

# School of Public Health

## Syllabus and Course Information



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
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### PubH 3001-001 Personal and Community Health Spring 2018

**Credits:** 2

**Meeting Days:** Mondays and Wednesdays

**Meeting Time:** 12:20pm—1:10pm

**Meeting Place:** Phillips-Wangensteen Building 2-470

**Instructors:** [Sarah Sevcik, MPH, M.Ed](#)  
[Harry Lando, PhD](#)

**Office Address:** **S. Sevcik:** McNamara Alumni Center, Suite 350-1  
**Dr. Lando:** West Bank Office Building, Suite 300. [Office hours in McNamara Alumni Center, Suite 370]

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**Dr. Lando:** 612-624-1877

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**E-mail:** **S. Sevcik:** [smsevcik@umn.edu](mailto:smsevcik@umn.edu)  
**Dr. Lando:** [lando001@umn.edu](mailto:lando001@umn.edu)

**Office Hours:** **S. Sevcik:** Mondays from 3:00—4:30pm, or by appointment, in McNamara Suite 350-1  
**Dr. Lando:** Wednesdays from 3:00—4:00pm, or by appointment, in McNamara Suite 370

#### Teaching Assistant

[Trisha Chaudhary](#)

**Office:** McNamara Alumni Center, Suite 350-1 (call 6-9929 at the door to Ste 350-1)

**Email:** [chaud128@umn.edu](mailto:chaud128@umn.edu)

**Office Hours:** Mondays from 8:00am—9:15am and Tuesdays from 1:00pm—2:45pm

## I. Course Description

This course will explore the fundamental principles of health conservation and disease prevention.

### Acknowledgments

The contents of PubH 3001 have been developed with the contributions of numerous instructors. Dr. Harry Lando and Sarah Sevcik, the current instructors, have been involved with the majority of recent content and modifications. Former faculty/instructors, including Jim Rothenberger and Dana Farley, had roles in either the conceptual development or actual content of the current course, and are acknowledged for their contributions.

## II. Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## III. Course Goals and Objectives

The basic objectives of this course — indeed of all courses and of the university itself are engraved in stone over Northrop Auditorium. Glance at them from time to time. The instructors of this course take them seriously and have designed the lectures and examinations to meet these objectives. In a more practical sense, we can identify three major educational objectives:

1. To understand the impact of human health on history, cultures, religion, a community's sense of values — even politics, law, and community's organization — as an orientation to the “scholarly” aspect of personal and community health.
2. To understand enough about one's physical self — structure and function — so that one can communicate intelligently about health and disease, treatment and quackery.
3. To teach University students enough about health services, health products, and the health delivery system so that they will be able to function effectively as consumers in the health marketplace.

## IV. Methods of Instruction and Work Expectations

This class is largely lecture based; it is your responsibility to attend lectures, including any guest lectures that will be presented throughout the semester. It is our intention to make PowerPoint slides [and/or a PDF version] available on Canvas either prior to or post-lecture, but this will not always be possible and the slides may not be available before class.

### Communication

Your University email account and Canvas are the primary form of communication for this course; **you are responsible for reading all course related emails sent to your University email account and through Canvas and contacting us in a timely manner with any questions you may have.** We will use your University e-mail address or Canvas to notify you of important announcements such as examinations and forced cancellation of classes due to weather. If you use a different e-mail address than the one the University has assigned, please go to the UMN's [validation website](#) and forward your University e-mail account to the one you are using. You can also get to this site via [OneStop](#).

### Emailing Us

- For general information and questions, your Teaching Assistants are your first line of contact and can be reached at the emails listed on page 1.
- When sending email, your subject line should include your last name, the course number, and a brief descriptor. An example subject line: Yang, Pubh 3001, Social Determinants assignment
- Use your official University of Minnesota account for all email correspondence with us. **Do not use personal email accounts to contact us for course related matters;** we will only respond to emails sent from University email accounts.
- We will generally reply to your email within 24-36 hours, except for weekends.

