

# PUBH A203: HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	10/16/2024
Top Code	083700 - Health Education
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	54 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 54)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Open Entry/Open Exit	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S), • Pass/No Pass (B)
Associate Arts Local General Education (GE)	• Area 4 Social and Behavioral Sciences 4B Social and Economic Institutions (OD2)
Associate Science Local General Education (GE)	• Area 3B Humanities (OSC2)
California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC)	• Cal-GETC 4 Social & Behavioral Sciences (4)
Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)	• IGETC 4 Social&Behavioral Sci (4)

## Course Description

This course provides an introduction to the health inequities in the United States that stem from unequal living conditions. Students will explore how education, socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, and gender and other social factors shape health epidemics and policy development. The basic skills necessary for advocating for health and social justice will be theoretically demonstrated. ADVISORY: ENGL C1000. Transfer Credit: CSU; UC. C-ID: PHS 102.C-ID: PHS 102.

## Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Describe how policymakers influence the environment and how the environment influences choices.
2. Use data, both quantitative and qualitative, to identify health disparities related to socioeconomic status, race/ethnicity, gender, education, or other social factors.
3. Develop advocacy strategies to promote justice related to health and access to health care.

## Course Objectives

- 1. Describe disparities in health outcomes in the United States by race, socioeconomic status, and gender.
- 2. Compare and contrast the two paradigms that seek to explain health disparities: the individual approach and the public health model.
- 3. Compare United States healthcare policies with that of other developed countries and contrast the characteristics of each system.

- 4. Analyze the contribution of environmental conditions to disparate health outcomes, using case studies.
- 5. Describe the connection between environmental justice and disparate health outcomes based on race, class, and gender.
- 6. Analyze case studies of prevalent health problems to compare individual behavior change approaches versus public health approaches.
- 7. Describe strategies or tactics to improve health inequalities, such as advocacy, community organizing, and/or policy change.
- 8. Demonstrate advocacy skills, such as outreach, organizing, and mobilization of communities to improve health outcomes.
- 9. Identify, assess, and utilize credible information resources on public health current issues, such as the Internet, social media, media outlets, and libraries.

## Lecture Content

Factors in unequal health outcomes Social determinants of health Ecological model Race Historic origins of race in the United States Social construct versus a biological category Gender Sexism Class Education level Socioeconomic status Distribution of educational levels, income and wealth in the United States Policy proposals Reduce racial and gender differentials Address poverty and inequities Healthcare Access to health resources and medical care Insurance affordability Comparative analysis of healthcare and insurance across the United States and globally State and federal policies Existing New Environmental conditions Low socioeconomic status communities Poor housing Exposure to toxic sources Inadequate community resources Poor schooling Individual behavior change approach versus public health approach Environmental health equity strategies Health disparities/ inequities and health outcomes Low socioeconomic status communities Higher rates of infectious conditions and chronic disease Higher rates of violence, crime, gangs, alcohol and drug use, obesity, teen pregnancy, and premature death Improving health disparities/inequities and health outcomes Advocacy Outreach Organizing Mobilizing Program and policy development Access to credible information sources Organizational support Research Credible sources

## Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- DE Live Online Lecture (02S)
- DE Online Lecture (02X)

## Instructional Techniques

Faculty will provide lectures related to content topics. Technology will be used to demonstrate how to access peer-reviewed research articles and public databases. Class discussions

## Reading Assignments

Students will be expected to spend at least 4 hours a week with assigned readings, be it from the textbook or other sources provided by the instructor

## Writing Assignments

Students will be expected to spend approximately 2 hours a week preparing written reports related to course topics and case studies.

## **Out-of-class Assignments**

Students will be expected to spend approximately 1 hour a week with research. They will also complete their reading assignments outside of class (4 hours a week)

## **Demonstration of Critical Thinking**

Students will prepare case studies that demonstrate their ability to apply concepts related to health disparities and apply them to their communities. Students will use data to identify disparities based on race/ethnicity, SES, gender, and other social factors.

## **Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration**

Students will be given case studies that will require a written report and oral presentation. Students will work in groups to collaboratively develop advocacy strategies.

## **Eligible Disciplines**

Health: Master's degree in health science, health education, biology, nursing, physical education, kinesiology, exercise science, dietetics, or nutrition OR bachelor's degree in any of the above AND master's degree in public health, or any biological science OR the equivalent. Master's degree required.

## **Textbooks Resources**

1. Required McKay, F. and Taket, A.. Health Equity, Social Justice and Human Rights, ed. Routledge, 2020

## **Other Resources**

1. California News Reel, Unnatural Causes