A Web-Based Course for the Public Health Workforce

“The Roots of Health Inequity” learning collaborative offers a starting place for those who want to address systemic differences in health and wellness that are unfair and unjust. As a participant in this course, you will explore concepts and strategies by working through five units that describe different aspects of social justice as it relates to public health.

Each unit provides an in-depth look at a specific topic using various types of learning modalities — interactive maps and timelines, slideshows, geographic story-telling, resource libraries, video presentations, and interviews with practitioners. Below is an index of content in each unit.

Index of Course Content by Unit
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UNIT 1: WHERE DO WE START?
This unit provides Continuing Education by completing certain activities, signified by (CE).

Chapter: Workforce Capacity
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INTERACTIVE: Biggest Obstacles
Poll Inspire Change From Within
SLIDESHOW: Doak Bloss
DISCUSSION: Confront Unearned Privileges
(CE) DISCUSSION: Envision New Possibilities

Chapter: Community Engagement
Authentic Community Engagement
Action at the Neighborhood Level
INTERACTIVE: Polluting Sites in Northern Manhattan Interactive
INTERACTIVE: A Neighborhood Fights Back
DISCUSSION: Thoughts about the Presentation
DISCUSSION: Share Your Experience (CE)

Chapter: Leadership
Competing Interests and Political Pressures
DISCUSSION: Political Pressure Points

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DISCUSSION: Sharing Strategies Exposing Hidden Interests
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DISCUSSION: Focusing on Smallville
DISCUSSION: Scrutinizing Decisions (CE) Statements, Assumptions and Actions
COMPARISONS and DISCUSSION: Statements, Assumptions and Actions

Voices from the Field
Dr. Renee Canady
Vernice Miller-Travis (CE)
Dr. Umair A. Shah
Doak Bloss

Resources
A Starting Place
Recognizing Community Strengths
Community Relationships: A Self-Assessment
Rajiv Bhatia: Using Our Voice Excerpt

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UNIT 2: PERSPECTIVES ON FRAMING

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Why Is it Important to Explore
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DISCUSSION: Thoughts about the Story of Oren Long

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Defining Public Health Issues
INTERACTIVE: Top Priorities Poll
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Voices from the Field
Dr. Linda Murray

Resources
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Legacies of Social Injustice
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EXAMPLE 1: 1850s to 1870s: Structural Racism and the Transcontinental Railroad
EXAMPLE 2: 1900s: Exposing Structural Racism at the Turn of the Century
EXAMPLE 3: 1870s to 1950s: Discovery of the Causes and Cures of Infectious Diseases
EXAMPLE 4: 1940s and 1950s: Growth of Social Determinants of Health Inequities
VIDEO: Race: The Power of an Illusion. Episode 3
DISCUSSION: Thoughts About the Examples

**Voices from the Field**
Josy Hahn

**Resources**
The exodus of public health: What history can tell us about the future.
Introduction. In G. Rosen, A history of public health
Public health and the state: The United States.
A vision of social justice as the foundation of public health: Commemorating 150 years of the spirit of 1848
Health, civilization, and the state: A history of public health from ancient to modern times.

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UNIT 4: ROOT CAUSES

**Chapter: Class Oppression**
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Richard Wolff Examines Class
ANIMATION & DISCUSSION: Richard Wolff
Class Power in Action: Home Foreclosure
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**Chapter: Racism**
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Home Foreclosure: Impact on Women

Voices from the Field
Megan Gaydos
Pat Baillie
Portia Wu

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Voices from the Field
Ngozi Oleru

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Voices from the Field
Dr. Aletha Maybank

Resources
Selected References and Image Sources