## Course Website

As part of the University of Minnesota's ongoing mission to review and evaluate emerging instructional technology, the University of Minnesota conducted a pilot from 2015-2017 to assess Canvas as a learning management system (LMS) and has since determined that the University will transition all courses to Canvas by Spring 2019. This course has already transitioned and is using the Canvas learning management system (instead of Moodle).

Go to <https://umn.instructure.com/> to log in to the [Canvas course site\(s\)](#). **You can also find a link to Canvas in MyU under Key Links.**

If you need help using Canvas, here are some resources:

- [Getting started with Canvas guide](#)
- [Canvas tutorial videos](#)

## V. Course Texts and Readings

1. **Textbook:** Schneider, M.J. (2017). *Introduction to Public Health*. (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning
2. **i>Clicker:** We will be using the i>Clicker technology in this course. You can buy or rent the i>Clicker 2 from the UMN Bookstore. For more information, visit [this site](#). Make sure you are using the i>Clicker brand (see image below) and **NOT** a Turning Point brand. There is not an alternative option for the iClickers online, therefore please contact us if you are having issues with your iClicker. (Also, if you observe scholastic dishonesty in regard to the answering of iClicker questions (e.g., someone using an iClicker for a student who is not present), please report it.)



3. Additional required readings are listed in the schedule below and can be accessed via Canvas.

**Due to the nature of the topics, further required readings may be added throughout the semester.** All of these will be accessible via the Canvas course page.

## VI. Course Outline/Weekly Schedule

This is a tentative course schedule listing the subjects to be covered during the lectures, as well as the reading assignments. This schedule is subject to change. In the case of significant change to the schedule outlined below, an email will be sent to all students.

### Wednesday, January 17

Welcome to Personal and Community Health

Reading: none

### Monday, January 22

Introduction to Public Health: Basic Concepts and Principles

Schneider: Prologue, Chapters 1, 31

On Canvas: *Sharing a Common Vision + 10 Essential Public Health Services*

### Wednesday, January 24

The Public Health Approach + Sources of Health Information

Schneider: Chapters 26, 27

**Monday, January 29**

The Public Health System: Players and Payers  
Schneider: Chapters 2, 3  
On Canvas: *Health of the People: The Highest Law?*

**Wednesday, January 31**

Affordable Care Act, Health insurance coverage, access and utilization of care  
Reading TBD

**Monday, February 5**

Epidemiology: The Basic Science of Public Health  
Schneider: Chapters 4, 5, 8

**Wednesday, February 7**

Public Health Ethics  
Reading TBD

**Monday, February 12**

Global Tobacco  
Schneider: Chapter 15  
On Canvas: *War Against Tobacco: 50 Year and Counting* + [War on Tobacco Expands to Where Smoking Is Heaviest: QuickTake](#)

**Wednesday, February 14**

*Unnatural Causes* documentary  
On Canvas: *White paper on Income and Health* + *White paper on Family Leave and Health*

**Monday, February 19**

Social and Behavioral Factors (Theories)  
Schneider: Chapters 13, 14  
Resource (on Canvas): *Theories and Models Frequently Used in Health Promotion*

**Wednesday, February 21**

HEALTH EXAM #1 Please bring a pencil and your student ID

**Monday, February 26**

Infectious Disease: Chain of Infection  
Schneider: Chapter 9  
On Canvas: *Chain of Infection—Breaking the Chain* + *The Perpetual Challenge of Infectious Diseases*

**Wednesday, February 28**

Infectious Disease: Current Challenges  
Schneider: Chapter 10

**Monday, March 5**

Infectious Disease and Surveillance  
Guest Speaker: Carrie Klumb, Senior Epidemiologist, MN Dept. of Health

**Wednesday, March 7**

Culture and Health  
On Canvas: *The Indian sanitary pad revolutionary* + *HAP Breast and Cervical cancer* + *Isuroon* + Complete the *Values Preference Continuum*

