

**University of Minnesota  
School of Public Health**

**PubH 5711  
Course Syllabus**

**Spring Semester 2005**

<b>Credits:</b>	2 cr
<b>Course Meeting Time/Place:</b>	<b>Wednesdays 3:35-5:30pm/Moos Tower 2-520</b>
<b>Instructor:</b>	Anne M. Barry, JD, MPH
<b>Address:</b>	5533 Woodlawn Blvd, Minneapolis, MN 55417 or 203 Cooke Hall
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Upon Request

**I. Course Description**

The primary purpose of the course is to provide the student with a basic understanding of the different applications and practice of public health law and apply this understanding to practical public health issues.

**II. Learning Objectives**

1. To develop an understanding of public health principles and the basic constitutional and regulatory powers in public health law.
2. To critically analyze various public health activities by balancing the rights of individuals and the legal powers and duties to assure optimum population health while protecting individual interests.

**III. Methods of Instruction and Work Expectations**

Course will closely follow readings in textbook. Generally class will be divided into two portions. The first section will be a review of the assigned reading materials. The second portion will be a classroom group exercise or guest speaker. All students will be required to participate in in-class group exercises. We will also make use of guest speakers with specific knowledge in areas of public health practice and legal issues.

#### IV. Grading

- 1. Grading Criteria** – There will be two written examinations. The mid-term will be a take home exam (100 points). The final will be an in-class exam (100 points). The mid-term will be worth 30% of the grade. The final will be worth 50% of the grade. Class participation will account for 10% of the final grade (45 points). Class attendance will be worth 10% of the final grade (15 points). The total points available will be 250 points.
- 2. Grading Option (if applicable)** – Students may change grading options during the initial registration period or during the first two weeks of the term. **The grading option may not be changed after the second week of the term.**
- 3. Course Incomplete** – An incomplete grade is permitted only in cases of exceptional circumstances and following consultation with the instructor. In such cases an “I” grade will require a specific written agreement between the instructor and the student specifying the time and manner in which the student will complete the course requirements. Extension for completion of the work will not exceed one year.
- 4. Scholastic Dishonesty** – Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the student conduct code and is defined as “any act that violates the rights of another student in academic work or that involves misrepresentation of your own work. Scholastic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to): cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, which means misrepresenting as your own work any part of work done by another; submitting the same paper, or substantially similar papers, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of all instructors involved; depriving another student of necessary course materials; or interfering with another student’s work.” Scholastic dishonesty in any portion of the academic work for a course shall be grounds for awarding a grade of “F” or “N” for the entire course. Please consult the student conduct code at: <http://www.umn.edu/regents/policies/academic/StudentConduct.html>.

#### V. Course Withdrawal

School of Public Health students may withdraw from a course **through the second week** of the semester without permission. No “W” will appear on the transcript. After the **second week** students are required to do the following:

- The student must contact and notify their advisor and course instructor informing them of the decision to withdraw from the course.
- The student must send an e-mail to the SPH Student Services Center (SSC). The email must provide the student name, ID#, course number, section number, semester and year with

instructions to withdraw the student from the course, and acknowledgement that the instructor and advisor have been contacted.

- The advisor and instructor must email the SSC acknowledging the student is canceling the course. All parties must be notified of the student's intent.
- The SSC will complete the process by withdrawing the student from the course after receiving all emails (student, advisor, and instructor). A "W" will be placed and remain on the student transcript for the course.
- After discussion with their advisor and notification to the instructor, students may withdraw up until the eighth week of the semester. There is no appeal process.

## **VI. Course Text and Readings**

There is one required textbook for the course. Textbook: Public Health Law: Power, Duty, Restraint by Lawrence O. Gostin. There will be some additional reading materials handed out in class.

## **VII. Course Outline/Weekly Schedule**

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

Session	Date	Topic
1	1/19	Introduction to course Defining Public Health Law and topics of student interest Chapter 1
2	1/26	Public Health and the Constitution Chapter 2
3	2/2	Safeguarding Individual Rights Chapter 3
4	2/9	Public Health Regulation Chapter 4 Guest speakers: Minnesota Department of Health
5	2/16	Public Health Information & Privacy Issues Chapter 5
6	2/23	Health Communication & Behavior Chapter 6 Guest Speaker: Minnesota Department of Health

7	3/2	Immunizations, Screening, and Registries Chapter 7 Guest Speaker: Minnesota Department of Health
8	3/9	Mid-term examination due in class
9	3/16	Spring break
10	3/23	Restrictions on Individuals Chapter 8 Minnesota Emergency Health Powers Act
11	3/30	Economic Behavior and the Public's Health Chapter 9
12	4/6	Torts and Public Health Chapter 10 Guest Speaker: Minnesota Tobacco Litigation
13	4/13	Public Health Reform Chapter 11
14	4/20	Core Public Health Competencies and Public Health Law (Handout from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/CDC)
15	4/27	Class review and evaluations
16	5/4	Final examination in class

Any student with a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor and Disability Services at the beginning of the semester. All discussions will remain confidential. For further information contact the University of Minnesota Disability Services website at <<http://disserv3.stu.umn.edu/index2.html>> or call 612/626-1333 (V/TTY).