

Uncommon Read - Five Days at Memorial
IDH 2930 Class: 24730
Spring 2022, Tuesdays 3rd Period, Little Hall, Room 119

Instructor Information

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352-392-1519
Office Hours: Available by appointment

Course Description

This course will focus on the book *Five Days at Memorial: Life and Death in a Storm-Ravaged Hospital* by Pulitzer Prize winning author Sheri Fink. When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, the following days were harrowing and proved catastrophic for thousands of residents. One population was extremely vulnerable – those receiving medical care at Memorial Medical Center, and tough decisions had to be made.

In this **highly participatory** course, we will follow the events of what happened, what were the consequences, and discuss the issues relating to the decisions that had to be made. We will discuss medical ethics, the response to an unprecedented natural disaster, and perspectives on end-of-life care.

Course Objectives

1. Explore personal perspectives of topics discovered through the text
2. Challenge personal biases about topics discussed in the text
3. Engage in scholarly discourse with peers/faculty

Required Textbooks and Software

Five Days at Memorial by Sheri Fink
Broadway Books, 2013, ISBN 9780307718976

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance is mandatory at each class and students are expected to arrive on time to class, ready to engage at the beginning of the period. More than one absence will result in a reduction in overall grade. Two late arrivals will be counted as an absence. Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Undergraduate Catalog <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> and require appropriate documentation. Make up work may be submitted only with instructor approval.

Course Structure

We will work through the book over the course of the semester, discussing themes at length. In addition, book reflections will be due at key points in the term and will count toward your final grade. We will incorporate current events and podcasts to enrich our discussion.

Evaluation of Grades

Grades will be comprised of thoughtful, relevant participation weekly (70%) and written submissions (30%).

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points			
93-100	A	4.00	73-75	C	2.00
90-92	A-	3.67	70-72	C-	1.67
86-89	B+	3.33	66-69	D+	1.33
83-85	B	3.00	63-65	D	1.00
80-82	B-	2.67	60-62	D-	0.67
76-79	C+	2.33	0-59	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

Library Support, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

Student Complaints Campus: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.