

# Syllabus

## Principles of Health Science-Semester A

### Course Overview

This one-semester course is intended as a practical, hands-on guide to help you understand the five systems related to health care: diagnostic, therapeutic, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development systems. This course has 14 lessons organized into four units, plus four Unit Activities. Each lesson contains one or more Lesson Activities.

This course will cover the history of health care in the United States, job opportunities in the five healthcare systems, the qualifications and skills required to work in the healthcare sector, and factors that are important in a workplace environment such as communication skills, knowledge of laws and ethics related to health care, and knowledge of nutrition principles.

You will submit the Unit Activity documents to your teacher, and you will grade your work in the Lesson Activities by comparing them with given sample responses. The Unit Activities (submitted to the teacher) and the Lesson Activities (self-checked) are the major components of this course. There are other assessment components, namely the mastery test questions that feature along with the lesson; the pre- and post-test questions that come at the beginning and end of the unit, respectively; and an end-of-semester test. All of these tests are a combination of simple multiple-choice questions and technology enhanced (TE) questions.

### Course Goals

This course will help you meet the following goals:

- Describe the history of health care in the United States and the factors that influence it.
- Examine the technology used in different healthcare systems.
- Analyze the impact of cultural diversity on health care.
- Examine careers in therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.
- Describe how multidisciplinary teams collaborate to deliver quality health care.
- Identify effective communication that is crucial in health care.
- Discuss effective leadership skills that are essential in health care.
- Analyze the ethical and legal responsibilities of the healthcare industry and healthcare professionals.
- Examine the rights and choices of an individual for optimal health and wellness.
- Examine the importance of a safe environment in the healthcare industry.

## Prerequisite Skills

Principles of Health Science–Semester A has the following prerequisites:

- basic computer skills
- ability to process information
- familiarity with the writing process and following guidelines

## General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Perform basic operations on a computer.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

*For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Plato Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.*

## Credit Value

Principles of Health Science–Semester A is a 0.5-credit course.

## Course Materials

- Notebook
- Computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft Excel or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent

## Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you stay on schedule with your work. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

### Unit 1: US Health Care

#### Summary

In this unit, you will learn about the history of health care in the United States. You will familiarize yourself with the technology used in different healthcare systems. Additionally, you will examine how healthcare professionals have to consider cultural diversity when resolving healthcare problems.

| Day              | Activity/Objective  | Type               |
|------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1 day:<br>1      | <b>Syllabus and Plato Student Orientation</b><br><i>Review the Plato Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i> | Course Orientation |
| 5 days:<br>2–6   | <b>Health Care in the United States</b><br><i>Describe the history of health care in the United States and the factors that influence it.</i>     | Lesson             |
| 5 days:<br>7–11  | <b>Health Care and Technology</b><br><i>Examine the technology used in different healthcare systems.</i>  | Lesson             |
| 5 days:<br>12–16 | <b>Cultural Diversity in Health Care</b><br><i>Analyze the impact of cultural diversity on health care.</i>                                       | Lesson             |
| 1 day:<br>17     | <b>Space Jumble</b>   | Game               |
| 4 days:<br>18–21 | <b>Unit Activity/Threaded Discussion—Unit 1</b>   | Unit Activity      |
| 1 day:<br>22     | <b>Posttest—Unit 1</b>  | Assessment         |

## Unit 2: Healthcare Careers

### Summary

In this unit, you will learn about the various career opportunities available in therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development. You will examine the skills and qualifications needed for various healthcare careers. You will also learn how you can advance your career and continue to be a lifelong learner.

| Day              | Activity/Objective   | Type          |
|------------------|--|---------------|
| 4 days:<br>23–26 | <b>Therapeutic Services</b><br><i>Examine careers in therapeutic services.</i>                                     | Lesson        |
| 4 days:<br>27–30 | <b>Diagnostic Services</b><br><i>Examine careers in diagnostic services.</i>                                       | Lesson        |
| 4 days:<br>31–34 | <b>Health Informatics</b><br><i>Examine careers in health informatics.</i>   | Lesson        |
| 4 days:<br>35–38 | <b>Support Services</b><br><i>Examine careers in support services.</i>   | Lesson        |
| 4 days:<br>39–42 | <b>Biotechnology Research and Development</b><br><i>Examine careers in biotechnology research and development.</i> | Lesson        |
| 1 day:<br>43     | <b>Thwack-A-Mole</b>   | Game          |
| 4 days:<br>44–47 | <b>Unit Activity/Threaded Discussion—Unit 2</b>  | Unit Activity |
| 1 day:<br>48     | <b>Posttest—Unit 2</b>   | Assessment    |

## Unit 3: Teamwork in Health Care

### Summary

In this unit, you will learn the importance and role of multidisciplinary teams. You will explore communication skills. You will also learn leadership skills, goal setting, and how to conduct meetings effectively.

| Day              | Activity/Objective  | Type          |
|------------------|---|---------------|
| 5 days:<br>49–53 | <b>Multidisciplinary Teams</b><br><i>Describe how multidisciplinary teams collaborate to deliver quality health care.</i> | Lesson        |
| 4 days:<br>54–57 | <b>Communication in Health Care</b><br><i>Identify effective communication that is crucial in health care.</i>            | Lesson        |
| 4 days:<br>58–61 | <b>Leadership Skills</b><br><i>Discuss effective leadership skills that are essential in health care.</i>                 | Lesson        |
| 1 day:<br>62     | <b>Para Jumble</b>  | Game          |
| 4 days:<br>63–66 | <b>Unit Activity/Threaded Discussion—Unit 3</b>   | Unit Activity |
| 1 day:<br>67     | <b>Posttest—Unit 3</b>  | Assessment    |

## Unit 4: Working in Health Care

### Summary

In this unit, you will familiarize yourself with important aspects of law and ethics in relation to health care. You will distinguish between malpractice, negligence, and liability in health care. In addition, you will learn wellness strategies, understand basic principles of nutrition, and discuss eating disorders. Finally, you will discuss safety standards and practices in the healthcare industry.

| Day              | Activity/Objective   | Type          |
|------------------|--|---------------|
| 5 days:<br>68–72 | <b>Laws and Ethics</b><br><i>Analyze the ethical and legal responsibilities of the healthcare industry and healthcare professionals.</i> | Lesson        |
| 5 days:<br>73–77 | <b>Nutrition and Wellness</b><br><i>Examine the rights and choices of an individual for optimal health and wellness.</i>                 | Lesson        |
| 5 days:<br>78–82 | <b>Safety at the Workplace</b><br><i>Examine the importance of a safe environment in the healthcare industry.</i>                        | Lesson        |
| 1 day:<br>83     | <b>Space Jumble</b>  | Game          |
| 4 days:<br>84–87 | <b>Unit Activity/Threaded Discussion—Unit 4</b>  | Unit Activity |
| 1 day:<br>88     | <b>Posttest—Unit 4</b>   | Assessment    |
| 1 day:<br>89     | <b>Semester Review</b>   |               |
| 1 day:<br>90     | <b>End-of-Semester Test</b>  | Assessment    |