

APPLIED EXPERIENCES IN HEALTH SCIENCES (50:499:493)
SPRING, 2025

COURSE INFORMATION

Meeting time: Tuesday/Thursday, 11:10am-12:30pm*

Location: BSB 108

*Note: The class will be split into two groups (groups A and B) with half of the class meeting on Tuesday (group A) and the other half meeting on Thursday (group B). Groups will be assigned prior to the start of the semester. Thus, you will only be required to attend class one time per week.

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Kristin August (“Dr./Professor August”)

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Office hours: By appointment only

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Samrawit Gebretensay

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to help students learn about working in healthcare or other applied settings and gain important experiences necessary for graduate school applications and their future careers. This course consists of working in an unpaid placement for 6 hours a week for 14 weeks (or 84 hours total), receiving feedback from a trained supervisor at your placement, participating in class each week, completing weekly reflection papers, and a final class project.

COURSE OBJECTIVES (CO)

The learning objectives of this course are consistent with the goals of the department. Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- 1) Acquire an understanding of the diverse career opportunities in the health field.
- 2) Gain valuable applied experiences through internships in the health field.
- 3) Form connections between classroom knowledge and field experiences.
- 4) Develop strong critical thinking and communication (oral and written) skills about health and well-being.

This course fulfills a general education cross-cutting category (*Experiential Learning [XPL]* or *Engaged Civic Learning: [ECL]*). Additional **General Education Objectives (GE)** include:

- 1) Application of ideas, concepts, and skills developed in the current and other health sciences courses to a new and different context. *[XPL]*
- 2) Communicate effectively with community members. *[ECL]*
- 4) Active reflection on the meaning of your experience through reflection papers and class discussions *[XPL]* and reflect on how engaged civic learning experiences may or may not have altered their assumptions about the community and their relationship to it. *[ECL]*
- 5) Analyze your own actions and those of others participating in the engaged civic learning project. *[ECL]*
- 3) Production of a final presentation that provides a synthesis of your experience. *[XPL]*

GRADING

Grades will be determined as follows:

Completion of 84 hours

45 points

Reflection papers (4 @ 6.25 points each)

25 points

Final presentation

15 points

Attendance/participation in class activities

15 points

100 TOTAL POINTS

Letter grades:

A:	90-100 points
B+:	85-89 points
B:	80-84 points
C+:	75-79 points
C:	70-74 points
D:	60-69 points
F:	Less than 60 points

You can view your grades using the Grades button in the Canvas course navigation. Please check your grades regularly to make sure that I have received all your assignments. If you have a question about a grade, please email me.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

APPLIED PLACEMENT (GOALS CO#1-2; GE #1, 6): You must work at an unpaid placement for 6 hours a week for 14 weeks (84 hours total). Your placement hours will account for 45% of your overall grade.

Please complete the following steps:

- **Secure a placement with a supervisor who will oversee your work and provide you with feedback.** Your supervisor must sign a contract with information about your placement and responsibilities. The template for this contract can be found under the course essentials module. You should print two copies of this contract, one to turn in to me and one to give to your supervisor to keep for their records. If interning/shadowing will occur at multiple sites, there should be a contract for each site.

**NOTE: This contract must be presented to the professor (email or in person) by the first class meeting (Tues, Jan. 21/Thur, Jan. 23) or you will be required to drop the course. In order to complete the 14 weeks of your placement @ 6 hours/week, it is necessary for you to begin working the first week of classes. (Be careful to plan your schedule so that you are able to work during spring break if needed and/or during exam weeks.)*

- **Second, complete your hours and keep a log of your hours.** There will be a weekly log that is signed off on by your supervisor. *The template for this log can be found under the course essentials module.*
- **Complete and turn in ALL of your signed forms with your total hours calculated to the professor by 11:10am on the last day of class** (Tues, April 29 or Thur, May 1).

REFLECTION PAPERS (GOALS CO#3-4, GE #4-5): You will be required to submit a total of **four (4)** reflection papers throughout the semester. The deadlines for each of these reflection papers are noted on p. 4 below. These papers should be uploaded to Canvas under the appropriate reflection paper assignment by 11:59pm on the date they are due. *More detailed information about each reflection paper is posted on Canvas (under "assignments")* and discussed in class. Each reflection paper is worth 6.25 points. Late papers will lose .5 points per day. Together, these reflection papers will account for 25% of your overall grade.