**SPRING BREAK: WEEK OF MARCH 12**

**Monday, March 19**

Physical Activity and Physical Inactivity

Schneider: Chapter 16

On Canvas: *Sitting is the Smoking of our Generation + Active Education: Growing Evidence on Physical Activity and Academic Performance*

**Wednesday, March 21**

Emergency Preparedness and Health Communication

Guest Speaker: Katie Nyquist, MN Dept. of Health

Schneider: Chapter 30

**Monday, March 26**

Chronic Disease: Cancer, Diabetes

Schneider: Chapter 1

**Wednesday, March 28**

Gun Violence and Public Health

Schneider: Chapter 17 (Injuries)

On Canvas: *Gun Violence Should Be Treated As A Public Health Crisis, Study Says + How to Reduce Shootings + What Explains U.S. Mass Shootings? International Comparisons Suggest an Answer*

**Monday, April 2**

Nutrition

On Canvas: *I asked 8 researchers why the science of nutrition is so messy. Here's what they said.*

**Wednesday, April 4**

HEALTH EXAM #2 Please bring a pencil and your student ID

**Monday, April 9**

Obesity

Reading TBD

**Wednesday, April 11**

Mental Health and Mental Illness

Schneider: Chapter 19

**Monday, April 16**

Evaluation & Determining Success of Programs

Reading TBD

**Wednesday, April 18**

Maternal and Child Health

Schneider: Chapter 18

**Monday, April 23**

Environmental Health: Classic Concerns

Schneider: Chapters 20, 21, 22

**Wednesday, April 25**

Environmental Health: Climate Change

Schneider: Chapters 23, 25

On Canvas: *Live longer? Save the planet? Better diet could nail both + Short Answers to Hard Questions About Climate Change*

**Monday, April 30**

Topic TBD

## Wednesday, May 2

In-class review session for Exam III

### **FINAL EXAM: Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm—8:00pm**

**Note:** An alternate final exam will not be offered unless at least one of the following criteria is met:

- 1) Student has three or more exams scheduled within a 24-hour period.
- 2) Student has two or more exams scheduled for the same time on the same day.

## VII. Evaluation and Grading

Final grades are calculated using the following points (225 points total). Details of these assignments/exams will be available on Canvas. Assignments are due by 11:55pm on the due date listed below. Exams take place during regular class hours, except for the final exam, which takes place on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

January 21	Orientation Quiz	Required to access course content
January 31	Health Care Coverage assignment	(15 points)
February 21	Health Exam I	(40 points)
February 28	Social Determinants assignment	(20 points)
March 21	Health Issue Part 1 assignment	(25 points)
April 4	Health Exam II	(40 points)
April 18	Health Issue Part 2 assignment	(25 points)
May 7	Final Exam	(40 points)
Throughout	i>clicker questions	(20 Points)*

\*Although it is possible to accrue more than 20 points during the term, the maximum number of points students can earn towards their grade from i>clicker participation is 20 points.

### **Points needed to receive the following grades:**

A	94-100 % = 210.5 – 225 points
A-	90-93 % = 201.5 – 210 points
B+	87-89 % = 195 – 201 points
B	84-86 % = 188 – 194.5 points
B-	80-83 % = 179 – 187.5 points
C+	77-79 % = 172.5 – 178.5 points
C	74-76 % = 165.5 – 172 points
C-	70-73 % = 156.5 – 165 points
D+	65-69 % = 145.5 – 156 points
D	60-64 % = 134 – 145 points
F	59 % and below = 0 – 133.5 points

### **Assignments**

All assignments require you to upload your assignment to Canvas by the due date and time. All assignments should be submitted as a Word document (.doc or .docx) or PDF (.pdf) format, unless stated otherwise. If you have any questions or concerns about how to upload to Canvas, use the help icon in the lower left corner on Canvas, which displays a variety of ways to request help (online form, hotline, chat, etc.). As a reminder, the direct link to Canvas is [here](#).

