

Public Health Ethics for Research and Practice (H-650) Spring 2018

Online

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Course Description:

Public health and the tension between individual liberty and the common good are inextricably linked. The concerns of autonomy, rights, power, justice, discrimination, and stigma, coupled with finite resource allocation, health promotion, research, and scientific communication create inevitable conflicts for public health professionals to reconcile. The central organizing theme of this course, the intersection of public health and ethical paradigms, will inform discussions on translational science and community based approaches for research, scientific communication, and leadership in public health. This course will first explore the particular nature of ethical dilemmas presented for public health outside the norms of medical and bioethics. This course will go on to examine current practices and novel approaches for knowledge ownership and sharing in community-based contexts. Throughout the course, the concept of “truth telling” in public health will guide class discussions around how to interpret scientific evidence in the face of political and ethical conflicts. Finally, the course will traverse the history on the development of frameworks for ethical decision-making in public health and discuss the uniqueness and challenges of defining a set of ethical principles for public health leaders.

We will consider these questions and others throughout the semester:

- What is public health and what is public health ethics?
- Who is responsible for health?
- When do community priorities outweigh private interest? Is this always a question of cost/benefit?
- What does freedom mean in the context of public health?
- How well does our legal system protect, promote, or hinder public health?
- Why is the definition of community important for informing ethical approaches in public health?
- To whom, if anyone, does a public health professional owe a duty of care or loyalty?
- What are the unique ethical issues that pose challenges to community based research and translational science?

Conduct:

During this course potentially controversial topics will be discussed. Discussion and interaction are encouraged in order to develop your views and to get to know each other. There will always be respectful discourse during class meetings and over email and other electronic media.

Course Goals:

- Understand the philosophical underpinnings of the study of ethics,
- Be able to describe the theoretical foundations of ethics in public health, and
- Be able to analyze and apply ethical theories to practical every day issues in public health practice and research.

Materials:

- All materials are located in Canvas and are organized by lesson/day
- “Ethics, Prevention, and Public Health” by Angus Dawson and Marcel Verwij can be found through IU Libraries for online reading or download
- “Public Health Ethics” by Steven Holland

Supplementary Readings: Various Articles and Cases**Assignments**

- **1. Discussion Forums (20% of grade)**
 - Summarizing the Readings
 - Highlighting Main Points
 - Opening class discussion on the reading with questions or thoughts and engaging with others so they
- **2. Online Course Activities (80% of grade)**
 - Includes essays and reading reflections

Accommodations:

"Every attempt will be made to accommodate qualified students with disabilities (e.g. mental health, learning, chronic health, physical, hearing, vision neurological, etc.) You must have established your eligibility for support services through the appropriate office that services students with disabilities. Note that services are confidential, may take time to put into place and are not retroactive; Captions and alternate media for print materials may take three or more weeks to get produced. Please contact Disability Services for Students at <http://disabilityservices.indiana.edu> or 812-855-7578 as soon as possible if accommodations are needed. The office is located on the third floor, west tower, of the Wells Library, Room W302. Walk-ins are welcome 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday. You can also locate a variety of campus resources for students and visitors that need assistance at: <http://www.iu.edu/~ada/index.shtml>"

Religious Observances: In accordance with the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs, any student who wishes to receive an excused absence from class must submit a request form available from the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Affairs, for each day to be absent. This form must be presented to the course professor by the end of the second week of the semester. A separate form must be submitted for each day. The instructor must sign the form, a copy is retained by the instructor, and the original returned to the student. Information about the policy on religious observation can be found at the following website: vpfaa.indiana.edu. You can download the request form at: http://vpfaa.indiana.edu/docs/religious_observances/request-for-accomodation-religious-observances.doc.

Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism is not tolerated and will be punished. If you are not certain of how or when to cite reference material it is your responsibility to ask the instructor for guidance. Violation of these rules will result in a failure for the assignment, and when appropriate, the class.

