Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
University of Arizona

SYLLABUS
PHPM/LAW 608A: Public Health Law and Ethics
Spring 2019

Time: Wednesdays 1:30-4:20pm

Location: Tucson Campus Room – COM 3230
Phoenix Campus – Telehealth Amphitheater

Instructor: Leila Barraza, JD, MPH
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Assistant Professor
Community, Environment and Policy
Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at University of Arizona
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520-626-0720

Office Hours: By appointment

Catalog/Course Description: This course is intended to introduce MPH and DrPH students, as well as practitioners, 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 Objectives:
During this course students will:
  • Explore constitutional underpinnings of public health interventions
  • Assess 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
  • Examine the application of public health ethical principles to the practice of public health

Expected Learning Outcomes:

MPH HSA Concentration Competencies:
Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Apply legal frameworks to analyze public health problems, explain the source and scope of the state’s power to regulate public health, and critique how the law can improve or impair the public’s health.

**DrPH PHPM Concentration Competencies:**

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Apply legal frameworks to analyze public health problems, explain the source and scope of the state’s power to regulate public health and critique how the law can improve or impair the public’s health.

**Required Texts/Readings:**

3. Additional select readings provided by instructor.

**Course Requirements:** Students should read assigned material prior to class and be prepared to engage in discussion with the instructor and other students. Students will also participate fully in a variety of in-class group exercises that focus on application of the topic discussed. Bill tracking and the development of a bill of the student’s own design will be components of the course and described in more detail during class time. Students will complete a final paper on an approved topic of their choice and will present their research to the class.

**Grading/Student Evaluation:**

Grading scale for Public Health and non-JD Students:
A = 90-100%
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
E = <60%

Grading Scale for JD Students: JD students will be graded according to the Arizona Law Student Handbook, which can be found at [https://law.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/asset/document/handbook_updated_nov_16_2016.pdf](https://law.arizona.edu/sites/default/files/asset/document/handbook_updated_nov_16_2016.pdf).

Weight for all students:
Attendance and participation = 20%
Group Assignments (In Class) = 25%
Bill Tracking and Preparation = 5%
Final Paper = 40%
Final Presentation = 10%

**Required Papers and Projects:** For master’s students, the final paper must be 10-12 pages (double-spaced, 12pt font). For doctoral and professional students (DrPH, JD), the paper must be 12-15 pages (double-spaced, 12pt font). The final presentation must be a concise 5-minute presentation highlighting
key findings from the paper. As designated in the course assignment calendar, students will submit a brief (~1 page) summary of their proposed topic to the instructor (via D2L) for approval no later than February 20. Final papers are due on the last day of class, May 1, and should be submitted via D2L.

**Class Attendance/Participation:** Attendance is mandatory for all classes. Participation points will be based on active engagement during course discussions and in-class group exercises. Absences due to illness may be excused if properly documented to the instructor. 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 & Schedule**
Readings assigned should be read prior to class on that date (e.g., readings listed for January 9 should be read before the first day of class). Page numbers are inclusive and may not include all pages in a given chapter. Additional readings may be added to the course’s D2L website, but students will be notified of any such additions at least a week in advance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Nutshell</th>
<th>Reader</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 9</td>
<td>Preface, pp. III-XV</td>
<td>Ch. 1, pp. 5-27; Ch. 14, pp. 589-592, 606-611</td>
<td>Course Overview; Introduction to Public Health Law and Ethics</td>
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<td>January 16</td>
<td>Ch. 3, pp. 124-31; Ch. 4, pp. 184-187; Ch. 5, pp. 215-218; Ch. 8, pp. 343-363</td>
<td>The Affordable Care Act; Public Health Care Programs</td>
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<td>January 23</td>
<td>Chapter 1, pp. 5-27</td>
<td>Ch. 1, pp. 34-44; Ch. 2, pp. 49-54, 63-69, 81-85</td>
<td>The Field of Public Health Law; The Role of Public Health Ethics</td>
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<td><em>Special Lecture – James G. Hodge, Jr., JD, LLM</em></td>
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<td>February 6</td>
<td>Chapter 3, 65-98</td>
<td>Ch. 4, pp. 143-160; 162-164, 172-177, 182-184, 187-189</td>
<td>The U.S. Constitution and Public Health; <em>Special Lecture – Will Humble, MPH</em></td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Reading Material</td>
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<td>February 13</td>
<td>Field Trip: Arizona State Legislature (Optional)</td>
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<td>February 20</td>
<td>Chapter 4, 99-134; Chapter 5, pp. 135-158</td>
<td>Ch. 10, pp. 410-432, 442-450</td>
<td>Preventing &amp; Treating Communicable Conditions; Public Health Strategies for Epidemic Diseases Special Lecture – Doug Campos-Outcalt, MD, MPA</td>
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<td>February 27</td>
<td>Chapter 6, pp. 159-199</td>
<td>Ch. 8, pp. 328-332, 339-342; Ch. 12, pp. 537-542</td>
<td>Preventing &amp; Treating Chronic Conditions; Legal Interventions to Prevent and Control Obesity</td>
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<td>March 6</td>
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<td>NO CLASS - Spring Break</td>
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<td>March 13</td>
<td>Chapter 7, pp. 201-242</td>
<td>Ch. 3, pp. 100-106; Ch. 5, pp. 220-224; Ch. 13, pp. 556-558, 561-574, 577-583; Ch. 14, pp. 593-600</td>
<td>Injury Prevention through Law; Environmental Public Health Law</td>
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<td>March 20</td>
<td>Chapter 8, pp. 243-279</td>
<td>Ch. 9, pp. 368-406</td>
<td>Information Privacy; Public Health Practice and Public Health Research</td>
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<td>March 27</td>
<td>Chapter 9, pp. 281-318</td>
<td>Ch. 6, pp. 246-256; Ch. 7, pp. 312-316; Ch. 12, pp. 504-525</td>
<td>Public Health, Communication, and Free Speech Special Lecture – Matthew Benson</td>
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<td>April 3</td>
<td>Chapter 10, pp. 319-348</td>
<td>Ch. 5, pp. 226-228; Ch. 12, pp. 531-535</td>
<td>Property Rights and the Built Environment; Public Health Nuisance Authority Special Lecture – Arthur C. Nelson, Ph.D., FAICP</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
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<td>Public Health Emergencies in Action</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>Chapter 11, pp. 349-385</td>
<td>Ch. 11, pp. 458-468, 479-486, 497-499</td>
<td>Public Health Emergencies; Public Health Emergency Ethics</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
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<td>Research Presentations (Tucson)</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
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<td>Research Presentations (Phoenix); Course Wrap-up</td>
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**Communications:** You are responsible for reading emails sent to your UA account from your instructor 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: https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/personal-information/official-student-email-policy-use-email-official-correspondence-students

**UA Smoking and Tobacco Policy:**
The purpose of this Policy is to establish the University of Arizona’s (University) commitment to protect the health of University faculty, staff, students, and visitors on its campuses and in its vehicles, http://policy.arizona.edu/ethics-and-conduct/smoking-and-tobacco-policy.

**University Course Policies:** (please see the following URL):
https://academicaffairs.arizona.edu/syllabus-policies

**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.