**NOTE: It is your responsibility to make sure the assignment has been uploaded to Canvas by the due date. Double-check to make sure you have uploaded the correct document(s). Failure to upload the correct documents on time will be subject to the late assignment policy.**

Our intention is to have grades for each assignment available on Canvas approximately two weeks after the due date. It is your responsibility to keep up-to-date with the grades provided and inform your TA if you have any questions or concerns regarding a grade for your assignments and exams. Concerns with grading must be communicated with a TA within two weeks of the grade being posted to Canvas for us to address the issue.

### **Late Assignment Policy**

Unless you have been granted an extension on an assignment for a compelling reason, for each day past the original due date, 10% of the maximum grade will be deducted, for up to five days late. Please contact

your TA as soon as possible via email in the case of an emergency or illness, as this will help ensure that your extension can be considered. NOTE: Whether 1 minute late or 19 hours late, this policy stands. Therefore, be sure to give yourself enough time to upload your assignments to Canvas by the due date and time. If you have any questions or concerns about how to upload to Canvas, contact Canvas in advance of the due date. Assignments will not be accepted after the 5<sup>th</sup> day overdue.

One day late = the max you will be able to earn is 90%

Two days late = the max you will be able to earn is 80%

Three days late = the max you will be able to earn is 70%

Four days late = the max you will be able to earn is 60%

Five days late = the max you will be able to earn is 50%

### **Extra Credit**

Students can choose from several extra credit options throughout the term and earn *up to* 12.5 extra credit points through the following:

- 7.5 points from Health forum discussion posts [up to 2.5 points per week until maximum is reached]
- 5 points for PSA extra credit assignment

Specific details will be provided on the course Canvas site.

### **Electronics Policy**

In this course, electronics –including phones, laptops, and tablets –are not allowed during class time. Why do we have this policy? It's because [past](#) and [recent](#) research shows that when people attempt to perform two tasks at once (e.g., listening to myself/colleagues while checking text messages), the brain literally cannot do it: the brain must abandon one of the tasks to accomplish the other. Most of our multitasking attempts therefore make us **slower and dumber**. While this is reason enough to avoid using phones and laptops during class, another is that it disrupts our work and [that of your colleagues](#). (Recent [research](#) even suggests that the mere presence of one's own smartphone may reduce cognitive capacity.)

Exceptions to this policy may be possible on a case-by-case basis after consultation with the instructional team. We commit to providing lecture slides in advance (the day before class when possible), although this may not always be the case for guest lectures. (Adapted from Paul Ching)

### **Writing in this course**

Learning to write is a lifelong process that is refined through your personal and professional experiences. Through writing we gain knowledge and communicate our ideas. The University of Minnesota is committed to the belief that writing and learning are inseparable, and that learning to write effectively is one of the most intellectually empowering components of a university education. One main goal of writing is to help you become a more critical thinker and prepare you to communicate effectively in a variety of situations in your future employment and as a citizen. We hope that by the end of the course you will agree that writing about science and public health is an integral element of scientific discovery and analysis. We are committed to helping all students improve their writing and we recognize that each student will start and end that process at a different place. Work on your assignments sufficiently ahead of time so that you can build in time for feedback and revision. Feel free to contact us to arrange a consultation once you have an outline or a reasonable draft.

### **Make-up exams policies and procedures**

Excusable absences

(<http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/MAKEUPWORK.html#100>)

If you are prevented by illness or other emergency from taking an exam at the regularly scheduled time, *you must*:

1. Notify your TA before the start of the exam
2. Provide proper documentation of illness/circumstance for the TA.

Note that the instructor has primary responsibility to decide if an absence is due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances, and you must provide proper documentation of the issue. Failure to do so may result in a score of 0 on the exam.

In the case of make-up exams, it is **your** responsibility to contact the TA to set up a time to retake an exam. Make-up exams must be conducted **within one week** of the original exam date. Verifiable documentation is needed for any reason for not making a regular exam time.

NOTE: You must provide documentation *that is verified* **BEFORE** the makeup exam is scheduled. You **CANNOT** take the exam if you do not provide verified documentation.

### **Course Evaluation**

The SPH will collect student course evaluations electronically using a software system called CoursEval: [www.sph.umn.edu/courseval](http://www.sph.umn.edu/courseval). The system will send email notifications to students when they can access and complete their course evaluations. Students who complete their course evaluations promptly will be able to access their final grades just as soon as the faculty member renders the grade in SPHGrades: [www.sph.umn.edu/grades](http://www.sph.umn.edu/grades). All students will have access to their final grades through OneStop two weeks after the last day of the semester regardless of whether they completed their course evaluation or not. Student feedback on course content and faculty teaching skills are an important means for improving our work. Please take the time to complete a course evaluation for each of the courses for which you are registered.

### **Retaking Course**

If you are retaking this course, we expect you to review the feedback provided on the assignments submitted during the semester you previously took the course and revise before resubmitting. If you no longer have the feedback from that term, ask your instructor to provide you with a copy. Please note, the course team revises assignments each semester, so you'll need to use the templates and instructions on the course site for this term. If an assignment submission is the same version submitted in the past with no edits, it might result in a lower grade if it does not fully meet the current expectations.

### **Incomplete Contracts**

A grade of incomplete "I" shall be assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, due to extraordinary circumstances (e.g., documented illness or hospitalization, death in family, etc.), the student was prevented from completing the work of the course on time. The assignment of an "I" requires that a contract be initiated and completed by the student before the last official day of class, and signed by both the student and instructor. If an incomplete is deemed appropriate by the instructor, the student in consultation with the instructor, will specify the time and manner in which the student will complete course requirements. Extension for completion of the work will not exceed one year (or earlier if designated by the student's college). For more information and to initiate an incomplete contract, students should go to SPHGrades at: [www.sph.umn.edu/grades](http://www.sph.umn.edu/grades).

**University of Minnesota Uniform Grading and Transcript Policy** - A link to the policy can be found at [onestop.umn.edu](http://onestop.umn.edu).

## **VIII. Other Course Information and Policies**

### **Student English Language Support Program**

The Minnesota English Language Program offers free, face-to-face English as a Second Language support for students at the University of Minnesota. It is designed for students who want to address a particular English language need to be more successful at the U of M, who have a specific question about learning English, or who need resources for polishing English skills.

#### **English language consultants provide one-on-one support for improving:**

- speaking skills for giving presentations, participating in class discussions, communicating with instructors and classmates;
- grammar in speaking and writing;
- listening comprehension of class lectures and discussions;
- reading comprehension of academic texts;
- vocabulary development;
- pronunciation;
- any other English as a Second language need

#### **Grade Option Change** (if applicable)

For full-semester courses, students may change their grade option, if applicable, through the second week of the semester. Grade option change deadlines for other terms (i.e. summer and half-semester courses) can be found at [OneStop](http://onestop.umn.edu).



### **Course Withdrawal**

Students should refer to the Refund and Drop/Add Deadlines for the particular term at [OneStop](#) for information and deadlines for withdrawing from a course. As a courtesy, students should notify their instructor and, if applicable, advisor of their intent to withdraw.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course after the noted final deadline for a particular term must contact the School of Public Health Office of Admissions and Student Resources at [sph-ssc@umn.edu](mailto:sph-ssc@umn.edu) for further information.

### **Student Conduct Code**

The University seeks an environment that promotes academic achievement and integrity, that is protective of free inquiry, and that serves the educational mission of the University. Similarly, the University seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; that is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and that does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community.

As a student at the University, you are expected adhere to Board of Regents Policy: *Student Conduct Code*.

To review the Student Conduct Code, please visit the website [here](#).

Note that the conduct code specifically addresses disruptive classroom conduct, which means "engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor's ability to teach or student learning. The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities."

### **Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Classroom**

Using personal electronic devices in the classroom setting can hinder instruction and learning, not only for the student using the device but also for other students in the class. To this end, the University establishes the right of each faculty member to determine if and how personal electronic devices are allowed to be used in the classroom. For complete information, please reference [this site](#).

