Graduate School of Public Health
Public Health Communication
PUBHLT 2034 – 2 Credits
Spring 2022
Section 1010—Monday 9:00 am-10:50am
Section 1220—Monday 11:00 am-12:50pm
Section 1030—Thursday 1:00pm-2:50pm

Instructor: Elizabeth Felter, DrPH, MCHES
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Cell: (770) 401-6036
Email: emfelter@pitt.edu
Office hours: By appointment
Classroom: Section 1010—A 216
Section 1220—158 Benedum Hall
Section 1030—A 215

Course website: https://canvas.pitt.edu/courses/144250 (Section 1010)
https://canvas.pitt.edu/courses/147904 (Section 1220)
https://canvas.pitt.edu/courses/144256 (Section 1030)

Course Description
This course provides hands-on training in the principles and practice of effective communication. The emphasis is on the types of communication used by public health professionals. Students will briefly cover fundamental principles of communication theory, learn to critically analyze examples of communication, and then have the opportunity to practice applying those principles to a wide variety of different types of communication including health promotion, routine business communication, and scientific communication. Multiple media types will be discussed including print, web, and video.

CEPH MPH Competencies
This course addresses the three CEPH MPH foundational competencies for communication (ceph.org/assets/2016.Criteria.pdf):
- #18: Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors.
- #19: Communicate audience-appropriate (i.e., non-academic, non-peer audience) public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
- #20: Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content.

Learning Objectives
In addition to the three overarching competencies above, upon completion of Public Health Communication, you will be able to:
- Discuss and apply basic communication theories and principles.
- Analyze and discuss characteristics of and barriers to effective communication.
- Identify and articulate various audiences for a given situation.
- Identify and articulate appropriate communication objectives for addressing a specific situation, and then develop audience-specific strategies and tactics for achieving your objectives. You also will collaborate with classmates to learn the role of teamwork in creating effective communications.
- Develop audience-specific and appropriate messaging to enable effective communication with professional and lay audiences. You will address issues such as writing for disadvantaged, underserved, underrepresented and vulnerable populations, audiences with varying levels of literacy.
and technical expertise, and culturally-diverse audiences. You will learn to identify and reduce, bias, jargon and information overload in written and oral communications.

- Communicate audience-appropriate information in writing and orally to meet your objectives. You will produce a variety of documents.
- Revise your work and the work of colleagues more effectively. In addition to instructor feedback, you will receive and provide feedback on documents written by you and your classmates to develop and improve your editing style and skills. You will collaborate with classmates to improve their writing as well as your own.
- Write with attention to grammar, consistent style, clarity, brevity, objectivity, organization, and structure.
- Discuss how visual design concepts (print or video) enable effective communication.

**Required Software**
Course content is available on Canvas.

**Required Textbooks**
Readings will be made available on Canvas.

**Assignments, Exams, and Competency Assessments**
The course includes 5 written and/or oral assignments (1a-5a) based on four cases we will utilize for this course, plus a revision of each assignment (1b-5b). You may choose which case to use for each assignment and need not use the same case throughout the semester. You also will complete written midterm and final exams. Exams will be distributed via Canvas and submitted in Microsoft Word.

You will work on the three CEPH competencies throughout the course during class time and in all assignments. Competencies #18 and #20 will be assessed in the midterm exam. Competency #19 will be assessed in the final exam (written) and in the presentation or assignment #2 (oral).

**IMPORTANT – Formatting Assignments:** Written assignments, except assignments submitted in PowerPoint, must be typewritten, double-spaced, and have 1-inch margins. Head the first page with your name, the assignment number, the date and the title of the assignment.

