



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

UNIT 1: WHERE DO WE START?

This unit provides Continuing Education by completing certain activities, signified by (CE).

Chapter: Workforce Capacity

Let's Start

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

DISCUSSION: Sharing Strategies Exposing Hidden Interests

INTERACTIVE: Smallville

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

UNIT 2: PERSPECTIVES ON FRAMING

Chapter: Frames

What Is a Frame?

Why Is it Important to Explore

Frames? What Is Framing?

SLIDESHOW: Frames and Farming

The Story of Oren Long

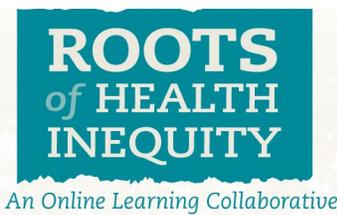
DISCUSSION: Thoughts about the Story of Oren Long

Chapter: Decoding Language

The Role of Language in Framing Issues

ACTIVITY: Recognizing Frames through Language

COMPARISONS: Recognizing Frames through Language



ACTIVITY: How Language Choices Affect Meaning
Statements, Assumptions, and Actions
COMPARISONS: Statements, Assumptions, and Actions

Chapter: Public Health Frames

Defining Public Health Issues
INTERACTIVE: Top Priorities Poll
VIDEOS: Aligning Frames

Voices from the Field

Dr. Linda Murray

Resources

Researching Critical Questions on Social Justice and Public Health: An Ecosocial Perspective
Framing as Strategic Action in Public Deliberation
Social Conditions as Fundamental Causes of Disease

UNIT 3: PUBLIC HEALTH HISTORY

Chapter: Learning from History

Introduction
Connecting the Past and the Present
INTERACTIVE: Public Health Timeline
DISCUSSION: Thoughts about the Presentation
Statements, Assumptions, and Actions
COMPARISONS and DISCUSSION: Statements, Assumptions, and Actions Comparisons

Legacies of Social Injustice

Introduction
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.

UNIT 4: ROOT CAUSES

Chapter: Class Oppression

Introduction

What Is Class?

Implications for Health and Well-being

Richard Wolff Examines Class

ANIMATION & DISCUSSION: Richard Wolff

Class Power in Action: Home Foreclosure

ACTIVITY: "Hidden Injuries" of a Class Society

Chapter: Racism

Introduction

Race: The Power of Illusion

VIDEO: The House We Live In

INTERACTIVE: Hurricane Katrina: The Unnatural Disaster?

VIDEO & DISCUSSION: Justice on the Table

Chapter: Gender Inequity

Introduction

DISCUSSION: Gender and Relations of Power
VIDEO & DISCUSSION Employment Discrimination: Paid Sick Days
VIDEO & DISCUSSION: Women Tell Their Stories
AUDIO: Social Justice at Work: LGBT Populations
Home Foreclosure: Impact on Women

Voices from the Field

Megan Gaydos
Pat Baillie
Portia Wu

Resources

A Case Study of Foreclosure in a Neighborhood in Oakland, CA
The Wage Effects of Sexual Orientation Discrimination
Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?

UNIT 5: SOCIAL JUSTICE

Chapter: What Is Social Justice?

Social Justice and Public Health
INTERACTIVE: Principles of Social Justice
DISCUSSION: Describe Your Experience and Expectations
SLIDESHOW: The Five Faces of Oppression
DISCUSSION: Social Injustice in Your Jurisdiction

Chapter: Identifying An Approach

Tackling Causes of Social Injustice
ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION: Why Is the Water Toxic?
ACTIVITY & DISCUSSION: Remediation vs. Social Justice

Chapter: Developing Strategies

Considering Your Approach to Social Justice

INTERACTIVE: Elements and Characteristics of this Approach

DISCUSSION: Share Your Experience

Seattle-King County Social Justice Ordinance

Voices from the Field

Ngozi Oleru

Resources

Index of Resources

Public Health as Social Justice

A Vision of Social Justice as the Foundation of Public Health: Commemorating 150 Years of the Spirit of 1848

Social Injustice and Public Health

UNIT 6: ADVANCING A PUBLIC NARRATIVE FOR HEALTH EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Chapter: Narratives

Introduction

- INTERACTIVE: What Do You See?

Relevance of Public Narratives in Public Health

- INTERACTIVE: The Progress of Public Health Practitioners

Worldview and Public Narrative

Recovering “The Political Unconscious”

DISCUSSION: Constrained By a Narrative: A Public Health Example

Chapter: Dominant Public Narratives

Observing Dominant Public Narratives in Everyday Life

- INTERACTIVE: Re-experiencing a National Monument

The Self-Determining Individual (Individualism)

Avoiding Structural Racism

Combating Racist Narratives

DISCUSSION: Examples of Structural Racism Embedded in Public Narratives

Equating Prosperity with Self-Regulating Markets

INTERACTIVE: Examples of Free Market Ideology Supported by Dominant Narratives
Against Government: Weakening Democracy
Examples of Weakened Democratic Institutions
Contradictions and Limits to Dominant Public Narratives

Chapter: Public Health

Introduction: Dominant Public Narratives in Public Health Practice
Analyzing Bureaucratic Discourse
The Restricted Knowledge Base of Theory, Evidence
Evading Social Injustice?
Individualism and Health Promotion
- INTERACTIVE: Ten Tips for Staying Healthy
Comparison: Individualism and Health Promotion
The Narrative of the Assets and Deficits Models
Racism as Overt Discrimination or Interpersonal Bias
DISCUSSION: Unintentional Racism
The Self-Regulating Free Market in Public Health
Weakening Democracy and Political Equality
Mass Incarceration

Chapter: Interrogating/Subverting

Subverting Dominant Public Narratives
Skills for Engaging in Narrative Critique and Transformation
Examples of Resisting Dominant Narratives
Teaching by Seeing Context
Identifying and Interrogating Dominant Narratives that Support Structural Racism
Racism and the American Dream Part 1
Racism and the American Dream Part 2
Disrupting Dominant Narratives Reinforcing Inequity
Why Do Newspapers Have A Business Section But No Labor Section?
- INTERACTIVE: Labor Section Newspaper Template
Comparison: Labor Section Headlines
DISCUSSION: Explanations for Poverty: the Narrative of Cause
Recognizing and Interrogating Dominant Narratives in Public Health
Unfortunate Outcome or Inequity?

ROOTS of HEALTH INEQUITY

An Online Learning Collaborative

Chapter: Reclaiming

Reclaiming a Public Narrative for Social Justice and Health Equity

Suggested Elements For Advancing Public Narrative

Occupy Wall Street: Exposing The Big Picture

The Economic Bill of Rights

Narrative in Community Organizing

Public Health Activities: Changing Questions and Concepts, Part 1

Public Health Activities: Questions and Concepts, Part 2

Suggested Components of a Story for Public Health

Voices from the Field

Dr. Aletha Maybank

Resources

Selected References and Image Sources