Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health  
University of Arizona  

SYLLABUS  
CPH 608A: Public Health Law and Ethics  
Spring 2015

**Time:** Wednesdays 1:30-4:20pm  

**Location:**  
Tucson Campus Room – AHSC 3230  
Phoenix Campus - TBD

**Instructors:**  
Leila Barraza, JD, MPH  
lbarraza@email.arizona.edu  
Assistant Professor  
Community, Environment and Policy Division  
Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at University of Arizona  
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Drachman A245  
P.O. Box 245210  
Tucson, AZ  85724-5210  
520-626-0720

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Course Description:** This course is intended to introduce MPH, DrPH, and JD students to current and foundational issues in law and ethics that impact the policies and practice of public health. The goal of the course is to allow students to identify and appropriately assess legal and ethical issues that underlie the field of public health.

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Course Learning Objectives:** Upon completion, students will be able to:  
- Identify and explain constitutional underpinnings of public health interventions  
- Understand the respective roles of local, state, tribal, and federal governments with respect to public health  
- Recognize and account for the balance between individual rights and governmental interests in protecting the public’s health  
- Assess the application of public health ethical principles to the practice of public health

**MPH/DrPH Competencies:**  
- (A1) Present positions on health issues, law and policy.  
- (A4) Analyze the impact of legislation, judicial opinions, regulations, and policies on population health.
• (A7) Develop evidence-based strategies for changing health law and policy.
• (B5) Create informational and persuasive communications.
• (D2) Describe the legal and ethical bases for public health and health services.
• (D3) Explain methods of ensuring community health safety and preparedness.
• (D4) Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.

Required Texts/Readings:
1. Hodge, JG. Public Health Law in a Nutshell. West Academic Publishing; 2013 (ISBN: 978-0-314-28884-4) (hereinafter referred to as the Nutshell) [Available through AHSC Bookstore or Amazon]; and
3. Additional select readings provided by instructors.

Course Requirements: Students should read assigned material prior to class and be prepared to engage in discussion with instructors and other students. Students will also participate fully in a variety of in-class group exercises that focus on application of the topic discussed. Students will complete a 12-15 page (double-spaced, 12pt font) final paper on an approved topic of their choice and will present their research to the class. As designated in the course assignment calendar, students will submit a brief (~1 page) summary of their proposed topic to the instructors for approval no later than March 11. Final papers are due on the last day of class, May 6.

Grading/Student Evaluation:
Grading scale:
A = 90-100%
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
E = <60%

Weight:
Attendance and participation = 20%
Group Assignments (In Class) = 30%
Final Paper = 40%
Final Presentation = 10%

Class Attendance/Participation: Attendance is mandatory for all classes. Absences due to illness may be excused if properly documented to the instructors. All holidays or special events observed by organized religions will be honored for those students who show affiliation with that particular religion. Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean’s designee) will be honored.

Course Reading Assignments
Readings assigned should be read prior to class on that date (e.g., readings listed for January 14 should be read before the first day of class). Page numbers are inclusive and may not include all pages in a given chapter.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Nutshell</th>
<th>Reader</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 14</td>
<td>Preface, pp. III-VIII</td>
<td>Intro., pp. 1-10; Ch. 1, pp. 23-34</td>
<td>Course Overview; Introduction to Public Health Law and Ethics</td>
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<td>January 21</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>The Affordable Care Act; Public Health Care Programs</td>
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<td>January 28</td>
<td>Chapter 1, pp. 1-19</td>
<td>Intro., pp. 10-18; Ch. 1, pp. 39-50; Ch. 2, pp. 70-85</td>
<td>The Field of Public Health Law; The Role of Public Health Ethics</td>
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<td>February 4</td>
<td>Chapter 2, pp. 21-40</td>
<td>Ch. 3, pp. 99-114; Ch. 5, pp. 177-180; Ch. 3 pp. 121-133</td>
<td>The Powers of Government; Public Health Legal Authority</td>
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<td>February 11</td>
<td>Chapter 3, 41-70</td>
<td>Ch. 4, pp. 135-158; 161-164</td>
<td>The U.S. Constitution and Public Health; Jacobson v. Massachusetts Special Lecture – Steve Shakman, JD</td>
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<td>February 18</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>Field Trip: Arizona State Legislature (Optional)</td>
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<td>February 25</td>
<td>Chapter 4, 69-99</td>
<td>Ch. 10, pp. 365-372; 380-385; 389-408; Ch. 11, pp. 416-422; 428-432</td>
<td>Preventing &amp; Treating Communicable Conditions; Public Health Strategies for Epidemic Diseases Special Lecture – James G. Hodge, Jr., JD, LLM</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>Chapter 5, pp. 101-122</td>
<td>Ch. 3, pp. 117-121; Ch. 5, pp. 167-170; 172-177; 181-186</td>
<td>Preventing &amp; Treating Chronic Conditions; Legal Interventions to Prevent and Control Obesity</td>
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<td>March 11</td>
<td>Chapter 6, pp. 123-148</td>
<td>Ch. 6, pp. 195-203; 215-224</td>
<td>Injury Prevention through Law</td>
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<td>PAPER TOPICS DUE</td>
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<td>March 18</td>
<td>NO CLASS – Spring Break</td>
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<td>March 25</td>
<td>Chapter 7, pp. 149-178</td>
<td>Ch. 8, pp. 285-293; 311-320; 297-306</td>
<td>Information Privacy; Public Health Practice and Public Health Research</td>
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<td>April 1</td>
<td>Chapter 8, pp. 179-203</td>
<td>Ch. 9, pp. 323-361</td>
<td>Public Health, Communication, and Free Speech</td>
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<td>April 8</td>
<td>Chapter 9, pp. 205-226</td>
<td>Ch. 12, pp. 449-464; 467-476</td>
<td>Property Rights and the Built Environment; Public Health Nuisance Authority</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Chapter 10, pp. 227-248</td>
<td>Ch. 11, pp. 436-445; Ch.</td>
<td>Public Health Emergencies; Public Health Emergency</td>
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<td>April 22</td>
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<td>May 6</td>
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**Communications:** You are responsible for reading emails sent to your UA account from your professor and the announcements that are placed on the course web site. Information about readings, news events, your grades, assignments and other course related topics will be communicated to you with these electronic methods. The official policy can be found at: [http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/emailpolicy.htm](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/emailpolicy.htm)