FINAL PRESENTATION (GOALS CO#3-4 GE #1, 3): A final class project integrating your experiences in your fieldwork placement and your theoretical and conceptual understanding of health sciences (i.e., information learned in this and other health courses) is due on Tuesday, April 29 (Group A) or Thursday, May 1 (Group B). *More detailed information about this assignment is posted on Canvas (under "assignments")*. There is limited flexibility in rescheduling presentations so no late presentations will be allowed. Your final project will account for 15% of your overall grade.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION (GOALS CO#1,3,4, GE#1,4,5): Attendance and participation in weekly class meetings is mandatory. Although class is scheduled during the Tuesday/ Thursday 11:10am-12:30pm time period, half of the class will meet on Tuesday (Group A) and half will meet on Thursdays (Group B). The instructor will determine who will meet on each day prior to the start of class. Meetings will serve as a forum during which you will be expected to discuss your experiences at your placement. Questions and concerns should be raised during these meetings and will be addressed by the professor and the other students in the class. In addition, class meetings will consist of relevant activities and “mini lectures” designed to increase your understanding of the relevant theoretical material and assure your success in this course. If you miss more than 1 class, you will lose points from your attendance grade. If you will be out for an extended period of time (i.e., more than 1 class) for an exceptional circumstance, please contact me as soon as you know you will be missing class. Please arrive to class on time and plan to stay the entire class period (unless you contact me in advance for why you need to arrive late/leave early); points will be deducted for late arrivals and early departures. Class attendance and participation will account for 15% of your overall grade.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Week of January 21:
 - Contract from supervisor establishing placement due
 - Placement hours begin
- April 29 and May 1:
 - Final project presentations due in class
 - All hours must be completed
 - All weekly hours logs and total number of hours completed must be turned in to professor

MEETING DATES***Group A meeting dates (TUESDAYS)***

- Jan. 21: CONTRACT FROM SUPERVISOR DUE; PLACEMENT HOURS BEGIN
- Jan. 28: REFLECTION PAPER #1 DUE
- Feb. 4
- Feb. 11
- Feb. 18: REFLECTION PAPER #2 DUE
- Feb. 25
- March 4
- March 11: REFLECTION PAPER #3 DUE
- March 18: NO MEETING (HAPPY SPRING BREAK)
- March 25
- April 1
- April 8: REFLECTION PAPER #4 DUE
- April 15
- April 22
- April 29: FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS; HOURS AND SUPERVISOR LETTER OF COMPLETION DUE

Group B meeting dates (THURSDAYS)

- Jan. 23: CONTRACT FROM SUPERVISOR DUE; PLACEMENT HOURS BEGIN
- Jan. 30: REFLECTION PAPER #1 DUE
- Feb. 6
- Feb. 13
- Feb. 20: REFLECTION PAPER #2 DUE
- Feb. 27
- March 6
- March 13: REFLECTION PAPER #3 DUE
- March 20: NO MEETING (HAPPY SPRING BREAK)
- March 27
- April 3
- April 10: REFLECTION PAPER #4 DUE
- April 17
- April 24
- May 1: FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS; HOURS AND SUPERVISOR LETTER OF COMPLETION DUE

****THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE***

INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT

I would like to create a learning environment for my students that supports diverse thoughts, perspectives, and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, etc.). To help accomplish this:

- If you have a name and/or set of pronouns that differ from those that appear in your official Rutgers records, please let me know. If you would like to have your name changed officially on Rutgers University–Camden rosters, please follow the [Chosen Name Process](#). In addition, within the Canvas course site, the [Rutgers Shout-Out](#) tool allows you to type the phonetic spelling of your name and record the pronunciation of your name in a shared audio recording for me and fellow students.
- If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you. Remember that you can also submit anonymous feedback (which will lead to me making a general announcement to the class, if necessary, to address your concerns). If you prefer to speak with someone outside of the course, the Dean of Students is an excellent resource: deanofstudents@camden.rutgers.edu (more details below).
- I (like many people) am still in the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities. If something was said in class (by anyone) that made you feel uncomfortable, please talk to me about it. (Again, anonymous feedback is always an option.)

COURSE POLICIES

It is my sincere hope that students are successful in this course and learn information that is useful for their academic and career goals as well as their daily lives. If you experience any difficulty in this course, please email me or contact me to schedule a time to talk. Please do not wait until the end of the semester to talk with me! Many of the policies outlined below are evidence-based and are in place to promote student success and provide an enriching and fair educational experience for all of my students.

- **Course web page:** All the materials you will need for the course will be organized by modules on the Canvas course web page (<https://canvas.rutgers.edu>). It is your responsibility to keep informed of any updates made to the syllabus and other assignments.
- **Course communication:**
 - ***Announcements:*** Announcements will be posted on Canvas on a regular basis. They will appear on your Canvas dashboard when you log in and/or will be sent to you directly from Canvas via your preferred method of contact. Please make sure the “announcements” feature is activated in Canvas (under “course notifications”) and be certain to check them regularly, as they will contain important information about the course.
 - ***Email:*** You may contact me by email. **Please use your Rutgers email to contact me, as emails from non-Rutgers' accounts are sometimes filtered as spam.** Please do not submit your assignments via email. If you email me and do not receive a response within 24 hours during the week, I did not receive your email. Please note that I will not respond to emails after 9pm, on weekends, during holidays, or during university breaks.
 - ***Office hours:*** I am available to meet in person, by phone, or via Zoom. Please email me for an appointment.
- **Missed class/meetings:** If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to become informed of any announcements made in class and the material presented. If you do not show up to a scheduled individual meeting time, you will lose 1 point from your attendance grade.