*Please be sure to include your name and the assignment number on page 1 of each assignment, and not just in the file name!*

- **Assignment 1a/b:** Write two initial audience contact e-mails for your chosen case. Base each version on different assumptions about your relationship with the recipient. (See the case and assignment descriptions.)
- **Assignment 2a/b:** Prepare a 60-second, semi-formal oral presentation for a first group meeting with the individual collaborator for your chosen case. You will orally present and it will be critiqued in class (2a), but for the revision (2b) you must turn in a final presentation on video or audio clip or turn in a script. For both, you will need to submit, via Canvas, a paragraph describing your assumptions about your audience and how you might do things differently under different assumptions or with a different audience. (See the assignment description.)
- **Assignment 3 a/b:** Write the executive summary of the grant proposal for the project in your chosen case. (See the assignment description.)
- **Assignment 4 a/b** Based on your grant proposal, write one of the communication materials that are part of the program implementation. (See the case and assignment descriptions.) For this exercise,
you and other students will work in groups for each case, and each of you will write a different, but
coordinated component. (See the assignment description.)

- **Assignment 5 a/b:** Write a two-page segment of the final assessment report for your project (or an
  alternative data report) for your chosen case. The report will include relevant data, analysis and visual support. (See the assignment description.)

The two written exams, administered via Courseweb, are as follows.

- **Mid-term Exam:** This exam will assess the three CEPH competencies, focusing primarily on
  competencies #18 and #20. It will consist of short-answer questions on audience analysis, cultural
  competence, and choosing a communication strategy based on the audience. For example, you may
  be asked to look at a health-related web page, identify the audience, describe how the page targets
  that audience, and suggest changes to increase the cultural competence. A sample exam will be
  discussed in class.

- **Final Exam:** This exam will assess the three CEPH competencies, primarily focusing primarily on
  competency #19 (written communication portion). You will critique communication examples and
  write or re-write several short examples of your own.

**Grading**

Individual written assignment grades are based on:

- **Content:** Your grade reflects how you fulfill the assignment objectives. Your ability to apply the
  principles and techniques we discuss to communicate orally and in writing is essential. Writing
  and/or speaking style and quality matter. You also must demonstrate that you recognize the context
  of the assignment, properly organize and present information, and understand the communication
  objectives, your target audience, and appropriate messaging.

- **Grammar:** Standard grammar, usage, etc. are critical elements of good communication and affect
  your grade. You must proofread and self-edit. This is a course in professional communication, and
  it requires you to be aware of and meticulous in your application of the rules of grammar, usage and
  punctuation. Grammatical deductions include:
  - Unclear sentence structure
  - Improper word usage
  - Lack of subject/verb or tense agreement
  - Run-on sentences
  - Excessive use of passive voice sentence structure

- **Punctuation, proofreading and other mechanics:** Correct punctuation, spelling and other details
  also must become your obsession. Each multiple of three of the following will result in a half-grade
  deduction:
  - Improper or missing punctuation
  - Spelling or typographical errors
  - Inconsistent or incorrect style

- **Deadlines:** Assignments are due on the date indicated on the syllabus – usually the week following
  class discussion of the topic. If you will miss class, post your assignment on Canvas, double-spaced
  and in Word, by class time the due date or bring it to my office. Late assignments will be penalized
  1 point per day. (Flexible Spring 2021, except for Exams.)

**Attendance, Participation & Quality of Contributions to In-class Discussions**
Participation comprises 10 percent of your course grade. I define participation as being active in class discussions and critiques and being prepared for class including having read assigned handouts and readings. While attendance is mandatory, it is also mandatory that we protect each other’s health. **If you are sick, please do not come to class.** Contact me ASAP to make alternative arrangements.

If you know will miss a class, please let me know in advance and submit that week’s assignment on or before the deadline.

