University of Florida  
College of Public Health & Health Professions Syllabus  
RSD6900: College Classroom Teaching (3 credit hours)  
Fall 2023  
Delivery Format: Campus

Instructor:  
George Hack, PhD, MEd  
Office: PHHP room 4115  
Phone Number: 273-5310  
Email Address: hackg@phhp.ufl.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 8:00AM – 9:30AM in HPNP 4115, or via Zoom or phone call, or by appointment

Preferred Course Communications: regular UF email (see above)  
Class: Tuesdays 3rd thru 5th periods (9:35 – 12:35AM) Room HPNP G312

PURPOSE AND OUTCOMES

Course Overview:  
This course provides students from Rehabilitation Science disciplines and Public Health disciplines with information, theory, and skills for successful teaching in the college classroom. Students will plan and deliver instructional sessions, develop learning activities and valid assessment strategies, and refine presentation and communication skills for teaching.

Relation to Program Outcomes:  
This course is geared towards PhD students whose future goal is to become a faculty member. The course focuses on the teaching skills typically expected of the faculty position. The course provides rewarding teaching experiences and fosters a desire to impact college students in a manner that leads to academic and professional growth as well as a lifetime of scholarship. For RSD students this course partially meets the teaching preparation requirement.

Course Objectives and/or Goals

After successfully completing RSD6900, students will be able to:

1. Compose learning objectives that operationalize a course goal and align with curricular and institutional/discipline needs.
2. Develop instruction that addresses and leverages the attributes of learners so that learning is maximized.
3. Design and combine instructional methods that align with and promote the mastery of course objectives.
4. Integrate educational technologies into course design and delivery so that specified learning objectives are achieved.
5. Develop valid formative and summative assessments that align with specified learning objectives.
6. Incorporate effective communication strategies into instruction so that learning is maximized and student needs can be met.
7. Facilitate a community of learning that focuses student behaviors upon active engagement with concepts, inquiry, team building, academic development, and professional excellence.
8. Develop an educational climate that prioritizes academic integrity and an authentic pursuit of academic scholarship.
9. Appraise one’s instructional proficiencies and formulate a plan of improvement that leads to professional growth as an educator.
10. Advocate for the purposes and advantages of quality instruction

**Instructional Methods**

This course is taught in an experiential learning format. Instruction methods include readings, class discussions, online videos, authentic assignments, and varied reflective practice activities in the classroom. Students are also required to teach a minimum of one 20 minute class session on a topic within their discipline and video it for later critique. The assignments reflect the real-world process that a teaching faculty must complete in order to develop and deliver a college course effectively.

*What is expected of you?*

You are expected to actively engage in the course throughout the semester. You must come to class prepared by completing all out-of-class assignments. This preparation gives you the knowledge or practice needed to engage in higher levels of learning during the live class sessions. If you are not prepared for the synchronous sessions, you may struggle to keep pace, and it is unlikely that you will reach the higher learning goals of the course. Similarly, you are expected to actively participate in the live class. Your participation fosters a rich course experience for you and your peers that facilitates overall mastery of the course objectives.

**DESCRIPTION OF COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

**Course Materials and Technology**

This course will use the Canvas LMS. For issues with technical difficulties please contact the instructor or Academic Technology at the following:

- **Email:** learning-support@ufl.edu
- **Phone:** (352)392-HELP – select option 2
- **Web:** https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml

**Assignments**

You will be evaluated on a number of activities this semester, each with a unique set of requirements that are listed in separate sections of Canvas. No late work will be accepted within the course unless there are extenuating circumstances, so please schedule accordingly. Your participation in class discussions is essential, so please come to class sessions prepared.

**Course Development Project – 65 points [65% of final grade] [Due in stages with the final submission due on 12/01/23]**

The course development project is a sequential collection of related, smaller assignments within the course. This is a real-world project broken into several components to make the learning experience more manageable and for the provision of formative feedback. For this project, you will develop a college course for your discipline that integrates with institutional needs, contains clear instructional outcomes, incorporates effective instructional methods combined with valid assessments, and includes a syllabus. The following are the components:
• **Course Background Information** – A 1 page submission that provides the curricular background, overall description, program goal, and pertinent information about the course you will develop. (5 points) - (Due 9/22/23 via Canvas submission)

• **Instructional Objectives** – A 1 page submission that is a complete list of all the learning objectives that will be used to guide the development of your college course. (15 points) – (Due 10/13/23 via Canvas submission)

• **Instructional Strategies, Sequence, & Technology** – A 2 page submission that is a complete list with short descriptions of all the teaching strategies for a college course, the sequence of those strategies, and the educational technologies needed for learning. (15 points) – (Due 11/03/23 via Canvas submission)

• **Assessment and Evaluation Methods** - A 2 page submission that is a complete list of all the learning assessments, with a brief description of performance criteria, that will be used to evaluate learning in your college course. (15 points) – (Due 11/17/23 via Canvas submission)

• **Course Syllabus Final Submission** – A final submission that is a complete course syllabus for the college course that you developed, including objectives, assignments, course policies, and language used to foster a positive learning environment. (15 points) – (Due 12/01/23 via Canvas submission)

You will submit each of these components electronically in Canvas. Details about and a rubric for each of these deliverables is also available within Canvas.

