

CURRICULUM VITAE

Ali A. Al-Rajhi

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EDUCATION

Doctorate in Food Science and Human Nutrition **08/09-Now**

University of Florida, College of Food Science and Human Nutrition

PI: Anne E. Mathews, Ph.D, RD, LDN

Projects focus on prevention and developing a healthy life style through behavioral change; e.g., healthier nutritional lifestyle, being more physically active, and understanding behaviors that influence overall health lifestyle. Populations of interest are young college students (age 18-24).

**Masters in Public Health,
Management and Policy Concentration** **08/07-05/09**

University of Florida, College of Public Health

The Public Health Management and Policy (PHMP) concentration centers on the structural and administrative aspects of health organizations. It also considers the political infrastructure of public health and how policies shape health programs and health services.

Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Cell Sciences **08/03-05/07**

University of Florida, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

AWARDS

Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Financial Sponsorship **04/06-current**
Saudi Arabia Cultural Mission

Society for Nutrition Education Foundation Scholarship **06/10**

Florida Bright Futures Scholarship **08/03-05/07**

INTERNSHIP/PRACTICUM EXPERIENCES

Shands at the University of Florida(SUF) **01/09-04/09**

Infection Control Department

- Analyzed SUF *C. difficile* database in trending for hospital-associated infection rates.
- Exposed to the workings of an acute hospital infection control department.
- Developed patient-care brochures to inform patients about MRSA, *C. difficile*, & VRE.
- Preceptors: 1) Loretta Litz-Fauerbach, MS, CIC
2) Lennox K. Archibald, MD, Ph.D., FRCP (Lond), FRCP (Glasg), DTM&H

- Please refer to website – PublicHealthBugle.com - for full project information under the 'About' tab

The Well Florida Council, Gainesville, FL

03/08-05/08

Healthy Start Program Researcher

- Focused on pre-natal care and intervention to reduced infant mortality
- Program planning for 11 rural counties in North Florida
- Compiled data from needs based assessment for Well Florida Central Healthy Start Service Delivery plan.
- Worked under Julie Ackerman, MPH

Well Florida Council is a private, non-profit 501(c)-3 organization located in Gainesville, Florida since 1969 (under its previous name of North Central Florida Health Planning Council). Well Florida is one of 11 local health councils in the state, was created as a response to a federal mandate that called for community input in the planning of healthcare facilities. It has evolved beyond its original mandated responsibilities and is now a major resource for services that build healthy communities. Well Florida serves 16 counties, 11,000 square miles and 1.4 million residents in North Central Florida. Counties served: Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Lake, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee and Union. (Source: www.wellflorida.org)

The Perth Leadership Institute, Gainesville, FL

12/06-05/07

Sales/Consolidation

- My duty as a sales manager was to contract Fortune 1000 companies and provide them with a financial leadership development program for C-Level and VP executives.
- I worked with Dr. E Ted Prince, the founder and CEO.

The Perth Leadership Institute has developed proprietary leadership assessment and executive performance improvement approach, the Perth Leadership Outcome Model™ (PLOM). This goes beyond conventional competency-based and psychological approaches. Instead it introduces a new outcome-based approach that is based on extensive research carried out with CEOs and senior executives. This links the personal profile and the Financial Signature® of the leader with the outcome and the financial and market value of the company. We do this using our proprietary financial outcomes approach. (Source: www.perthleadership.com)

RESEARCH

University of Florida Food Science and Human Nutrition, Gainesville, FL

08/09-current

Graduate Assistant and Campus Coordinator for U.F. Y.E.A.H (Young-Adults Eating & Active for Health) Study.

- Research Focus: Twelve principal investigators, most with extensive experience in working with the 18-24 year old population will collaborate and use the PRECEDE-PROCEED process of community-based participatory research to develop and test an intervention for the prevention of obesity in communities of 18-24 year olds.

The project is formally named “Y.E.A.H.”

-Research conducted under Dr. K. Shelnett and the NC1028 Multi-State Research Team

University of Florida Biology Department, Gainesville, FL

08/05-12/05

Lab Researcher

-Research Focus: The factors responsible for the generation and maintenance of genetic variation with a focus in the evolution of mutation rate.