**Course Grade & Weighting**
I will use the following percentages to calculate and assign letter grades:

- Assignments 1a-5a – first draft: 4% each.
- Assignments 1b-5b – rewrites/revisions: 8% each
- Mid-term exam: 15%
- Final exam: 15%
- Class attendance, preparedness & participation: 10%

**Grade Scale**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<tr>
<td>93-96.9</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>90-92.9</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>87-89.9</td>
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<td>83-86.9</td>
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<td>80-82.9</td>
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<td>77-79.9</td>
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<td>69.9 and below</td>
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### Class Topic & Assignment Schedule*

*All of this subject to change! We’re going to have to be flexible!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Meeting: Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Class Activities</th>
<th>In-Class Work</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1: 1/10 1/13  | Principles of communication theory & practice; introduction to PH case studies | 1. Overview of class  
2. Lecture and discussion  
4. Discuss assignment #1 |               |                             |
|                     |                                                                      | No Class (MLK Day)                                                                 |               |                             |
| Week 2 1/17 1/20   |                                                                      |                                                                                 |               |                             |
| Week 3: 1/24 1/27  | Mechanics, style, editing & proofreading  
Cultural competence  
Peer Editing | 1. Lecture and discussion  
2. Peer edit assignment 1a | Bring Assignment 1a draft to class | Assignment 1a due by 11:59 p.m. |
| Week 4: 1/31 2/3   | Oral presentation basics  
Plain Language  
How to give constructive feedback | 1. Lecture and discussion  
2. Discuss assignment 2a  
3. Group work on plain language examples |               |                             |
| Week 5: 2/7 2/10   | Oral presentations and critiques (assignment #2) in class  
Grant writing | 1. Individual presentations  
2. Supportive feedback | Assignment 1b due at start of class | Assignment 2a presented orally in class |
| Week 6: 2/14 2/17  | Grant writing  
Oral presentations and critiques (assignment #2) in class | 1. Lecture and discussion  
2. Discussion of assignment #3 goals, audience, etc.  
3. Small group work to draft grant |               |                             |
<p>| Week 7: 2/21 2/24  | Peer editing of assignment #3 and grant writing examples | 1. Lecture and discussion | Assignment 3a draft to class | Assignment 2b due at start of class |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Assignments/Dates</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>2/28 to 3/3</td>
<td>Graphic design principles &amp; practice</td>
<td>1. Lecture and discussion In-class exercises</td>
<td>Assignment 3a due at start of class</td>
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<td>Week 8:</td>
<td>3/7 to 3/10</td>
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<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>Week 9:</td>
<td>3/14 to 3/17</td>
<td>Mid-term exam review</td>
<td>1. Mid-term exam review</td>
<td>Mid-term exam link available after 4 pm 3/17</td>
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<td>Week 10:</td>
<td>3/21 to 3/24</td>
<td>Communication programming – planning &amp; execution Group discussion of assignment #4</td>
<td>1. Lecture and discussion</td>
<td>Mid-term exam due 3/21 before 11:59pm</td>
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<td>2. In-class exercises</td>
<td>Assignment 3b due at start of class</td>
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<td>3. Discuss assignment #4</td>
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<td>Week 11:</td>
<td>3/28 to 3/31</td>
<td>Data analysis &amp; reporting Data graphics</td>
<td>1. Lecture and discussion</td>
<td>Assignment 4a due at start of class</td>
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<td>2. In-class exercises</td>
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<td>Week 12:</td>
<td>4/4 to 4/7</td>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td>1. Lecture and discussion</td>
<td>Assignment 5a due at start of class</td>
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<td>2. In-class exercises</td>
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<td>Week 13:</td>
<td>4/11 to 4/14</td>
<td>Media training - interview strategies, techniques &amp; tactics</td>
<td>1. Lecture and discussion</td>
<td>Assignment 4b at start of class Final exam link becomes available after 4 pm 4/14</td>
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<td>2. Interview exercise</td>
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<td>3. Final exam Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 14:</td>
<td>4/18 to 4/21</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment 5b at start of class Final exam DUE 11:59 pm 4/20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Academic Integrity Statement for Pitt Public Health Course Syllabi**

All students are expected to adhere to the school’s standards of academic honesty. Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. The Graduate School of Public Health’s policy on academic integrity, which is based on the University policy, is available online in the Pitt Public Health Academic Handbook [www.publichealth.pitt.edu/home/academics/academic-requirements](http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/home/academics/academic-requirements). The policy includes obligations for faculty and students, procedures for adjudicating violations, and other critical information. Please take the time to read this policy.
Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890 as early as possible in the term.