**Teaching Philosophy Statement – 5 points [5% of final grade] [Due 12/06/23]**
A 1 page submission that is a reflective statement of your teaching philosophy and includes your beliefs and attitudes about learning, student achievement, the integration of educational technology, valid assessment of learning, and your professional growth as an instructor. You will submit this assignment electronically in Canvas. A rubric for scoring this assignment is available in Canvas.

**Teaching Assignment – 20 points [20% of final grade] [Due 11/17/23]**
This assignment will require you to teach a 20 minute session on a topic within your discipline. We will video this session for the purposes of instructor and peer critique as well as a self-evaluation of your performance. You should begin deciding upon your topic and planning for this teaching opportunity early in the semester, so that I can give you feedback on how best to prepare. You will be assessed based upon your use of message design principles, communication technique, and overall organization. A rubric for scoring this assignment is available in Canvas.

**Professionalism – 10 points [10% of final grade] [Due weekly]**
Your active participation in and the leading of class discussions is a requirement within this course. This means that you come to class sessions prepared to discuss the readings, contribute to or lead discussions, and display a command of the topics at hand. In doing so, you are expected to display professional courtesy to your peers when providing feedback and constructive criticism. A rubric for scoring professionalism is provided within Canvas.

Point system used (i.e., how do course points translate into letter grades).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>93-100</th>
<th>90-92</th>
<th>87-89</th>
<th>83-86</th>
<th>80-83</th>
<th>77-79</th>
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<th>63-66</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter Grade</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>E</td>
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Letter grade to grade point conversions are fixed by UF and cannot be changed.

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<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D-</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>WF</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>NG</th>
<th>S-U</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Points</td>
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<td>3.33</td>
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<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.33</td>
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<td>1.33</td>
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<td>0.67</td>
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For greater detail on the meaning of letter grades and university policies related to them, see the Registrar’s Grade Policy regulations at: [http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx](http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx)

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**STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT**

**Policy Related to Late Work**

Late work will not be accepted without an approved arrangement or extenuating circumstances. Please get with me as soon as you know that you will not be able to meet a due date.

**Policy Related to Class Attendance**

- Class attendance is a part of the Professionalism component of this course. It is expected that you will notify me in advance when you know you will need to miss or be late to class. Illness, family emergencies, and other extenuating circumstances are all potential reasons for missing or being late to class, as long as you follow-up with me in a timely, professional manner.
- All faculty members are bound by the UF policy for excused absences. For information regarding the UF Attendance Policy see the Registrar website for additional details: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx)

**Expectations Regarding Course Behavior**

To maximize the use of class time, you are expected to:

1. Look at Canvas for notes and announcements prior to each class
2. Read assigned readings prior to class and come prepared for discussions and problem solving activities
3. The use of computers and other electronic devices in class is limited to class related activities

**Communication Guidelines**

Please email me directly (email address above) in order to receive the quickest response. I do check Canvas messages regularly, but I check emails many times per day. For digital communication expectations see: [Netiquette Guidelines: http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf](http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf)

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

“We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:
“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sscr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/
http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluer.ca/uf/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Inclusive Learning Environment
Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida’s Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, “The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act.” If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: www.multicultural.ufl.edu

To create as inclusive a learning environment as possible, I will work to ensure that the classroom environment is conducive to the sharing of ideas, allowing students to explore relationships among course material, personal, and social experiences. I strive to teach content objectively and create space for a respectful dialogue of ideas related to the impact of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability status, age, (etc.) on the topics taught in class. I seek to nurture a supportive peer culture both inside and outside of the classroom, and expect that students will treat each other in caring, empathic, and respectful ways.
SUPPORT SERVICES

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the Dean of Students Office http://www.dso.ufl.edu within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Counseling and Student Health
Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The Counseling and Wellness Center 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu. On line and in person assistance is available.
- You Matter We Care website: http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The Student Health Care Center at Shands is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at Shands offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the web site at: https://shcc.ufl.edu/
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from:
  Alachua County Crisis Center
  (352) 264-6789
  http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

Use this tentative schedule as a guide for planning this semester. You are expected to read the materials before class and be prepared to have an in depth discussion about these readings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Required Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Teaching Process</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>*Read - Syllabus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-Assessment</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Learner Analysis: Knowing the Learner</td>
<td>*Read - Kim et al: Personal factors impacting college student success.</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Message Design The Art of the Lecture</td>
<td>*Read – Distracted Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Teaching Strategies Aligning and Sequencing Instructional Strategies</td>
<td>*Learning Activities Descriptions Doc</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Strategies for Deep Learning</td>
<td>*Gelder: Teaching Critical Thinking: Some Lessons from Cognitive Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Preparing to Teach and Setting the Culture of Learning</td>
<td>*The College Classroom as a Community: Impact on Student Attitudes and Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Integrating technologies</td>
<td>*Read – Using Technology as a Learning Tool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Assessing Learning</td>
<td>* Read - Advantages and Disadvantages of Various Assessment Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Evaluating Courses and Instruction</td>
<td>*Read – Student Evaluations of Teaching are Deeply Flawed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
<td>Online Instruction</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>Shaping Student Thinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14</td>
<td>Teaching Philosophy Statements Teaching Portfolios Critiques of Teaching Videos</td>
<td>*Read – How Should Professors Be?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 15</td>
<td>Panel of Instructors</td>
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**Recording Within the Course:**
Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.