

**CMH 714**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS AND POLICY**  
**Spring Quarter, 2011**  
**Syllabus**

**COURSE DIRECTORS:**

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**TIME AND LOCATION:**

This course meets for ten weeks, on Thursday Evenings, 6:05-9:25 PM, at the Center for Global Health Systems, Research Park. Classes will consist of faculty and/or student presentations, discussion, and case analysis.

**GOALS OF THE COURSE:**

This course offers a general introduction to public health ethics. Course activities include readings, faculty and student presentations, case discussions, debates, and individual research. By the end of this course, students should be able to do the following:

1. Describe the core ethical commitments of public health.
2. Recognize the ethical values at stake in a variety of public health issues.
3. Effectively debate the pros and cons of different ethical approaches for selected public health issues.
4. Research and develop an ethical position regarding a specific topic.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Weekly readings on Pilot

## **ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to attend all classes. One class session may be missed; more than that without prior arrangement with the course directors may be grounds for failing the course.

## **COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

### **1. Written summaries of assigned key points from readings each week.**

### **2. Participation in discussion/debate:**

Each week will include some discussion and/or debate of ethical issues related to the topics of the day. In preparation for this, please read the materials assigned and be prepared to discuss the ethical perspectives presented in each.

### **3. One of the following:**

A 5-10 page research paper on a current topic in public health ethics.

A 5-10 page written analysis of one of the cases included in the readings.

Papers should be double-spaced, font-sized 11 or 12, and draw on at least 5 appropriate, peer-reviewed journal articles, properly cited in the text. You may choose your citation format, but use one style throughout. End-notes are preferable to footnotes. Due date for papers, June 9.

### **4. Article Presentation, Week 9:**

This week, teams of 2-3 students will present the key ideas summarized in one of the readings for the week followed by an ethical argument for a particular role for public health involvement in this issue. (Brown and Krugman will be combined and presented by one team of students.)

### **5. Final exam: Take home exam, due Week 10.**

## **EVALUATION**

Key points summaries (20%)

Class participation (15%)

Article Presentation, Week 9 (15%)

Research paper or case or analysis (20%)

Final Exam (30%)

**RETENTION OF STUDENT WORK FOR PORTFOLIOS:** The professor reserves the right to retain for pedagogical reasons either the original, or a copy, of any student's test, written assignment, paper, video, or similar work submitted by the student, either individually or as a group project, for this class. Student's names will be deleted from any retained items. It is highly recommended that you make a copy of all work which you turn in for this course.

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and need any test or course materials provided in an alternative format, notify your instructor immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** This course follows the Wright State University Code of Conduct: <http://www.wright.edu/students/judicial/conduct.html>