Diversity Statement
The University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. Pitt Public Health is committed to creating and fostering inclusive learning environments that value human dignity and equity and promote social justice. Every member of our community is expected to be respectful of the individual perspectives, experiences, behaviors, worldviews, and backgrounds of others. While intellectual disagreement may be constructive, no derogatory statements, or demeaning or discriminatory behavior will be permitted.

If you feel uncomfortable or would like to discuss a situation, please contact any of the following:

• the course director or course instructor;
• the Pitt Public Health Associate Dean responsible for diversity and inclusion;
• the University’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion at 412-648-7860 or https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/civil-rights-title-ix-compliance/make-report/report-form (anonymous reporting form)

Sexual Misconduct, Required Reporting, and Title IX
The University is committed to combatting sexual misconduct. As a result, you should know that University faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct, including harassment and sexual violence, to the University’s Title IX office so that the victim may be provided appropriate resources and support options. What this means is that as your professor, I am required to report any incidents of sexual misconduct that are directly reported to me, or of which I am somehow made aware.

There are two important exceptions to this requirement about which you should be aware:

A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/civil-rights-title-ix-compliance/make-report/confidentiality-and-retaliation

An important exception to the reporting requirement exists for academic work. Disclosures about sexual misconduct that are shared as part of an academic project, classroom discussion, or course assignment, are not required to be disclosed to the University’s Title IX office.

If you are the victim of sexual misconduct, Pitt encourages you to reach out to these resources:

• Title IX Office: 412-648-7860
• SHARE @ the University Counseling Center: 412-648-7930 (8:30 A.M. TO 5 P.M. M-F) and 412-648-7856 (AFTER BUSINESS HOURS)

If you have a safety concern, please contact the University of Pittsburgh Police, 412-624-2121.
Other reporting information is available here: https://www.diversity.pitt.edu/civil-rights-title-ix-compliance/make-report

Statement from the Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

[This statement was developed by Katie Pope, Title IX Associate Vice Chancellor for Civil Rights and Title IX, in conjunction with GSWS instructors.]

**Classroom Recording Policy**
To ensure free and open discussion of ideas, you may not record classroom activities without my advance permission. Any such recording, properly approved in advance, may be used only for your private use or for all other students enrolled in this class, but you may not copy, distribute, publish or otherwise use the recording for any other purpose without the express written consent of me or any other course instructors. Any student who records a class session must provide a copy of the recording to me or the instructors if requested to do so.

**Email Communication**
I will use your authorized University of Pittsburgh email address (username@pitt.edu) to communicate about assignments and other class business, either directly or via Canvas. For your convenience, please check your Pitt email account daily, and prior to coming to class, in case I must cancel a class meeting.

**The Writing Center**
Having difficulty with writing requirements and assignments? Pitt’s Writing Center is a place for you to work on your writing. Center staff members are experienced, trained writing consultants and services are free to all University of Pittsburgh students. Learn more at www.writingcenter.pitt.edu or call the center at 412-634-6556.
Cases & Assignments
(For In-class Discussion) – Weekend Food Backpack Distribution Program: You are a program director at a food bank or food distribution organization. The state department of education issues a request for applications (RFA) for a program to distribute supplemental weekend food for schoolkids to take home (e.g., a bag of healthy food kids would receive on Friday as they leave school, so students are at least somewhat fed over the weekend and don’t return to school hungry). You want to reach out to someone in a local primary school, and determine if they are interested in collaborating on a proposal to get funding and implement such a program.

