PUBH A203: Health and Social Justice

# PUBH A203: HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

#### Item

**Curriculum Committee Approval** 

Date

Top Code

Units Hours

**Total Outside of Class Hours** 

**Course Credit Status** 

Material Fee Basic Skills Repeatable

**Grading Policy** 

Associate Arts Local General Education (GE)

Associate Science Local General Education (GE)

California General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC)

Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC)

#### Value

03/14/2018

083700 - Health Education

3 Total Units

54 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 54)

0

Credit: Degree Applicable (D)

No

Not Basic Skills (N)

No

Standard Letter (S),

- · Pass/No Pass (B)
- OC Social/Economic Institutions - AA (OD2)
- · OCC Humanities AS (OSC2)
- Cal-GETC 4 Social & Behavioral Sciences (4)
- 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.
- 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/ethnicity, socioeconomic status and gender.
- 2. Identify strategies to reduce health disparities across socioeconomic, racial/ethnic, and gender demographics
- 3. Compare and contrast two paradigms that seek to explain these health disparities: individual approach and public health model.
- 4. Review recent public health literature detailing ways that race, socioeconomic status and gender become embodied in disparate health outcomes.

- 5. Contrast United States policy on access to health insurance with that of other developed countries.
- 6. Analyze new health care policies under the Affordable Care Act and how policy impacts implementation.
- 7. Analyze the contribution of environmental conditions to disparate health outcomes, using case studies.
- 8. Analyze case studies of prevalent health problems to compare individual behavior change approaches versus public health approaches.
- 9. Describe strategies or tactics to improve health inequalities, such as advocacy, community organizing, and/or policy change.
- 10. Outline advocacy skills, such as preparing a policy brief, giving public testimony, community outreach, and/or writing a letter to an editor or politician.
- 11. Identify, assess and utilize credible information resources on public health current issues, such as the Internet, social media, media outlets, and libraries

## **Lecture Content**

Socioeconomic status, education level, and poverty as determinants of health Distribution of educational levels, income and wealth in the United States Policy proposals to address poverty and inequities Race/Gender as Factors in unequal health outcomes Historic origins of race in the United States Research on race as a social construct versus a biological category Policy proposals to reduce racial and gender differentials Access to healthcare and the health insurance crisis Comparative analysis of health insurance across the United States and internationally New healthcare policies: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) Environmental justice and health Toxic sources in low-income communities Inadequate community resources and poor schooling in low-income communities Reducing risks for urban communities through environmental equity strategies Infectious and chronic disease and their social determinants Health disparities in low-income communities Program and policy development to reduce disease Information sources and significant organizations Case Studies Violence Obesity, nutrition, and exercise Drugs topic issues Public health disaster Reproductive rights Strategies, tactics, and skills to influence health policies and health outcomes Advocacy work and community organization

## 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 o 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**

Ethnic studies: Masters degree in the ethnic studies field OR a masters degree in American studies/ethnicity, Latino studies, La Raza Studies, Central American studies, Latin American studies, cross cultural studies, race and ethnic relations, Asian-American studies, or African-American studies OR the equivalent OR see interdisciplinary studies. Masters degree required. Health: Masters degree in health science, health education, biology, nursing, physical education, kinesiology, exercise science, dietetics, or nutrition OR bachelors degree in any of the above AND masters degree in public health, or any biological science OR the equivalent. Masters degree required.

### **Textbooks Resources**

1. Required Hofrichter. Health and Social Justice: Politics, Ideology, and Inequities in the Distribution of Disease, Current ed. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2003 Rationale: This book is the suggested book on the C-ID descriptor. 2. Required Ansell, D. A.. The Death Gap: How Inequity Kills, 1 ed. University Of Chicago Press: Chicago, IL, 2017