### READING ASSIGNMENTS

<p><b><u>Week 1</u></b> <b>March</b> <b>31</b></p>	<p><b><u>History of Public Health in the United States</u></b></p> <p><b>Goal: Understand the history of American public health and core ethical theories and values in public health</b></p> <p>Fairchild A, Rosner D, Colgrove J, et al. (2010) The exodus of public health: What history can tell us about the future. <i>American Journal of Public Health</i> 100(1): 54-63.</p> <p>Rothstein, MA, (2002) Rethinking the meaning of public health. <i>Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics</i> 30: 144-149.</p> <p>Introduction to Ethics. Notes MTW</p> <p>Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health (2002) <i>Public Health Leadership Society</i></p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> Code of Ethics---Values identification Develop Mission, Vision, and Values statements for public health</p>
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<p><b>Week 2</b> <b>April 7</b></p>	<p><b><u>Introduction to Public Health Ethics and Law</u></b></p> <p><b>Goal: Recognize the distinguishing features of public health law in the USA.</b></p> <p>Gostin,LO (2001) Public health, ethics and human rights: A tribute to the late Jonathan Mann. <i>Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics</i>, 29: 121-130.</p> <p>Childress JF, Faden RR et al. (2002) Public health ethics: Mapping the terrain. <i>Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics</i>, 30: 170-178.</p> <p>Bayer R The continuing tensions between individual rights and public health. Talking point on public health versus civil liberties, <i>EMBO reports</i>, retrieved at <a href="http://www.nature.com/embor/journal/v8/n12/full/7401134.html">http://www.nature.com/embor/journal/v8/n12/full/7401134.html</a></p> <p><i>Notes:</i> US Supreme Court (1905) Jacobson v. Massachusetts. In Gostin LO (2002) Public Health Law and Ethics, U of California Press, pp. 206-217.</p> <p>Mariner, WK, Annas GJ, Glantz, LH (2011) Can Congress make you buy broccoli? And why that's a hard question. <i>NEJM</i> 364(3):201-203.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Ken Dahms: Status of Legal Challenges to the ACA</p> <p><b>Debate: Affordable Care Act: The individual mandate is ethically defensible.</b></p>
<p><b>Week 3</b> <b>April 14</b></p>	<p><b><u>Autonomy vs. Paternalism in American Public Health</u></b></p> <p>Guest: Jim Gross, Montgomery County Public Health Commissioner</p> <p><b>Goal: Describe individual and government responsibilities for public health.</b></p> <p><i>Notes:</i> From Wickler, D (1987) Who Should be Blamed for Being Sick?</p> <p>Beauchamp DE (1985) Community: The neglected tradition of public health. <i>The Hastings Center Report</i> 15(6) December: 28-36.</p> <p>Buchanan DR Autonomy, paternalism, and justice: ethical priorities in public health, <i>Am J of Public Health</i>, 2008; 98: 15-21.</p> <p>Sullum, J (2007) An Epidemic of Meddling: The Totalitarian Implications of Public Health. <a href="http://www.reason.com/news/show/119236.html">http://www.reason.com/news/show/119236.html</a></p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Jones MM and Bayer R (2007) Paternalism and its discontents: Motorcycle helmet laws, libertarian values, and public health. <i>Am J Pub Health</i> (7(2): 208-217</p>

	<p><b>Debate: Mandatory motorcycle helmet laws are a legitimate public health policy.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Week 4</u></b> <b>April 21</b></p>	<p><b><u>Research, Justice, and Health</u></b></p> <p><b>Goal: Describe the central ethical concerns raised by public health research.</b></p> <p><i>Notes:</i> History of Research Ethics</p> <p>Mike Stobbs, Past medical testing on humans revealed. <i>AP</i> Feb 28, 2011</p> <p>U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45 Part 46, Protection of Human Subjects (<i>The Common Rule</i>)  <a href="http://ohsr.od.nih.gov/guidelines/45cfr46.html">http://ohsr.od.nih.gov/guidelines/45cfr46.html</a></p> <p><i>Notes:</i> The Legacy of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study</p> <p><b>Discussion: Based on TSUS, develop guidelines governing human subjects research.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Week 5</u></b> <b>April 28</b></p>	<p><b><u>Disease Prevention, Health Promotion, and Social Marketing</u></b></p> <p>Guest: Sabrina Neeley, MPH, PhD</p> <p><b>Goal: Examine ethical issues involved in social and behavioral interventions designed to promote public health.</b></p> <p>Deaton A (2002) Policy implications of the gradient of health and wealth. <i>Health Affairs</i> 21(2): 13-30,</p> <p>Thaler RH and Sunstein CR (2003) Libertarian paternalism, <i>Am Econ Rev</i>, 93(2):175-179.</p> <p>Loewenstein G, Brennan T, and Volpp KG (2007) Asymmetric paternalism to improve health behaviors, <i>J of Am Med Assoc</i>, 298(20): 2415-2417.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> US Law: Legislative and Regulatory Frameworks</p> <p><b>Discussion: Obesity--What are the options? What works? What are the limits?</b></p>