Case 1 - Improved Meningitis Vaccine Surveillance & Promotion: You are in charge of the vaccination programs at the local health department. Department programs include outreach campaigns through doctors, clinics and schools, and direct-to-consumer promotion of vaccinations on your web site and social media accounts. Programs also include data collection and analysis on vaccination rates in schools. A new meningitis vaccine (Men X) is available for teenagers that protects against all strains including several new strains (replacing the previous MenACWY and Men B vaccines) in one shot, to be administered between the ages of 11-12. You will use the new vaccine as will other local clinics and other providers, and you want to include the vaccine in all programs, including outreach, data collection, and other promotional efforts. The addition requires you to update your promotional materials and other content, conduct outreach to local doctors, clinics, school districts and school nurses, and other organizations to inform them of the new vaccine and enlist their help in promoting it, and to work with schools to collect the required data on vaccine compliance. Financial support is available from the state department of health, which has issued a request for applications (RFA) for funding these informational/promotional efforts.

Case 2 – Tobacco Point of Sale (POS) Data Collection Program: You are a tobacco epidemiologist at the local health department. The state department of health issued an RFA to fund programs to study and quantify point-of-sale tobacco marketing to teenagers. You want to do something very unusual for this program – engage teenagers to collect the data by having them visit stores, observe merchandise displays including their positioning within the store and their imagery and language, and then record information about the tobacco products displays such as their proximity to candy displays, tobacco product displays located at children’s eye level, etc. Utilizing teens would involve coordinating with your health department’s adolescent health promotion (AHP) team, which is not part of the epidemiology division. The AHP team works closely with local teens, and is very protective of them. The information your program collects will be used to quantify and qualify the ways tobacco product marketing targets teens, help guide public outreach efforts, and inform policymakers and others involved in the effort to curb tobacco use. In addition, using teens to collect the data will help make the teenage participants in your project more aware of the ways tobacco manufacturers target and attempt to entice them.

Case 3 - Health Promotion for Family Emergency Housing Program: You are the pre-natal health promotion team leader at the local health department. There is a state RFA to fund health promotion programs within homeless shelters. You know that another social services agency that operates homeless shelters also will seek funding through this RFA and is writing a proposal for a larger, general program. You would like to write a small grant that will enable your staff to work with the larger agency and deliver prenatal education, prenatal vitamins, and connections to care for pregnant residents in that agency’s family shelter. Your goal is to collaborate with this agency on the grant proposal and fold your program into their larger funding application, and then act as a sub-contractor to provide the pre-natal health promotion and education component of the larger program. Your program will bring the pre-natal education, vitamins, and provide connection to care and make them more accessible to pregnant residents housed at the shelter. Your promotional effort will complement and add value to the other agency’s larger efforts and enable them to provide more comprehensive service to this segment of their population. NOTE:
This is a health promotion project and does NOT involve opening a pre-natal clinic or providing prenatal medical care.

Case 4 – Expanded Genetic Testing Pilot Program: You are the director of the testing lab in a large hospital. Your state requires a standard panel of genetic screening tests for every newborn child. Early identification of these disorders enables early intervention to prevent sometimes-serious consequences. Your state’s health department has issued a request for applications (RFA) to fund pilot projects to expand routine genetic screening to include 20 additional disorders. Funding is available for selected hospitals located in several areas of the state including your community. You want to apply for the state funds and implement this pilot program in your hospital. You will need to partner with your hospital’s Ob/Gyn department to develop your proposal and, if you secure state funding, conduct the pilot program. Your lab would do the testing, and the hospital’s Ob/Gyn physicians would discuss testing options with birthing parents and obtain their consent for testing. The hospital’s genetic counselors also need to be prepared to talk to parents of any babies who test positive for any disorders that these new tests detect.
Assignments

**IMPORTANT**: You also can find these cases and prompts in the Assignment Master List document stored in the Assignments folder on Courseweb.

Use one of the case scenarios above to complete each assignment. Reference the syllabus for specific weekly topics, assignments and due dates.

Any student who earns full credit (a ‘4’ on an ‘a’ assignment will automatically be awarded an ‘8’ on the ‘b’ assignment. The ‘b’ assignment does not need to be resubmitted.

