

CPH 559 / HPRO 998 Public Health Law 2011

Syllabus is flexible and subject to change based on student need, interest and enrollment.

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment	Due	Other Events	Learning Objectives
1	11 July	Intro to legal system and public health law	Text: Chapter 1 Reader: Chapter 1	Public Health Law Terminology Worksheet due at conclusion of class	TBA	<p><i>Define public health law.</i></p> <p><i>Recognize special role of government in creating conditions that ensure the public's health.</i></p> <p><i>Explore justifications for this role, including theories of democracy, normative ideas about the foundational importance of health, and historical experience.</i></p>
1	13 July	Foundations of public health & ethics	Text: Chapter 2 Reader: Chapter 5		TBA	<p><i>Examine various methods of legal and economic reasoning in public health.</i></p> <p><i>Discuss philosophical foundations, risk assessment, and cost-effectiveness analysis.</i></p>
2	19 July	Foundations of public health & ethics	Reader: Chapter 2 Chapter 12		TBA	<p><i>Examine various methods of legal and economic reasoning in public health, emphasizing the ethical ramifications of such reasoning.</i></p>
2	21 July	Restrictions of the Person	Text: Chapter 3 Reader:		TBA	<p><i>Explore the constitutional foundations of public health.</i></p>

			Chapter 5			<p><i>Discuss the obligations, if any, of the U.S government to assure conditions which protect the public's health.</i></p> <p><i>Examine government policy-making powers in public health.</i></p>
3	26 July	Restrictions of the Person	Text: Chapter 4 Chapter 5	<p>two-page analysis due at beginning of class</p> <p>health policy journal article analysis</p> <p>or evaluation of a policy meeting for a community health organization</p>	TBA	<p><i>Examine government policy-making powers in public health.</i></p> <p><i>Explore limitations on government power through the lens of American federalism.</i></p>
3	28 July	Restrictions of the Person	Text: Chapter 8 Reader: Chapter 8		TBA	<p><i>Examine tensions between individual interests (e.g., autonomy, privacy, expression, and liberty) and the common good.</i></p> <p><i>Evaluate implications of public health regulation, surveillance and research for civil liberties and private interests.</i></p>
4	2 Aug	Restrictions of the Person	Text: Chapter 11 Reader: Chapter 12		TBA	<p><i>Discuss public health powers of civil confinement (e.g., isolation, quarantine, and civil commitment) and criminal punishment.</i></p>

						<p><i>Evaluate efficacy of exercising such powers under various circumstances.</i></p> <p><i>Explore tradeoffs between infectious disease control and liberty interests.</i></p> <p><i>Discuss legal, ethical, and policy ramifications in the exercise of these powers.</i></p>
4	4 Aug	Restrictions of the Person	Text: Chapter 9 Reader: Chapter 9		TBA	<p><i>Discuss health promotion and educational endeavors.</i></p> <p><i>Explore First Amendment implications of governmental influence on dissemination of health information.</i></p>
5	9 Aug	Public health, civil liberties & torts	Text: Chapter 10 Reader: Chapter 10	<p>Five-page papers due at beginning of class</p> <p>For those taking three hours of credit, 10-page papers due</p> <p>20-minute Student presentations begin</p>	TBA	<p><i>Examine legal, ethical and policy implications of public-health based immunization, screening, and treatment (i.e., biological interventions to control infectious disease).</i></p>
5	11 Aug	Future of public health law	Reader: Chapter 13 The Model Emergency Health Powers Act	Assignment: Conclusion of student presentations (as needed)	TBA	<p><i>Discuss paradigmatic areas of modern public health such as emerging infectious diseases, bioterrorism, and public health genetics.</i></p>

5	13 Aug	Final exam		Assignment: Final exam due midnight Saturday of week five		<i>Open book, open note, self- administered Blackboard exam with three-hour time limit</i>
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