

Public Health Law
Spring 2008
Thursdays 6 – 7:55 PM (2 credits)
Instructor: Susan Nicholas, MPA, JD
Cell: 602-300-4919

Required Text/Material:

- 1) Lawrence O. Gostin, *Public Health Law: Power, Duty, Restraint*, University of California Press (2000) (referred to herein as “Text”)
- 2) Lawrence O. Gostin, ed., *Public Health Law and Ethics: A Reader*. (referred to herein as “Reader.”) Copies of pertinent readings are located at the law library and at the copy center.
- 3) Subscribe (for free) to the *Public Health Law News* at: <http://www2a.cdc.gov/phlp/cphln.asp> (herein referred to as “News.”) Review current and archived issues to determine a topic or topics for your presentation and paper.
- 4) Other materials as mentioned below.

Grading:

Class attendance (10%) and participation (15%)
Paper (35%)
Presentation (35%)

Paper: Topic: a public health legal issue, 8-10 pages in length; may include appendices up to 3 pages; all pages are to be one-sided and single spaced.
Font requirements: Arial, regular style, size: 12.

Presentation: 15 minutes

Syllabus (subject to change):

Week 1: (January 17, 2008) Introduction to Public Health (guest speaker)

Readings:

Text: Chapter 1

Reader: Chapter 1, pages 1 – 6

Chapter 2:

- Sanitary Commission, Shattuck, pages 204-212
- Communication of Cholera, Snow
- IOM Report – 8 page report
- Healthy People – 2 page executive summary

News: Pick a topic of interest to you and be prepared to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 2: (January 24, 2008) Public Health Ethics and Human Rights

Readings:

Reader: Chapter 1, pages 6 – 13

Chapter 3, Gostin article. Be prepared to discuss the case studies in class.

Chapter 4:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- ICESCR
- General Comment 14
- ICCPR

Chapter 5

News: Pick a topic of interest to you and be prepared to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 3: (January 31, 2008) Public Health and the Constitution

Readings:

Text: Chapter 2

Reader: Chapter 6

News: Pick a topic of interest to you and be prepared to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 4: (February 7, 2008) Constitutional Limits and Individual Rights

Readings:

Text: Chapter 3

Reader: Chapter 7

News: Pick a topic of interest to you and be prepared to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 5: (February 14, 2008) Surveillance and Public Health Research and Privacy

Readings:

Text: Chapter 5

Reader: Chapter 10

News: Pick a topic of interest to you to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 6: (February 21, 2008) Health Promotion: Education, Persuasion, and Free Expression

Due: Provide an outline and bibliography of your paper (same font requirements).

Readings:

Text: Chapter 6

Reader: Chapter 11

News: Pick a topic of interest to you to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 7: (February 28, 2008) Biological Interventions to Control Infectious Diseases: Immunization, Screening, and Treatment

Readings:

Text: Chapter 7

Reader: Chapter 12

News: Pick a topic of interest to you to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 8: (March 6, 2008) Restrictions of the Person: Civil Confinement and Criminal Punishment

Readings:

Text: Chapter 8

Reader: Chapter 13

News: Pick a topic of interest to you to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Week 9: (March 20, 2008) The Government Attorney/ The Health Care Worker/Public Health Institutions (guest speaker)

Week 10: (March 27, 2008) Emerging Infections, Bioterrorism and International Health Issues

Readings:

Reader: Chapter 14 (The Model Emergency Health Powers Act will be discussed in the next class)

Lawrence O. Gostin et al., *Ethical and Legal Challenges Posed by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome*, JAMA 3229 (2003)

Lawrence O. Gostin, *International Infectious Disease Law*, 291 JAMA 2623 (2004)

News: Pick a topic of interest to you to discuss briefly in class as time permits

Due: Your paper.

Week 11: (April 3, 2008) Public Health Emergencies (guest speaker)

Readings:

Reader Website: The Model Emergency Health Powers Act

Lawrence O. Gostin, *Public Health Law in an Age of Terrorism: Rethinking Individual Rights and Common Goods*, 21 Health Affairs 79 (Nov./Dec. 2002)
George J. Annas, *Bioterrorism, Public Health, and Human Rights*, 21 Health Affairs 94 (Nov/Dec. 2002)

In-class exercise

(Student presentations may begin this week.)

Week 12: (April 10, 2008) Student Presentations

Week 13: (April 17, 2008) Student Presentations