### **Scholastic Dishonesty**

You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis. ([Student Conduct Code](#)) If it is determined that a student has cheated, he or she may be given an "F" or an "N" for the course, and may face additional sanctions from the University. For additional information, please visit this [site](#). For this course, plagiarism includes self-plagiarism; that is, "submitting the same or substantially similar papers (or creative work) for more than one course without consent of all instructors concerned." Sharing i>clickers is another form of scholastic dishonesty. Additionally, no electronics, including cell phones, may be used at any time for any reason during exams. Failure to comply will result with a zero on the exam and a report to the Office for Community Standards.

Additionally, in this course you will be asked to verify that your assignments are your own work. As part of the Orientation Quiz, you will sign your name to agree to the disclaimer. **Disclaimer:** *Please review the Plagiarism document posted on Canvas. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in any form. Please include an online signature (i.e., type your name on the line below) to confirm that you authenticate this work as your own.*

[The Office for Community Standards](#) has compiled a useful list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor for the course. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class-e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam.

### **Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences**

Students will not be penalized for absence during the semester due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances. Such circumstances include verified illness, participation in intercollegiate athletic events,

subpoenas, jury duty, military service, bereavement, and religious observances. Such circumstances do not include voting in local, state, or national elections. For complete information, please visit [this site](#).

### **Appropriate Student Use of Class Notes and Course Materials**

Taking notes is a means of recording information but more importantly of personally absorbing and integrating the educational experience. However, broadly disseminating class notes beyond the classroom community or accepting compensation for taking and distributing classroom notes undermines instructor interests in their intellectual work product while not substantially furthering instructor and student interests in effective learning. Such actions violate shared norms and standards of the academic community. For additional information, please visit [this site](#).

### **Sexual Harassment**

"Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment in any University activity or program. Such behavior is not acceptable in the University setting. For additional information, please consult [Board of Regents Policy](#).  
<http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/SexHarassment.pdf>

### **Equity, Diversity, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action**

The University will provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. For more information, please consult [Board of Regents Policy](#).

### **Disability Accommodations**

The University of Minnesota is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. Disability Resource Center (DRC) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations. If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact DS at 612-626-1333 to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with the DRC and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, please contact your instructor as early in the semester as possible to discuss how the accommodations will be applied in the course. For more information, please see the [DRC website](#).

### **Mental Health and Stress Management**

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the [Student Mental Health Website](#).

### **The Office of Student Affairs at the University of Minnesota:**

The Office for Student Affairs provides services, programs, and facilities that advance student success, inspire students to make life-long positive contributions to society, promote an inclusive environment, and enrich the University of Minnesota community.

Units within the Office for Student Affairs include, the Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education, Boynton Health Service, Central Career Initiatives (CCE, CDes, CFANS), Leadership Education and Development – Undergraduate Programs (LEAD-UP), the Office for Fraternity and Sorority Life, the Office Community Standards, the Office for Student Engagement, the Parent Program, Recreational Sports, Student and Community Relations, the Student Conflict Resolution Center, the Student Parent HELP Center, Student Unions & Activities, University Counseling & Consulting Services, and University Student Legal Service. For more information, please see the [Office of Student Affairs](#).

### **Academic Freedom and Responsibility: *for courses that do not involve students in research***

Academic freedom is a cornerstone of the University. Within the scope and content of the course as defined

by the instructor, it includes the freedom to discuss relevant matters in the classroom. Along with this freedom comes responsibility. Students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth. Students are free to take reasoned exception to the views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.\* Reports of concerns about academic freedom are taken seriously, and there are individuals and offices available for help. Contact the instructor, the Department Chair, your adviser, the associate dean of the college (Dr. Kristin Anderson, SPH Dean of Student Affairs), or the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs in the Office of the Provost.\* *Language adapted from the American Association of University Professors "Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students".*

#### **Student Academic Success Services (SASS)**

Students who wish to improve their academic performance may find assistance from Student Academic Support Services. While tutoring and advising are not offered, SASS provides resources such as individual consultations, workshops, and self-help materials.