

Course Information



Dates:

Credit Hours: 3

Format: Online; live webinars held on Tuesdays from 5:30 - 6:30pm PDT

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor Contact Information

Professor Robert Valiente-Neighbours

Email: rvalient@pointloma.edu

Office hours by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: HEALTH EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

This course examines the theoretical frameworks explaining health disparities across various populations, with a focus on social determinants of health. Students will explore a diverse set of policies and practices that promote health equity, including those that address privilege and power, encourage capacity-building, and facilitate community engagement. Bridging macro and micro approaches to health, this course aims to cultivate health professionals who practice empathy.

INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILO)

1. Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ

Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.

2. Growing, In a Christ-Centered Faith Community

Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental and social contexts.

3. Serving, In a Context of Christian Faith

Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO)

The Point Loma Nazarene University MS-KIN graduate will be able to:

1. Appraise current research data and integrate it into professional practice to solve relevant problems and make effective decisions.
2. Work independently and with a team to persuasively communicate essential information in their discipline.
3. Demonstrate appropriate breadth of knowledge of the background and principle research in their specialization in order to conduct an independent research project.
4. Serve various populations, integrating compassionate care and the Christian faith with their professional practice.
5. Pursue an active and growing involvement in their discipline by achieving advanced certification and/or membership in a related professional organization.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLO)

After completing this course students will be able to:

1. Identify and critique various social structures, particularly those resulting in inequality and injustice when it comes to health and illness.
2. Evaluate and apply social science data to inform decisions in everyday life and in client-coach relationships.
3. Describe and exemplify the relationship between our Christian faith and human actions.
4. Apply service-minded sociological concepts to specific need areas in our communities, such as access to health care.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global contexts and across cultures.

CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3-unit class delivered over 8 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

REQUIRED TEXT & RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Required Text

All of our required readings are in Canvas, including the textbook by Dr. Paul Farmer.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Grading Points

List of Assignments

Course Assignment	Points
Weekly Reading Assessment	7x5 = 35
Assigned Discussion Facilitation	1x10 = 10
Discussion Forums	8x5 = 40
Attendance and Participation in Live Webinars	8x5 = 40
Final Paper	1x30 = 30

Grade Scale (Percentage)

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentage of Points Earned

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F ≤ 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

Students must complete the required program hours in the major (program) from Point Loma Nazarene University with a minimum grade of “C” in each course and an overall 2.00 grade point average.

ACADEMIC STANDING

Graduate students at Point Loma must obtain a 3.0 GPA to remain in good academic standing in the MS Kinesiology program:

Additionally, all graduate students need to earn a C or higher in all graduate courses according to the [catalog grading policy](#).

DISCUSSION EXPECTATIONS

Class participation and professionalism are expected in this course. It is your responsibility to access Canvas regularly and to participate in class discussions, as your interaction with the course content, the instructor, your colleagues, and the learning

process directly influences your levels of success in the course. To reinforce and expand upon the material covered, for each designated week you will be expected to craft **one (1)** detailed post in response to the discussion board question(s) provided. **Each original discussion board post must be at least 300 words in length, include at least one citation (in APA or ASA format), and is due by Saturday at 11:59pm.**

Following your original post, you will then be asked to craft at least **one (1)** post in response to the work of your colleagues to demonstrate your understanding and application of the concepts presented, as well as to further the class discussion in a meaningful way. **Your response posts must be at least 200 words in length and must be crafted in a way to offer additional perspective, a new point of view and/or some other type of substantive information to further the discussion and the learning process. Response posts are due by Monday at 11:59pm.**

******Please note that late submissions will not be considered for credit.******

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned via Canvas by the end of day (11:59pm PT) on which they are due in order to receive credit.

SPIRITUAL CARE

PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. To this end we provide resources for our Graduate and Adult Degree Completion students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith. At the Mission Valley (MV) campus we have an onsite chaplain, Rev. Gordon Wong, who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions for, desire to meet or share a prayer request with Rev. Wong you can contact him directly at mvchaplain@pointloma.edu or gordonwong@pointloma.edu. Rev. Wong's cell number is 808-429-1129 if you need a more immediate response.

In addition, on the MV campus there is a prayer chapel on the third floor which is open for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the

course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See the [Academic Honesty Policy](#) in the Graduate and Professional Studies Catalog for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all **synchronous** class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Students must sign in at the beginning of class and must also sign out at the end of class. Sign-in and sign-out prompts will be given at each class.

If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Graduate and Professional Studies Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

Students taking online courses are expected to attend each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes posting in a graded activity in the course. (Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.)

Students who do not attend at least once in any 3 consecutive days will be issued an attendance warning. Students who do not attend at least once in any 7 consecutive days will be dropped from the course retroactive to the last date of recorded attendance.

Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the [map](#) using the below link to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.