Course Grading

Grading Scale (these ranges are inclusive and no rounding will occur):

A+	100 – 99 %
A	98.99 – 94 %
A-	93.99 – 90 %
B+	89.99 – 87 %
B	86.99 – 83 %
B-	82.99 – 80 %
C+	79.99 – 77 %
C	76.99 – 73 %
C-	72.99 – 70 %
D+	69.99 – 67 %
D	66.99 – 63 %
D-	62.99 – 60 %
F	>60

Reading Assignments: Please read and be ready to discuss all materials for a class meeting BEFORE the date listed.

I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus at any time. Any changes made will be announced in class but it is your responsibility to refer to the syllabus regularly for any updates.

Class Schedule and Readings		
Lesson	Class Topic	Material and Assignments
Lesson 1	Introduction & Values	Ortmann et al _ Public Health Ethics: Global Cases, Practice, and Context Holland, Public Health Ethics pp. 1-27
Lesson 2	Values	Holland, Public Health Ethics pp. 28-79
Lesson 3	Theories and Frameworks	Childress, J. F., Faden, R. R., Gaare, R. D., Gostin, L. O., Kahn, J., Bonnie, R. J., ... & Nieburg, P. (2002). Public health ethics: mapping the terrain. <i>The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics</i> , 30(2), 170-178. Kass, N. E. (2001). An ethics framework for public health. <i>American journal of public health</i> , 91(11), 1776-1782.

Lesson 4	Bioethics vs Public Health Ethics	AJPH, "A code of ethics for public health" Gostin _ Tradition, Profession, and Values in Public Health Dawson and Verwij _ Chapter 2 _ Ethics, Prevention, and Public Health (Can be found online through IU libraries) Case Studies
Lesson 5	Individual Right vs. Common Good	Lee et al _ Essential Cases in the Development of Public Health Ethics Van Ness _ Religion in PH Buck v. Bell – Compulsory Sterilization
Lesson 6	Resource Allocation	Module Resource Allocation Module _ Resource Allocation a Case Study – Resource Allocation Daniels _ Unresolved Rationing Problems Singer _ Why we must ration care http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/19/magazine/19healthcare-t.html?pagewanted=all&_r=0 Sean Malone and the Rebuttal to Singer's article

Lesson 7	Health Promotion	<p>Holland pp. 109-132</p> <p>Module _ Health Promotion</p> <p>Cho _ Unintended Consequences of health communication campaigns</p> <p>Guttman _ Ethical issues in PH communication</p>
Lesson 8	Personal Responsibility for Health	<p>CHA Data Findings</p> <p>Leichter _ Evil Habits and Personal Choices</p> <p>Kersh _ Personal Responsibility and Obesity</p> <p>Jones _ The Moral Problem of Health Disparities</p>
Lesson 9	Speech for Government Employees	Garcetti v. Ceballos 574 U.S. 410 (2006)
Lesson 10	Scientific Communication	<p>Readings/Problems with scientific research How science goes wrong _ The Economist.pdf</p> <p>Readings/Unreliable research Trouble at the lab _ The Economist.pdf</p>
Lesson 11	Public + Private Public Health	<p>Corporate Responsibility _ http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052748703338004575230112664504890</p>

Lesson 12	Surveillance	Pierce _ Least Infringement Principle Bayer _ Screening and Politics
Lesson 13	Research Epi in PH	Holland pp. 83 – 108 Brandt _ Tobacco Conflicts of Interest Rowe et al _ Funding food science and nutrition research
Lesson 14	CBPR	Resnik _ Balancing interests in CBPR Minkler _ Ethical challenges for the “outside” researcher Module _ Community-based Practice and Research
Lesson 15	Free Markets and Social Justice Big Food	Beauchamp _ Public Health as Social Justice Gostin _ Public Health ethics and Human Rights Brownell _ Tobacco and Big Food Similarities http://livestream.com/hofstrau/nphw2016 watch to 1:11 (the rest is Q&A but feel free to watch)
Lesson 16	Taxing the Sin	http://www.economicshelp.org/blog/7019/economics/examples-of-elasticity/ Powell et al _ Assessing the potential effectiveness of food and beverage taxes

