

Dear Curriculum Approval Committee Members,

As an introduction to the attached form requesting that **HI 101 – Introduction to Health Care and Public Health in the U.S.** be approved to meet the Health/Wellness/Fitness Requirement, I would like to add a few clarifications/comments:

1. The health care delivery system is a diverse and complex endeavor that includes not only hospitals, doctors, and insurance companies, but a host of participants ranging from the individual and their family to the World Health Organization. Few individuals understand the system very well and consequently do not engage effectively and knowledgeably with the wealth of knowledge and services available. This may be viewed as a health literacy issue. This course provides the student with a broad, functional understanding of the system's constructs and operations, issues, and regulations, thus empowering them to engage, or to help others engage, in an informed and appropriate manner that promotes health and wellness.
2. One concern in completing the form is that since it is recommended that courses limit their published outcomes (6-8 was recommended) and the criteria listed on the form are 10, it is difficult to do a direct match to the objectives requested. For this reason, I have taken the liberty to take more specific objectives from individual lessons in an attempt to indicate how this course addresses each of the 10 criteria.
3. Some of the criteria listed tend to be addressed throughout the entire curriculum rather than identified as a specific outcome with a specific lesson addressing that outcome. Examples of this are utilizing critical thinking skills (criterion 1) and increasing knowledge and awareness of anatomy, physiological processes which underlay acute and chronic disease conditions (criterion #2). These criteria are not encompassed in a specific course outcome but are addressed throughout the course.
4. Although this course was originally designed to meet a specific need in the Health Informatics degree, it has proven to be a popular and recommended course for many students in the Health Professions as well. Upon reflection, it would be valuable to any student.