

School of Public Health

Syllabus and Course Information



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

PubH 6711 Public Health Law Spring 2017

Credits:	2
Meeting Days:	Wednesdays
Meeting Time:	5:45-7:40
Meeting Place:	Mayo D199
Instructor:	Anne M. Barry
Office Phone:	612-743-7183 (Cell)
E-mail:	barr0369@umn.edu
Office Hours:	Upon Request
Instructor:	Joel T. Wu
Phone:	651-497-4079 (Cell)
E-mail:	wuxx0179@umn.edu
Office Hours:	Upon Request

I. Course Description

This course provides the student with a basic understanding of public health law and how to apply this understanding to practical public health situations and issues.

II. Course Prerequisites

None

III. Course Goals and Objectives

1. Each student will have a basic understanding of the constitutional and regulatory powers in public health and how these powers are applied in public health situations and activities.
2. Each student will be able to critically analyze various public health laws, ordinances, regulations, situations and activities by balancing the rights of individuals with the legal powers and duties to assure the health of the public.

IV. Methods of Instruction and Work Expectations

Generally, class will be divided into two sections. The first section of class will be a review of assigned materials from the class textbook or other assigned readings by the instructor or other guest speakers when available. Class readings will closely follow the chapters of the class textbook. The second part of class will be used to apply course text reading materials to public health situations or issues using small and large group exercises. We will make use of guest speakers with specific knowledge of public health practice and legal issues.

V. Course Text and Readings

Textbook: *Public Health Law: Power, Duty, and Restraint* by Lawrence O. Gostin and Lindsay F. Wiley, 3rd edition

VI. Course Outline/Weekly Schedule

Session	Date	Topic
1	1/18	<u>Introduction to Public Health Law</u> Chapter 1: A Theory and Definition of Public Health Law
2	1/25	<u>Public Health and the Constitution</u> Chapter 3: Public Health Law in the Constitutional Design <u>Tax, Spending, and Interstate Commerce</u> Chapter 8: Taxation and Spending...
3	2/1	<u>Safeguarding Individual Rights</u> Chapter 4: Constitutional Limits...Individual Rights
4	2/8	<u>Risk Regulation and Justifications for Public Health</u> Chapter 2: Risk Regulation
5	2/15	<u>Public Health Governance</u> Chapter 5: Public Health Governance
6	2/22	<u>Public Health Regulation</u> Chapter 6: Direct Regulation
7	3/1	<u>Torts and Review</u> Chapter 7: Tort law
8	3/8	Mid-term Examination
	3/15	<i>Spring Break</i>
9	3/22	<u>Surveillance and Public Health Research</u> Chapter 9: Surveillance
10	3/29	<u>Infectious Disease</u> Chapter 10: Infectious Disease Control
11	4/5	<u>Noncommunicable Disease and Injury and Violence prevention</u> Chapter 12: Noncommunicable Disease Chapter 13: Injury and Violence
12	4/12	<u>Public Health Reform and Emergency Powers</u> Chapter 11: Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assigned articles for class debate
13	4/19	<u>Health Justice</u> Chapter 14: Health Justice and the Future
14	4/26	Class Review and Evaluations
15	5/10	Final Examination

VII. Evaluation and Grading

Grades will be based upon examination scores, class attendance, class participation, and two short papers each summarizing a topic from the current media and its relationship to class materials.

Two written on-line examinations:

Mid-term = 60 points

Final exam = 80 points

Attendance and Participation:

Class attendance = 20 points

Class participation = 20 points (includes debate participation)

Assignments:

Two short papers = 10 points each (20 points total)

Total points available = 200 points

Assignments and Exams

- Current Event Assignment One – Due: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 11:59pm
- **Mid-term Examination** – Wednesday, March 8, 2017 from 5:45pm-9:15pm
- Debate Participation – Wednesday, April 12, 2017
- Current Event Assignment Two – Due: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 11:59pm
- **Final Examination** – Wednesday, May 10, 2017 from 5:45pm-9:45pm

Late Work and Make-Ups

Assignments will be docked 1 point for each day late unless prior arrangements are made with the Teaching Assistant. Exam dates are firm and arrangements must be made at least one week prior to the exam date for an exam variance (barring emergencies). Exams will be docked 2 points for each 15 minutes late past the timed deadline unless prior arrangements are made between the Instructor, Teaching Assistant, and student. Please be in touch with the Teaching Assistant if accommodations are needed.

Course Evaluation

Beginning in fall 2008, the SPH will collect student course evaluations electronically using a software system called CoursEval: www.sph.umn.edu/courseval. The system will send email notifications to students when they can access and complete their course evaluations. Students who complete their course evaluations promptly will be able to access their final grades just as soon as the faculty member renders the grade in SPHGrades: www.sph.umn.edu/grades. All students will have access to their final grades through OneStop two weeks after the last day of the semester regardless of whether they completed their course evaluation or not. Student feedback on course content and faculty teaching skills are an important means for improving our work. Please take the time to complete a course evaluation for each of the courses for which you are registered.

Incomplete Contracts

A grade of incomplete "I" shall be assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, due to extraordinary circumstances (e.g., documented illness or hospitalization, death in family, etc.), the student was prevented from completing the work of the course on time. The assignment of an "I" requires that a contract be initiated and completed by the student before the last official day of class, and signed by both the student and instructor. If an incomplete is deemed appropriate by the instructor, the student in consultation with the instructor will specify the time and manner in which the student will complete course requirements. Extension for completion of the work will not exceed one year (or earlier if designated by the student's college). For more information and to initiate an incomplete contract, students should go to SPHGrades at: www.sph.umn.edu/grades.

University of Minnesota Uniform Grading and Transcript Policy - A link to the policy can be found at onestop.umn.edu.

VIII. Other Course Information and Policies

Grade Option Change (if applicable)

For full-semester courses, students may change their grade option, if applicable, through the second week of the semester. Grade option change deadlines for other terms (i.e. summer and half-semester courses) can be found at onestop.umn.edu.

Course Withdrawal

Students should refer to the Refund and Drop/Add Deadlines for the particular term at onestop.umn.edu for information and deadlines for withdrawing from a course. As a courtesy, students should notify their instructor and, if applicable, advisor of their intent to withdraw.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course after the noted final deadline for a particular term must contact the School of Public Health Office of Admissions and Student Resources at sph-ssc@umn.edu for further information.

Student Conduct Code

The University seeks an environment that promotes academic achievement and integrity, that is protective of free inquiry, and that serves the educational mission of the University. Similarly, the University seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; that is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and that does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community.

As a student at the University you are expected adhere to Board of Regents Policy: *Student Conduct Code*. To review the Student Conduct Code, please see: http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf.

Note that the conduct code specifically addresses disruptive classroom conduct, which means "engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor's ability to teach or student learning. The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities."

Scholastic Dishonesty

You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis. (Student Conduct Code: http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf) If it is determined that a student has cheated, he or she may be given an "F" or an "N" for the course, and may face additional sanctions from the University. For additional information, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/INSTRUCTORRESP.html>.

The Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: <http://www1.umn.edu/oscai/integrity/student/index.html>. If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor for the course. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class-e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam.

Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences

Students will not be penalized for absence during the semester due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances. Such circumstances include verified illness, participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoenas, jury duty, military service, bereavement, and religious observances. Such circumstances do not include voting in local, state, or national elections. For complete information, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/MAKEUPWORK.html>.

Appropriate Student Use of Class Notes and Course Materials

Taking notes is a means of recording information but more importantly of personally absorbing and integrating the educational experience. However, broadly disseminating class notes beyond the classroom community or accepting compensation for taking and distributing classroom notes undermines instructor interests in their intellectual work product while not substantially furthering instructor and student interests in effective learning. Such actions violate shared norms and standards of the academic community. For additional information, please see:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>.

Sexual Harassment

"Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment in any University activity or program. Such behavior is not acceptable in the University setting. For additional information, please consult Board of Regents Policy: <http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/SexHarassment.pdf>

Equity, Diversity, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action

The University will provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. For more information, please consult Board of Regents Policy:

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.pdf.

Disability Accommodations

The University of Minnesota is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. Disability Services (DS) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact DS at 612-626-1333 to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with DS and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, please contact your instructor as early in the semester as possible to discuss how the accommodations will be applied in the course.

For more information, please see the DS website, <https://diversity.umn.edu/disability/>.

Mental Health and Stress Management

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Student Mental Health Website:

<http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu>.

Academic Freedom and Responsibility:

Academic freedom is a cornerstone of the University. Within the scope and content of the course as defined by the instructor, it includes the freedom to discuss relevant matters in the classroom. Along with this freedom comes responsibility. Students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth. Students are free to take reasoned exception to the views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.*

Reports of concerns about academic freedom are taken seriously, and there are individuals and offices available for help. Contact the instructor, the Department Chair, your adviser, the associate dean of the college, or the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs in the Office of the Provost.