**Assignment 1 a/b**

**Initial Outreach/Contact with Target Audience**

Your objective for this assignment is to:

- Make contact with your target audience to introduce yourself, your program or activity, or both.
- Provide background information that helps them make informed decisions.
- Arrange for a face-to-face meeting.

Your choice of document type, your tone, the level of formality, etc., depend on several factors:

- Your familiarity with the person and their position. Do they require a personal or formal tone? Are they a friend or colleague? A supervisor? A current or former mentor or client?
- Your audience’s familiarity with the topic. Do they know anything about you or your organization? Are they well versed in the topic, or do they need more information?

Based on these considerations, and the messaging discussed in class, pick one of the following scenarios and complete the assignment for it:

**Case 1 (Improved Meningitis Vaccine):** You are a health department employee. Contact the head of the health department to make them aware that the vaccine has changed to Men X, solicit support for adding it to your vaccination programs and increasing funding for any added expense required for additional marketing, outreach, data collection and other activity, and inform them of the funding opportunity through the state-sponsored RFA. Describe the new vaccine and its benefits, provide a high-level description of program changes or other requirements, and ask for a specific action from the reader. Write this initial e-mail under two different assumptions (write two different emails) about your relationship with this individual – 1) they know you and you work together regularly, and 2) you are new to the department and they do not know you well.

**Case 2 (Tobacco POS Data Collection):** Contact the head of the adolescent health promotion team to provide background on your project idea and request their collaboration on a grant proposal. Write this initial e-mail under two different assumptions (write two different emails) about your relationship with this individual— 1) you’ve never met before, 2) you’ve never worked together but they’re an old friend from graduate school.

**Case 3 - Health Promotion for Family Emergency Housing Program:** Contact the head of the other social services agency to propose a joint (or complementary) program and that you work together on the grant application. Write this initial e-mail under two different assumptions (write two different emails) about your relationship with this individual— 1) you’ve met professionally but never worked together, 2) you are new, but they have worked with your organization from past collaborations.

**Case 4 – Expanded Genetic Testing Pilot Program:** Contact the director of your hospital’s Ob/Gyn department to inform them of the added screens and to propose that you work together on the grant
application and the pilot program. Write this initial e-mail under two different assumptions (write two different emails) about your relationship with this individual—1) you’ve never met 2) you work together regularly.

Goals:
No matter which scenario you select, you will write two different emails based on the slight changes in assumptions. Your communication should reflect your goals, which may include:

- Informing your reader about the program or activity and its benefits to them, their organization and the people they serve.
- Securing a specific action from the reader such as a meeting, their participation, and/or their approval for you to proceed with your activity.
- Clarifying next steps such as a meeting or an introduction to others within the reader’s organization.

Perhaps most important, be concise while also being as complete as necessary to accomplish your objectives. Write succinctly, and use active voice and simpler, declarative sentence structures.

Please place your email in “email format” including To/From/Subject lines.

# # #
Assignment 2
Oral Presentation

For this assignment, you must prepare a 60-second semi-formal oral presentation for the first group meeting with your case’s chosen audience, and then present it in class. Assume the person to whom you wrote your email will be there along with other stakeholders in the organization (with varying levels of knowledge and engagement in the topic). Your presentation will be critiqued in class, and you also must turn in, for assignment 2b, a final version on video, as a sound track, or as a written script.

Your 60-second presentation should include some or all of the following:
1. Briefly introduce yourself and/or your organization and describe your proposed project.
2. Summarize the project’s goals and the benefits to your audience and others.
3. Tell the audience what you want from them – next steps in this case, financial or other support, participation on the grant writing team, etc.
4. Ask for a decision or action from them.

Include a paragraph describing your assumptions about your audience and how you might do things differently under different assumptions or with a different audience.
   - For Assignment 2a explain the assumptions part of your paragraph before giving the presentation.
   - For Assignment 2b turn the entire paragraph in with the video, audio, or written script, as well as the assumption of what you would do differently with a different audience or a different set of assumptions. Remember, though, you would still only have 60 seconds, so if you add something (like explaining your background more completely, what are you going to remove?)
   