- Missed assignments: If you miss turning in an assignment when it is due, you will lose at least 10% of the assignment grade for each day it is late (exact amount varies by assignment). There will be no exceptions, as due dates of all assignments are posted in advance. If you are experiencing an extenuating circumstance that interferes with your ability to turn assignments in on time, please contact the Dean of Students who can help facilitate accommodations for all of your classes (deanofstudents@camden.rutgers.edu).

Rutgers University–Camden seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community, including in classroom space, and a community in which students respect academic integrity and the integrity of your own and others' work.

- Academic Integrity: As a student at the University, you are expected to adhere to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#). Academic Integrity is critical to the success of our students and the community and is everyone's responsibility to take their education seriously and follow the requirements to ensure that you are doing your own work and following the guidelines of the course and professor and program. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to): cheating; plagiarism; aiding others in committing a violation or allowing others to use your work; failure to cite sources correctly; fabrication; using another person's ideas or words without attribution; re-using a previous assignment; unauthorized collaboration; and sabotaging another student's work. **Academic dishonesty also includes doing your own work and not using artificial intelligence for a majority of it (AI; e.g., ChatGPT).**
- Code of Conduct: You are also expected to adhere to the [Student Code of Conduct](#). The conduct code specifically addresses disruptive classroom conduct, which means “engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor’s ability to teach or student learning. The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities.” Please be aware of in-classroom and out-of-classroom expectations by making yourself familiar with and by following the Student Code of Conduct. For this class, please be courteous to others and arrive to class on time, stay the entire time, and do not use electronic devices during class unless you are asked to. ***If you engage in any disruptive, offensive, or disrespectful behaviors, you may be asked to leave class and will lose points from your attendance grade.***
- Office of Disability Services (ODS)- Students with Disabilities: If you need academic support for your courses, accommodations can be provided once you share a Letter of Accommodation issued by the Office of Disability Services (ODS) that specifies your accommodations indicated. If you have already registered with ODS and have your Letter of Accommodation, please share this with me the first week of the course. If you have not registered with ODS and you have or think you have a disability (learning, sensory, physical, chronic health, mental health or attentional), please visit the [ODS website](#), [email](#), or call [\(856\) 225-6954](#). ***Please Note:*** Accommodations will be provided only for students with a Letter of Accommodation from ODS. Accommodation Letters only provide information about the accommodation, not about the disability or diagnosis.
- Dropping the course/incompletes: The last date to drop this course *without* a W grade is **Thursday, January 30**; the last date to drop an individual class *with* a W grade is **Wednesday, April 21**; the last day to drop all classes in the term *with* a W grade is **Wednesday, May 7**. Please consult the academic calendar for additional dates related to dropping the course without tuition penalties. Incompletes will not be given in this course except under extremely rare circumstances that require documentation and adherence to university policies.

STUDENT RESOURCES

A more comprehensive list of student resources is located here: <https://studentaffairs.camden.rutgers.edu/student-resource-list>.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

CENTER FOR LEARNING AND STUDENT SUCCESS

The Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS) provides academic support and enrichment services for students, at no additional cost, including one-on-one tutoring, small-group tutoring and workshops, online tutoring, writing assistance, student success coaching, learning assessment, and metacognition training. Through collaboration with academic departments and faculty, CLASS facilitates programs and provides academic resources to students. Our Learning Specialists provide learning-specific resources and support to students on academic or continued probation. CLASS is in Armitage Hall, second floor, suite 231. To learn more or to schedule an appointment, visit the [CLASS website](#), [email us](#) or call us at [\(856\) 225-6442](#).

WRITING AND DESIGN LAB—WRITING SUPPORT AND SERVICES

If you need assistance with writing, audio recordings, web creation, or other technology used in class for creating content, the Writing and Design Lab can help. We offer personal tutoring, workshops, and online assistance. You can learn more by [emailing us rutgers.wdl@rutgers.edu](#) or visiting the [WDL website](#). From the website, you can schedule an appointment.

MID-TERM PROGRESS REPORTING

Each semester, typically from Week 6 through Week 8, faculty are offered the opportunity to provide students with feedback regarding their academic performance. Mid-Term Progress Reports are intended to encourage students to reflect on their academic performance and to take action, if necessary, to improve their academic outcomes. Students are notified immediately and provided information regarding available resources via email if they receive a progress report indicating concern. Students can access the details of their current and past progress reports by signing into [RaptorConnect](#). Mid-Term Progress Reporting encourages communication among faculty, students, advisors, and student success staff, which is critical to our academic mission.

HELP DESK (IT SUPPORT AND SERVICES)

For technical assistance, visit Help Desk in the Rutgers Student Computer Lab on the first floor of Robeson Library, call [\(856\) 225-6274](#) or [email](#). Help Desk support is available during [lab hours](#). Visit the [IT FAQ page](#) for information and documentation.

PAUL ROBESON LIBRARY (REFERENCE DESK, STUDY SPACE, COMPUTER LAB, RESOURCES)

We are here to help you succeed! Our dedicated library team will boost your library research skills via workshops and reference help. Our experts will help you find the latest resources to advance your research and strengthen your teaching. If we don't have what you are looking for, our team will get those items from partner libraries. Our vibrant exhibits and displays will tell you many new stories and our Rutgers–Camden faculty publications area will inspire you. Robeson Library is part of what makes Rutgers–Camden an exciting place to learn! More information is available on the [Robeson Library website](#).

OTHER CAMPUS RESOURCES

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE—CARES TEAM

College is a time when you may be testing your independence and/or striving to find yourself. It's not uncommon for these journeys to have rough points. The Dean of Students Office is here to assist you by strategically and effectively handling and referring student concerns/needs across all areas of the campus and University as needed. For some students, personal, emotional, psychological, academic, or other challenges may hinder their ability to succeed both in and outside of the classroom. The Dean of Students Office serves as your initial contact if you need assistance with these challenges. You can learn more about the free services by calling [\(856\) 225-6050](#), [emailing](#), or visiting the [Dean of Students website](#).

OFFICE OF MILITARY AND VETERAN AFFAIRS—VETERAN, ACTIVE DUTY, AND NATIONAL GUARD MEMBER SERVICES

The Office of Military and Veterans Affairs and Rutgers University—Camden support our students who have served and their family members, including providing explanations of benefits, referrals to resources on and off campus, supporting students who are deployed for active duty, and answering questions. If you need assistance and are an active duty, National Guard, or veteran (or are a family member), we can assist. Find more information by calling 856-225-2791 or visiting the [Office of Military and Veteran Affairs website](#).

FOOD PANTRY: THE SCARLET RAPTOR'S NEST

The Food Pantry is a free resource for students to get food and toiletries. The Pantry is open on Tuesday and Thursday, 1-3:45 pm. Full-time and Part-time Students are welcome once per week. To visit, students need to make an appointment on [The Scarlet Raptor's Nest website](#).

TITLE IX AND THE VIOLENCE PREVENTION & VICTIM ASSISTANCE OFFICE

Rutgers University—Camden strives to create a campus community free from discrimination and interpersonal violence and harm. If you have experienced sexual violence, domestic/dating violence, stalking or any form of sex or gender discrimination, help is available. The office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides support to students. For more information about VPVA or to schedule a time to speak with an advocate visit the [VPVA website](#). To report an incident or speak with the Title IX coordinator, please visit our [Title IX website](#). If you choose to disclose to me, thank you for trusting me. I am obligated to report any disclosures to our title IX coordinator to ensure you receive the appropriate support and university response.”

Please Note: All Rutgers employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy, and healthcare providers as listed in Appendix A to Policy 60.1.33) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the University. This means that if you tell me or any faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, we must share that information with the University's Title IX Coordinator.

WELLNESS CENTER—HEALTH AND WELLBEING RESOURCES

Health and well-being impact learning and academic success. Throughout your time in college, you may experience a range of concerns that can create barriers to your academic success. These might include illnesses, strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol or drug problems, feeling down, or loss of motivation. The Wellness Center Medical and Counseling staff can help with these or other issues you may experience. You can learn about the free, confidential medical and mental health services available on campus by calling [\(856\) 225-6005](#), visiting the [Wellness Center website](#), or visiting the Wellness Center on the 2nd Floor of the Campus Center.

WELLBEING—NATIONAL AND STATE RESOURCES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

- Crisis Text Line: text HOME to 741741
- Crisis Text Line for Students of Color: text STEVE to 741741
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: [\(800\) 799-7233](tel:(800)799-7233) or text LOVEIS to 22522
- National Substance Abuse helpline, SAMHSA's National Helpline, [\(800\) 662-HELP](tel:(800)662-HELP) (4357)
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: [\(800\) 273-8255](tel:(800)273-8255)
- [NJ HOPE line](#) website
- The Sexual Assault helpline at [\(800\) 656-HOPE](tel:(800)656-HOPE) (4673)
- Trevor Lifeline (LGBTQ+): [\(866\) 488-7386](tel:(866)488-7386)