<p><b><u>Week 6</u></b> <b>May 5</b></p>	<p><b><u>Infectious Disease, Bioterrorism and Pandemics</u></b></p> <p><b>Goal: Identify the extent and limits of state police power.</b></p> <p>Gostin LO, Bayer R, and Fairchild, AL (2003) Ethical and legal challenges posed by Severe Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome. <i>JAMA</i> 290(24): 3229-3237.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Kinlaw K and Levine R Ethical guidelines in pandemic influenza, Centers for Disease Control, February 15, 2007.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Welborn AA, Federal and state isolation and quarantine authority, Congressional Research Service Report for Congress, Updated January 18, 2005.</p> <p>Bayer R and Colgrove J (2002) Bioterrorism, Public Health, and The Law. <i>Health Affairs</i>, 21(6): 99-101.</p> <p><b>Discussion: What are the key elements of a TB Control Act for Ohio?</b></p>
<p><b><u>Week 7</u></b> <b>May 12</b></p>	<p><b><u>Occupational Health and Genetics</u></b></p> <p><b>Goal: Describe ethical conflicts in occupational health and unique concerns associated with genetic risks.</b></p> <p>US Supreme Court (1991) <i>International Union et al., v. Johnson Controls</i></p> <p>Bayer R (2003) Workers' liberty, workers' welfare: The Supreme Court speaks on the rights of disabled employees. <i>American Journal of Public Health</i> 93(4): 540-544.</p> <p>Schulte P and Howard J (2010) Genetic susceptibility and the setting of occupational health standards. <i>Annual Review of Public Health</i> 32 (5): 1-11.</p> <p><b>Debate: Anonymous genetic susceptibility testing for Beryllium disease should be offered by employers.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Week 8</u></b> <b>May 19</b></p>	<p><b><u>Environmental Hazards and Health</u></b></p> <p><b>Goal: Identify ethical issues surrounding public goods such as air, water, food, and the environment, and the role of the precautionary principle.</b></p> <p>Hardin, G. (1968) The Tragedy of the Commons. <i>Science</i> 162: 1243-1248. <i>Abridged, MTW.</i></p>

	<p>Cranor C (1993) Regulating toxic substances: A philosophy of science and the law. In: Bayer R, Gostin, L, Jennings B, Steinbock eds. <i>Public Health Ethics</i>, (Oxford University Press, 2007). Ch. 19.</p> <p>Raffensperger C and Tickner J (1999) To foresee and to forestall. In: Bayer R, Gostin, L, Jennings B, Steinbock eds. <i>Public Health Ethics</i>, (Oxford University Press, 2007). Ch. 20.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Environmental health assessment</p> <p><b>Case Discussion/Role Play: Homer, LA</b></p>
<p><b><u>Week 9</u></b> <b>May 26</b></p>	<p><b><u>Food Security and Global Public Health</u></b></p> <p><b>Goal: Describe the factors that contribute to the availability, safety, and cost of food worldwide, and the role of public health in ensuring food security.</b></p> <p>Tauxe, RV, Doyle MP, Kuchenmuller T, et al. (1020) Evolving public health approaches to the global challenge of foodborne infections. <i>International journal of Food Microbiology</i> 139: S16-S28.</p> <p>Gonzalez H (2010) debates on food security and agrofood world governance. <i>International Journal of Food Science and Technology</i> 45: 1345-1352.</p> <p>Wallinga D (2010) Agricultural policy and childhood obesity: A food systems and public health commentary. <i>Health Affairs</i> 29(3): 405-410.</p> <p>Brown, L (2011) The Great Food Crisis of 2011, <i>Foreign Policy</i>, January 10 and Krugman, P "Droughts, Flood and Food," Op-Ed, <i>The New York Times</i>, February 6, 2011.</p> <p><b>Student Presentations</b></p>
<p><b><u>Week 10</u></b> <b>June 2</b></p>	<p><b>Final Exam due</b></p>
<p><b><u>Week 11</u></b> <b>June 9</b></p>	<p><b>Papers due</b></p>