# # #
Assignment 3
Executive Summary of a Grant Proposal

Your assignment is to write the executive summary portion of a grant proposal.

For the purposes of this assignment, assume that the grant proposal format requires you to include an executive summary. Remember that this is the executive summary that prefaces or summarizes the longer, more detailed report. This section is, by definition, higher-level and less detailed. Use this section to frame the rest of the report for your reader. You will cover more extensive details about logistics, responsibilities for deliverables, etc. in other sections within the body of your proposal such as the work plan, so you need not include them here in the summary.

Your summary should include the following elements – each about one paragraph long (there is a hard 2-page (12 pt. font, double-spaced) limit):

1. A synopsis of the problem. (Be very brief. You are responding to an RFA, and the organization that issued the RFA already stated the problem in that document.)
2. An overview of your organization, its experience and its credentials for addressing the problem.
3. An overview of your proposed approach/solution/plan, including if appropriate your philosophy or rationale for your approach.
4. Specifics of your plan. What will you do? What will the deliverables be?
5. Outcomes and assessment. What benefits will you create? How will you measure whether you are successful?

Remember that this is the executive summary for a longer, more detailed grant application. Focus on a high-level, more general description of your program and what it will attempt to accomplish, its goals and components, measuring outcomes, etc. Use the messages we developed for this case (see class lecture notes) to address benefits and potential issues. Be concise while also being as complete as necessary to accomplish your objectives. This requires you to be succinct, write in active voice and use simpler, declarative sentence structures.

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Assignment 4
Promotional Communication

Your assignment is to produce one of the communications that will be part of the program implementation for your chosen case scenario.

The communications can take any of a variety of forms including, but not limited to:

- (For the testing pilot program), a plain-language pamphlet describing genetic testing and its benefits to newborns and parents, or an information sheet for Ob/Gyns that addresses questions about the added tests and the benefits of genetic testing.
- (For the vaccine program) A press release announcing the program
- A poster or a print advertisement – for example, a poster with infographics about healthy foods aimed at expectant mothers. (Must be substantive information—a flyer announcing the date/time of a training session is not sufficient.)
- (For the tobacco POS initiative) An infographic that conveys relevant information about underage smoking and its detrimental effects.
- A brief brochure about the health benefits of prenatal care or healthy diet during pregnancy, the safety of meningitis vaccinations, benefits of genetic testing, or the importance of preventing tobacco sales to minors, written for a lay audience.
- (For the shelter program) An information sheet or orientation guide that can be used to train and inform shelter workers.
- A blog entry or other social media content (must be more than just a meme—think multiple FB posts with graphics and accompanying text, Twitter thread.)
- A script for a brief informational video that will be posted on YouTube.

The above examples are primarily public facing.

Students will be assigned to groups for each case. Different group members will write different components. Consult with one another and share drafts so information and messaging are consistent and complementary.

## ## ##
Assignment 5
Data Report

For this assignment, produce an excerpt of a final report on the project assessment for your chosen case. The report segment should be around two pages in length and include at least two tables and/or other relevant graphics. Based on your chosen case and scenario, the report should include:

- Milestone reached/goals achieved – for example, the number of vaccinations administered and both statistical and/or anecdotal information on the benefits to participants.
- Issues encountered, and how they were addressed or will be addressed. For example, how did the program deal with unsubstantiated claims about the health risks of vaccinations, or that the tobacco POS program was teaching minors how to acquire and use tobacco products. Or if recruitment for a program fell short, what was the reason and what corrective steps will you take to increase the number of participants or volunteers.
- What program changes or adjustments do the data suggest? What would be your organization’s next steps moving forward?

While we discussed reports for both technical and lay audiences in class, this report should target a technical or professional audience, and include both an appropriate level of detail along with charts, graphs, tables, etc. containing information that also would be appropriate for and useful to this audience.

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