corporate Misconduct and Health; the tobacco industry

Global Issues: Medicalisation of Smoking Cessation

Week 8: Terrorism and public health

Health Systems and Health Law

Week 9: Global issues: Vaccinations

Screening behaviours: Mammography

Week 10: Protecting whistle blowers in the public health system

Global issues: The Pacific Island nations - health and well-being

Week 11: Global issues - the food and drink industries

Food policy vs nutrition policy: what is the better strategy for improving population health?

Week 12: Legal, ethical and policy issues surrounding Women's Shelters in Australia

Domestic/family violence

Week 13: Preperation for the exam

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Assessment Procedure
- Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy

Students seeking more policy resources can visit Student Policies (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit Policy Central (https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the search tool.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe academic integrity – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free online writing and maths support, academic skills development and wellbeing consultations.

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

The Writing Centre provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- Workshops
- Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader
- Access StudyWISE
- Upload an assignment to Studiosity
- Complete the Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of Student Support Services including:

- IT Support
- Accessibility and disability support with study
- Mental health support
- Safety support to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues
- Student Advocacy provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via AskMQ, or contact Service Connect.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Inclusion and Diversity

Social inclusion at Macquarie University is about giving everyone who has the potential to benefit from higher education the opportunity to study at university, participate in campus life and flourish in their chosen field. The University has made significant moves to promote an equitable,

diverse and exciting campus community for the benefit of staff and students. It is your responsibility to contribute towards the development of an inclusive culture and practice in the areas of learning and teaching, research, and service orientation and delivery. As a member of the Macquarie University community, you must not discriminate against or harass others based on their sex, gender, race, marital status, carers' responsibilities, disability, sexual orientation, age, political conviction or religious belief. All staff and students are expected to display appropriate behaviour that is conducive to a healthy learning environment for everyone.

Professionalism

In the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, professionalism is a key capability embedded in all our courses.

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions including clinical, practical, laboratory, work-integrated learning (e.g., PACE placements), and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded (e.g., face-to-face lectures), however you are encouraged to avoid relying upon such material as they do not recreate the whole learning experience and technical issues can and do occur. As an adult learner, we respect your decision to choose how you engage with your learning, but we would remind you that the learning opportunities we create for you have been done so to enable your success, and that by not engaging you may impact your ability to successfully complete this unit. We equally expect that you show respect for the academic staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them in advance if you are unable to attend a small group interactive session.

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for your peers. It is the right of every student to learn in an environment that is free of disruption and distraction. Please arrive to all learning activities on time, and if you are unavoidably detained, please join activity as quietly as possible to minimise disruption. Phones and other electronic devices that produce noise and other distractions must be turned off prior to entering class. Where your own device (e.g., laptop) is being used for class-related activities, you are asked to close down all other applications to avoid distraction to you and others. Please treat your fellow students with the utmost respect. If you are uncomfortable participating in any specific activity, please let the relevant academic know.