-Research conducted under Dr. C. Baer.

Shands’ Ophthalmology Departmental Research, Gainesville, FL

08/04-07/05

Lab Researcher

-Research Interest: Retinitis Pigmentosa

-Research Focus: The influence of age-related macular degeneration, inherited retinal disease, inflammatory retina diseases and macular disorders.

-Research conducted under Dr. S. Kaushal and Dr. M Krebs.

PRESENTATIONS

An Evaluation of Walk-ability and Bike-ability on the University of Florida Campus and Surrounding Areas.

07/10

U.S. Food and Drug Administration Symposium, Ritz Carlton, Orlando, FL

Authors: Ali A. Al-Rajhi, MPH, Anne W. Mathews, PhD, RD, Karla P. Shelnett, PhD, RD

PRACTICAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

General Public Health Academic Background

To gain an understanding of how the various arms of public health interrelate, I took courses in United States Health Care System (USHCS), epidemiology, biostatistics, and behavioral/social issues in public health, and Environmental Health. These classes gave me a macro understanding of the public health realm. From my USHCS course, for example, I learned how stakeholders influence health care policies and how these stakeholders base their arguments from epidemiological and statistical data.

I ventured into understanding environmental issues through my Environmental Health class. Topics discussed focused on environmental policies (i.e, Clean Air Act) and why/how environmental agencies (i.e, EPA) implemented these policies.

Administrative, Structural, and Health Finance Background

Having taken an introductory public health administrative class, I have gained a broad overview of concepts and strategies for contemporary public health administration. I examined the

theoretical underpinnings of managerial decision making and the strategies required by organizational decision-makers.

By taking Healthcare Finance, I learned the concepts behind accounting and financial management. These concepts are important to understand how financial decisions are planned and made when it pertains to setting budgets and reading financial papers of a healthcare facility.

In addition, a course in Systems Thinking shed light on how administrative, financial, and policy sectors of a healthcare organization influenced one another.

Management, Evaluation, and Program Planning Academic Background

Further into my coursework, I wanted to gain more insight of how healthcare facilities were managed, and how leaders planned and evaluated various health programs/interventions. Introduction to Management of Health Services Organizations course provided knowledge and skills needed to understand and effectively manage within health service organizations by drawing from organizational theory and behavioral concepts.

Healthcare leaders are usually involved in some form of program planning or implementing an intervention, whether from a community, state, or national level. The Evidence-Based Management course provided a practical guidance on how to monitor achievement of program's objectives, gather information and evidence of the program's effectiveness, and determine their impact in public health settings. Skills learned included how to develop evaluation questions, measuring cost effectiveness, and sampling/evaluating populations.

Healthcare Policy Academic Background

Health Policy was a complimentary course to United States Health Care System. Taking the course allowed me to critically examine health policy making and health policy analysis. The course assignments helped to define health policy, provide an overview of the United States health policymaking process, apply key approaches and methods in the analysis of health policy, and discuss strategies for influencing policy.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES

General Public Health Competencies

- Monitoring health status to identify and solve community health problems.
- Diagnosing and investigating health problems and health hazards in the community using ecological framework
- Informing, educating, and empowering people about health issues.
- Mobilizing community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.
- Developing policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
- Evaluating effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
- Conducting research for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.

Program Planning and Assessment competencies

- Outline steps and procedures for planning programs, policies and interventions.
- Identify individual, organizational and community concern, needs, assets and resources for public health interventions and programs.
- Monitor program performance and intervention fidelity.

Leadership skills

- Encourage continual quality improvement for self service and work environment.
- Recognize the importance of maintaining positive relationships with stake holders.
- Solicit ideas and opinions to learn from others in forming decisions
- Provide examples of visions, missions and core values for an organization.

LANGUAGES: Fluent in both Arabic and English.

VOULENTEER RECORD

Key Club of Orlando Florida (former Club President) Volunteered with various daycare and long-term care facilities.	2001-2003
Orlando and Gainesville Community Orchestra Performances (violinist) Performed free concerts for the elderly and disabled who were either in long-term care facilities or hospitals.	1998-2006
Project Downtown (feeding the Gainesville homeless) Provided nourishment to the needy and homeless.	2006-2007