

**Model Syllabus for use with**  
**Essentials of Health Justice: Law, Policy, and Structural Change**

Authors' Notes to Course Instructors:

- 1) *Essentials of Health Justice: Law, Policy, and Structural Change* is designed to appeal to instructors and students across a range of disciplines, including public health, law, medicine, allied health, social justice, and public policy. As a result, we attempted to integrate public health, medical, and legal concepts and principles across a range of topics related to health justice, while being mindful about the depth of the content covered and the overall length of the book. This may result, for some instructors, in the need to supplement the use of this textbook with other materials. For example, law professors may wish to supplement book chapters with relevant cases, while public health and health professions faculty may supplement with epidemiological or medical research studies.
  
- 2) There are 16 chapters in the textbook. This model syllabus has 16 class sessions, though we reserve a session for a mid-term exam by combining Chapters 3 and 4 (*The Roles of the Three Branches of Government in Health* and *Health-Harming Legal Doctrines*) into one session. If your course is structured around the traditional model of 14 class sessions, consider removing the mid-term exam and/or combining or removing certain topics based on your particular course/audience.

	<b>[School/Department of]</b>  <b>[Course Number/Section] [Semester, Year]</b>  <b>[Course Title]</b>  <b>[Day], [Time], [Location]</b>
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**Instructor**

Name, Degree(s)

Title

Campus Address

Phone: [ ]

Fax: [ ]

Email: [ ]

Office Hours: [ ] or by appointment

**Course Description [Revise as needed pursuant to Authors' Note #2 above]**

This is a survey course on the broad topic of Health Justice. It begins by describing certain contextual theories, definitions, and frameworks applicable to health, law, and policy, and also some of the lessons learned from relevant U.S. social movements. It then turns to a discussion of some aspects of the legal system that undermine health justice: the shortcomings of the various branches of government as they carry out their roles in population health; certain health-harming legal doctrines; the lack of a human rights focus in U.S. law and policy; and the limits of antidiscrimination law. The course then explores both structural inequity and the unique health injustices suffered by several different historically disadvantaged populations. Finally, students will analyze the key elements of a more robust health justice agenda, including efforts underway and efforts not yet fully realized.

**Course Prerequisite(s):**

**Course Learning Objectives:**

[TBA]

**Required Texts**

Title	Authors	Edition
<i>Essentials of Health Justice: Law, Policy and Structural Change (EHJ)</i>	Elizabeth Tobin-Tyler and Joel Teitelbaum	2nd

**Recommended/Supplemental Texts**

Title	Author	Edition

**Methods of Instruction**

<input type="checkbox"/> Lectures	<input type="checkbox"/> Class and Small Group Discussions
<input type="checkbox"/> Case Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Presentations
<input type="checkbox"/> Required Readings/Textbook	<input type="checkbox"/> Other(s) [Specify]
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommended/Supplemental Readings	

**Methods of Evaluation**

**Percent of Grade**

Homework Assignments	
Individual Project/Paper/Presentation	
Class Participation [Explain how this is evaluated]	
Panel Presentations	
Small Group Project	
Quizzes	
Cooperative Learning Experiences	
Case Studies	
Journals/Learning Logs	
Mid-Term Exam	
Final Exam	

**Expectations for individual contributions and acceptable levels of collaboration for assignments on which students work together** [describe]

**Grading Scale and Standards** [describe]

**Late Work Policy** [describe]

**Make-Up Exams Policy** [describe]

**Attendance/Participation Policy** [describe]

**Academic Integrity Statement** [describe]

**Students with Disabilities** [resources available]

**Adverse Weather/Class Cancellation Policy** [describe]

**[Other Policies as desired]**

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## Session Outline

### PART 1: CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

#### Session 1

Day/Date

**Topic:** Introductory Theories, Definitions, and Frameworks for Health Justice

**Required readings:** *EHJ* Chapter 1

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

#### Session 2

Day/Date

**Topic:** Lessons from U.S. Social Movements for Health Justice

**Required readings:** *EHJ* Chapter 2

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

### PART 2: ASPECTS OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM THAT UNDERMINE HEALTH JUSTICE

#### Session 3

Day/Date

**Topic:** The Roles of the Three Branches of Government in Health; Health-Harming Legal Doctrines

**Required readings:** *EHJ* Chapters 3 and 4

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

Session 4	Day/Date
<p><b>Topic:</b> International Human Rights, Health, and the Failure of U.S. Leadership</p> <p><b>Required readings:</b> <i>EHI</i> Chapter 5</p> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <p><b>Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:</b></p>	
Session 5	
<p><b>Topic:</b> Discrimination, Implicit Bias, and the Limits of the Law</p> <p><b>Required readings:</b> <i>EHI</i> Chapter 6</p> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <p><b>Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:</b></p>	
PART 3: STRUCTURAL INEQUITY AND HEALTH INJUSTICE	
Session 6	Day/Date
<p><b>Topic:</b> Socioeconomic Status, Unmet Social Needs and Health</p> <p><b>Required readings:</b> <i>EHI</i> Chapter 7</p> <p><b>Assignments:</b></p> <p><b>Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:</b></p>	
Session 7	

**Topic:** Place-Based Disparities

**Required readings:** *EHI* Chapter 8

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**Session 8**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** The Carceral State

**Required readings:** *EHI* Chapter 9

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**Session 9**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** Mid-Term Exam

**Required readings:** *N/A*

**Description of Mid-Term:**

**PART 4: HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED POPULATIONS AND HEALTH INJUSTICE**

**Session 10**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** Asian, Black, Indigenous, and Latinx People

**Required readings:** *EHI* Chapter 10

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**Session 11**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** Immigrants

**Required readings:** *EHI* Chapter 11

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**Session 12**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** Women

**Required readings:** *EHI* Chapter 12

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**Session 13**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** LGBTQ+ People

**Required readings:** *EHI* Chapter 13

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**Session 14**

**Day/Date**



**Topic:** People With Disabilities

**Required readings:** *EHJ* Chapter 14

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**PART 5: STRIVING FOR HEALTH JUSTICE**

**Session 15**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** Existing Efforts to Achieve Health Justice

**Required readings:** *EHJ* Chapter 15

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**

**Session 16**

**Day/Date**

**Topic:** Law, Policy and Structural Change: New Directions for Health Justice

**Required readings:** *EHJ* Chapter 16

**Assignments:**

**Addresses the following Course Learning Objectives:**