

Hunger: PSU and Portland

UNST 421 Course Syllabus

Spring 2019

Instructor: Julie Boyles, Ph.D.

Office: University Studies, Cramer Hall, Rm 122; mailbox in Cramer 117; office hours by appointment (easiest before or after class)

E-mail: jboyles@pdx.edu

Course Description:

This University Studies capstone course will work toward and contribute to a sustainable model of food security for all PSU students while embracing the diversity of the PSU community. The course will work with its community partner, the Committee for Improving Student Food Security (CISFS), a PSU task force made up of faculty, staff, and students that choose to be involved with food security challenges on campus. This task force helps guide the work of this capstone by incorporating student-focused and -guided projects into the larger PSU goal of creating a food secure campus. Students will consider the challenges faced in our country of food insecurity and look at hunger in our own state of Oregon. The focus of the course will be the challenges of food security on our own PSU campus as well as hunger issues within our Portland metropolitan area. Service learning time will be devoted to our PSU Food Pantry, the Oregon Food Bank, and events on our own campus. These connections and collaborations help students learn, glean, and possibly integrate methods, strategies, or models or develop partnerships that may benefit the PSU community.

Objectives and Outcomes:

The University Studies program uses an interdisciplinary approach to help students build and develop the skills that are necessary to succeed in higher education and beyond. The four University Studies goals--communication; critical thinking and inquiry; diversity, equity and social justice; and ethical and social responsibility--can be found here:

<https://www.pdx.edu/unst/university-studies-goals>

Course goals for this University Studies capstone include:

- Participate in, observe, and commit to the process of service in an ethical, professional manner while honoring and valuing diversity presented in all environments (diversity, equity and social justice; ethical and social responsibility)
- Apply professional communication skills in all communication on campus and outside campus; employ compassion, empathy, and understanding in communicating with anyone--on or off campus--in relation to a challenging topic, food insecurity (communication)
- Research a wide array of models, programs, and components related to campus food insecurity on other campuses and distinguish which could be adapted, and how, to most appropriately fit the PSU context (critical thinking and inquiry)
- Understand the primary factors that influence and impact food insecurity and how those factors are different or similar on a college campus; also understand how various cultural, racial, and societal factors play a role (diversity, equity and social justice; critical thinking and inquiry)
- Determine what role culture, lifestyle, traditions, upbringing, values, and history play in food security on the PSU campus, in Portland, in Oregon, and in the nation (diversity, equity and social justice)

Course Design:

This course may feel, look, and appear different than other courses you have taken as it will rely less on lecture-style content and more on experiential, service-focused, and student-led learning. Each of you brings particular expertise and interest from the courses in your major, from your life experiences, and your own passions to this course and will be asked to contribute these to our class activities, assignments, and fieldwork.

Attendance and full participation is critical to a successful learning experience in this course. In the capstone setting, students, the instructor, and the community partner are viewed as co-teachers and co-learners. We will work together to achieve goals that both benefit your educational experience and meet a real need in the community, in this case, PSU. **If you miss two classes, your grade will be reduced by one full grade, and you may need to drop the course.**

Late Work Policy: Although I would like to maintain a “no late work policy,” I know that on rare occasion, life challenges occur. Therefore, I accept late work with a **25 percent penalty for a maximum of one week** (five minutes or five days equates to the same 25 percent penalty). You must email me, jboyles@pdx.edu, to alert me to your late submission.

Textbook, Materials, and Required Resources:

- **D2L will be the media for access to almost all course materials.** No textbook is required.
- **You must use your pdx.edu Google account** regularly for this course; we will regularly be using **Google Drive**, which must be accessed through your PDX account
- Five green/blue exam books required (may need one or two more)

Course Evaluation:

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Percentages</i>
What is Notable components: Two papers submitted to D2L; two submissions of <i>What is Notable</i> booklet with notes on all class materials (bolded entries in the course outline); in-class discussion and connection/correlation to articles and materials	50%
25 Hours of Service components: Cumulative hours submitted in <i>25 Hours of Service</i> notebook with notes, observations, and notable impacts; <i>25 Hours of Service</i> paper to D2L	30%
Class/group project and participation: Contribution/participation/attendance/dedication to the class project(s) during the quarter; also includes weekly activities	20%
Total	100%

Academic integrity:

All of the work you turn-in **must be your own and must be produced for this specific course**. Turning-in work that was submitted for another course or section will result in a 0 for that assignment with potential for much more serious implications. To learn more about what constitutes plagiarism, view this tutorial:

<http://guides.library.pdx.edu/content.php?pid=354274&sid=2907105>

Student Support:

- If you are a student with a documented disability and registered with the Disability Resource Center (drc@pdx.edu, 503-725-4150), please contact me to facilitate academic accommodations
- For tech support, call the HELP desk 503.725.HELP. The HELP desk is available 24/7 for technical questions and to help troubleshoot any problems you are having uploading documents, opening attachments, using D2L, etc.
- PSU offers a wide array of services for students. There is a wealth of support and network opportunities for you at PSU, including the PSU Pantry, in the SMSU.

Capstone Student Handbook:

The student handbook is required reading. It is an electronic file accessible through D2L.

Community Partner:

We are lucky to have the **Committee for Improving Student Food Security (CISFS)** as our “community” partner. The committed members of CISFS care about the food resources, nutrition, and relationship between education and food security. More information is available at: <http://www.pdx.edu/student-access-center/> The committee’s mission is:

Student food security is an integral element of a sustainable and equitable Portland State University (PSU) community. The Committee for Improving Student Food Security (CISFS) seeks to improve PSU students’ ability to access affordable, nutritious, culturally relevant food. This will be achieved through fostering community partnerships, increasing awareness, addressing barriers through policy advocacy, and using data to inform and build capacity for action.