# Transcript - Course Introduction Example: Environmental Public Health

Hello and welcome to the core course in environmental public health. In this course, we’ll consider environments: ambient, built, and social and we’ll think about the ways that they interact with human health and well-being. We’ll do that by learning major concepts and factual information; by practicing and applying them to problems; and by critically thinking about the areas of those problems, which are difficult. I think environmental public health is exciting for a few reasons. First, by working in environmental public health, you’ll be working on major problems of our time. Things like climate change, water quality, injury, and the new ways that work is organized and performed. Second, environmental public health problems are often complex. This means that they’re often best addressed by groups of people working together who have different backgrounds, skills, and perspectives. Not only is that the best way to solve complex problems but it also makes for interesting work. Finally, that complexity means that we often don’t have black and white answers in environmental public health. That can sometimes seem frustrating, but it’s also an opportunity to use your creativity in problem solving. Online learning is best suited for students who are self-motivated, independent, who manage their time well, communicate well in writing, and who will speak up if there’s a problem. In this class, I presume that you are all of those things. I also presume that you are active learners – engaged in education which is process and quality-oriented.