

**The Evergreen State College**  
**Master of Public Administration Program**  
**Public Health Policy (2 credit elective)**  
**Spring Quarter 2017**  
**Syllabus**

**Faculty:** Maggie Leland, JD, MSPH, Adjunct

**Meets:** March 19-20 (5-9 Friday; 9-5 Saturday and Sunday)

**Contact:** [lelandm@evergreen.edu](mailto:lelandm@evergreen.edu)

### **Course Description**

Public health protects the health of people and communities by promoting healthy lifestyles, preventing injuries, and identifying solutions to detect and prevent disease. During this weekend intensive seminar we will examine public health policy development, implementation, and evaluation. This course will provide an overview of the public health system and essential services. We will explore diverse public health topics and current public health initiatives and efforts. We will discuss economic feasibility, legal and ethical considerations, the role of the science and public opinion, efforts to address health disparities, and other issues that impact policy decisions.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand and apply policy process and analysis models to public health problems.
- Be able to Identify, develop, analyze and evaluate options to address public health issues.
- Understand the impact of law and regulation on public health.
- Understand how to evaluate economic and ethical aspects of public health policy options.
- Identify how data and research, politics, and advocacy efforts affect public health formulation
- More effectively engage policymakers, communities, and other stakeholders on public health policy issues.

### **Evaluation/Assignments**

- Class Participation: Class participation will be assessed through discussion of assigned readings, initial writing assignment, and case study and seminar style discussions.
- Initial assignment due in advance of class: Identify a public health issue of interest to you that you believe needs to be addressed more effectively. Write a short paragraph discussing the issue, why it interests you and why you believe action is needed. Email to me no later than COB Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> (Canvas will not be used for this class). For current public health topics and issues, see the resources section of the syllabus.
- Public Health Policy Brief: Write a 3 page policy brief on the public health policy topic identified. The final paper will be due to me via email by COB Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Completion of a self-evaluation and a faculty evaluation.

## **Tentative Schedule**

*Schedule and course readings will be finalized before the beginning of the quarter.*

### **Friday, May 19th**

- Introductions
- Overview of public health, history
- Public health policy process and analysis models

### **Saturday, May 20th**

- Identify and assess options to address public health issues
- Law and regulatory framework
- Economic and financial impacts and analysis
- Ethical considerations in public health policy, health disparities and environmental justice

### **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

- Evidence based public health policy
- Politics, advocacy, and public perceptions
- Stakeholder engagement and community collations

## **Credit**

Students will receive two (2) credits at the completion of the course if all expectations and requirements have been met. No partial credit will be awarded. Plagiarism, missing class, failing to complete assignments, and completing assignments late may be grounds for denial of credit.

## **Electronics**

Laptops and other electronic devices may be used only for note taking and other in-class purposes.

## **Resources - Public Health Topics and Initiatives**

[CDC 2020 Topics and Objectives](#)

[American Public Health Association Topics and Issues](#)

[National Indian Health Board Current Public Health Projects](#)