**Disability Accommodation:** If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Resources (621-3268; drc.arizona.edu) and notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations. The official policy can be found at: [http://catalog.arizona.edu/2014-15/policies/disability.htm](http://catalog.arizona.edu/2014-15/policies/disability.htm)

**Academic Integrity:** All UA students are responsible for upholding the University of Arizona Code of Academic Integrity, available through the office of the Dean of Students and online: The official policy found at: [http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity](http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity)

**Classroom Behavior:** The Dean of Students has set up expected standards for student behaviors and has defined and identified what is disruptive and threatening behavior. This information is available at: [http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/disruptiveandthreateningstudentguidelines](http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/disruptiveandthreateningstudentguidelines). Students are expected to be familiar with the UA Policy on Disruptive and Threatening Student Behavior in an Instructional Setting found at: [http://policy.arizona.edu/disruptive-behavior-instructional](http://policy.arizona.edu/disruptive-behavior-instructional) and the Policy on Threatening Behavior by Students found at: [http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/sites/deanofstudents.arizona.edu/files/Disruptive_threat_bklt_2012.pdf](http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/sites/deanofstudents.arizona.edu/files/Disruptive_threat_bklt_2012.pdf)

**Grievance Policy:** Should a student feel he or she has been treated unfairly, there are a number of resources available. With few exceptions, students should first attempt to resolve difficulties informally by bringing those concerns directly to the person responsible for the action, or with the student's graduate advisor, Assistant Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs, department head, or the immediate supervisor of the person responsible for the action. If the problem cannot be resolved informally, the student may file a formal grievance using the Graduate College Grievance Policy found at: [http://grad.arizona.edu/academics/policies/academic-policies/grievance-policy](http://grad.arizona.edu/academics/policies/academic-policies/grievance-policy)

**Grade Appeal Policy:** [http://catalog.arizona.edu/2014-15/policies/gradappeal.htm](http://catalog.arizona.edu/2014-15/policies/gradappeal.htm)
**UA Smoking and Tobacco Policy:**
The University's "Smoking and Tobacco Policy" is designed to promote the health and wellness of all members of the University community, including visitors to campus, and it will prohibit the use of tobacco- and nicotine-containing products on property owned or controlled by the UA. This includes the main campus, the Arizona Health Sciences Center, the Phoenix Biomedical Campus, UA South, all satellite campuses, University vehicles, and any property leased by the UA. Smoking cessation aids, such as nicotine gum, patches, and nasal sprays, will be permitted, but all other forms of tobacco or nicotine - including pipes, cigars, cigarettes and e-cigarettes, all types of smokeless tobacco, and water pipes - will be prohibited. The latest version of the policy is available at: [http://policy.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/Tobacco-Free.pdf](http://policy.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/Tobacco-Free.pdf)

**Plagiarism:** What counts as plagiarism?
- Copying and pasting information from a web site or another source, and then revising it so that it sounds like your original idea.
- Doing an assignment/essay/take home test with a friend and then handing in separate assignments that contain the same ideas, language, phrases, etc.
- Quoting a passage without quotation marks or citations, so that it looks like your own.
- Paraphrasing a passage without citing it, so that it looks like your own.
- Hiring another person to do your work for you, or purchasing a paper through any of the on- or off-line sources.

**Syllabus Changes:** Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate.