

HSCI 345: Issues in Public Health
Department of Health Sciences

CURRENT ISSUE SUMMARY DIRECTIONS

Paper Requirements: All papers must be **3 pages minimum**, typed, double-spaced, using 12 point font (Arial or Times New Roman), and with 1-inch margins. You must follow page limitations as specified in the grading rubric. The reference list does not count toward page limitations. Please format your references using APA or AMA style. An abstract is not required. If you decide to include an abstract – note that it is **not** included in the page number requirement.

Submit an electronic copy of your current event paper to Canvas via a Turnitin link prior to the class session you are scheduled to present your current event on. **Failure to submit to Turnitin will constitute a score of zero (0) on the assignment. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Note: In addition to the required elements specified in the grading rubric, all papers will be graded on grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Papers should also follow the APA or AMA style manual of referencing citations. This includes proper citation of reference materials in the text and the reference section at the end of the paper.

Selection of Topic: You should select any current public health event or ongoing health problem from a professional and reputable publication. Examples are:

- Daily publications, websites, tweets, social media outlets, — (e.g.): Los Angeles Times, New York Times, etc.
- Weekly publications— (e.g.): Time, Newsweek, etc.
- Health-related websites

Public Health journals and publications **Fact sheets and/or results of a study are not acceptable sources.** If you are unsure of a source's credibility, check with me first. The chosen topic must be current, occurring within the **last 6-12 months. Your topic must not duplicate another student's topic.** For example, if a student chose

the Hepatitis A outbreak in San Diego, you should not chose the same topic. You must completely cite your sources and include a link to your source to your paper. **Point Distribution:** Your summary should cover the following areas—

1. **Introduction:** Provide a summary of the article and an objective overview of the public health issue. What issue is the article highlighting? Discuss why this is a public health issue.
2. **Cause and severity of the issue:** Discuss the causes and severity of the health issue. Who is affected, what are the current statistics, what are the risk factors?
3. **Intervention:** Identify public health agencies involved (or should be involved). What interventions are discussed? What steps are being taken to remedy the health problem?
4. **Recommendations:** Your detailed suggestions for additional prevention efforts to address this problem. Your recommendations should directly reflect and be specifically supported by course readings and discussions. Make specific references to these readings.
5. **Mechanics:** Sentence structure, grammar, spelling, appropriate APA or AMA style

Informal Presentation of Current Event

You will also be providing an informal presentation (3 minutes maximum) on a specific day you choose to present. You will NOT read your paper for your informal presentation. Simply state the current issue, share what you found of interest regarding the issue, and any solutions or your recommendations.

CURRENT ISSUES SUMMARY RUBRIC

| SECTIONS | POINTS POSSIBLE | POINTS EARNED |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Summary of article (issue article is highlighting) <input type="checkbox"/> Why this is a public health issue <input type="checkbox"/> Cited all references | 5 | |
| <p>Cause and severity of the issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Who is affected <input type="checkbox"/> Current statistics <input type="checkbox"/> Risk factors <input type="checkbox"/> Cited all references | 10 | |
| <p>Intervention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Public health agencies involved <input type="checkbox"/> Interventions discussed <input type="checkbox"/> Cited all references | 10 | |
| <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Your recommendations for additional prevention efforts. <input type="checkbox"/> Opinions supported with facts and are from class readings/discussion. <input type="checkbox"/> Cited all references | 10 | |
| <p>Mechanics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pages minimum <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure <input type="checkbox"/> Grammar <input type="checkbox"/> Spelling <input type="checkbox"/> 1" borders | 10 | |

| | | |
|--|------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 pt. Arial/Times New Roman font <input type="checkbox"/> APA/AMA style citations <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusion of article | | |
| <p>Informal Presentation (3 minutes maximum):</p> <p>You will NOT read your paper for your informal presentation. Simply state the current issue, share what you found of interest regarding the issue, and any solutions or your recommendations.</p> | <p>5</p> | |
| <p>TOTAL POINTS</p> | <p><u>50</u></p> | |