EHS 589 Public Health Preparedness

Catalog Description: This course will provide the participants a basic knowledge of public health preparedness and response using an all hazards approach: nuclear, biological, chemical, and natural disaster, and an opportunity to apply this content in a mock critical incident event. Graduate-level expectations include a more in-depth understanding of the course material. (3 units)

Course Topics:
- Public Health Emergencies
- Community & Personal Preparedness
- Health, Equity & COVID-19
- Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication
- Outbreak Response

Course Objectives: During this course, students will:

- Acquire a basic knowledge of public health preparedness issues, preparedness and response.
- Gain skills in core public health preparedness competencies.
- Receive incident command system training.
- Recognize the diverse roles of public health professionals and the various members of the public health system.
- Characterize the role of the public health system before, during, and after a public health emergency.
- Understand the ethical challenges faced by responders in public health emergencies.
- Identify and use on-line and other resources to obtain preparedness response information.
- Understand essential elements of critical incident programs, planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- Participate as an evaluator in a mock critical incident event.

Learning Outcomes (Competencies Obtained): Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Communicate public health information, in both oral and written forms, through a variety of media and to diverse audiences
2. Locate, use, evaluate and synthesize public health information
3. Recognize and classify the major types of chemical, physical and biological exposure agents capable of inducing disease in the public
4. Identify control methods for reducing worker or public exposures to acceptable levels
5. Identify the steps involved in environmental and occupational health research