

National Taiwan University College of Public Health

845 U1450

PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS

Fall 2008

Every other Monday 13:20-15:10, Room 211

Tung-liang Chiang, tlchiang@ntu.edu.tw

Kevin Chien-Chang Wu, ccwu88@ntu.edu.tw

Course Overview

This course aims at introducing students to the field of public health ethics through learning by doing. The first part reviews the basic ethical tenets of public health practices and the brief history of public health. The second part, providing representative readings of public health ethics debates, intends to train the students to use the newly acquired knowledge to make comments on several important public health issues, which include autonomy and paternalism, justice and health, infectious disease, occupational and environmental regulation, genetics and public health.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course students should be able to:

- describe the nature and scope of public health;
- compare major theories of public health ethics;
- identify ethical issues in specific public health events; and
- prepare ethical analysis of public health policy and practice.

Course Requirements

This course meets for two hours, once every two weeks. It is a mixture of lectures, discussions, and student presentations. For each class students are required to read all assigned readings; and submit one-page note, which contains a summary of assigned readings and their personal reflections on last class.

All participant students will be grouped into several study groups. For each class of the second part, the study group has to choose in advance and conduct an ethical analysis of one specific public health issue related to the class topic (no more than 1200 Chinese characters). Three days prior to the class, the study group has to complete and e-mail the ethical analysis essay to instructors and all the classmates. The class will begin with a 40 minutes lecture, followed by 15 minutes group discussion, and 45 minutes student presentation. In the discussion section, each study group will work independently to revise the ethical analysis if necessary. In the presentation section, representatives should report the ethical analysis of their own group and make critiques on the essays of other groups.

On January 12, 2009, all study groups must submit one expanded ethical analysis of their favorite public health issues and make a presentation accordingly. The expanded essay should be 1.5-line-spaced, in no. 12 characters and no more than 8-10 pages.

Course Grading

Students will be graded according to the following criteria:

- Individual reflection-and-summary note: 25%
- Individual course participation: 25%
- Class group reports, presentations, and critiques: 25%
- Final group report and presentation: 25%

Required Textbook

Bayer R, Gostin LO, Jennings B, Steinbock B, *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2007.

Recommended Websites

Association of Schools of Public Health, Ethics and Public Health Model Curriculum--
<http://www.asph.org/document.cfm?page=782>

Public Health Ethics-- <http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/>

* * *

National Taiwan University College of Public Health

845 U1450

PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS

09/15	Welcome	Chiang & Wu
PART ONE Theories and History		
09/22	Theories of public health ethics	Wu
10/06	Brief history of public health	Chiang
PART TWO Specific Topics		
10/20	Autonomy and paternalism	Wu
11/03	Infectious disease: The protection of society	Wu
11/24	Health and justice	Chiang
12/08	Environmental and occupational health	Chan Chang-Chuan
12/22	Genetics and public health	Wu
01/12	Final presentation	Chiang & Wu

TOPICS AND READINGS

Sep 05 **Welcome**

Callahan D, Jennings B. Ethics and public health - forging a strong relationship. *Am J Public Health* 2002; 92:169-76.

Sep 29 **Theories of Public Health Ethics**

Anonymous. Introduction: ethical theory and public health. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 3-24.

Kass NE. An ethics framework for public health. *Am J Public Health* 2001; 91:1776-82.

Roberts MJ, Reich MR. Ethical analysis in public health. *Lancet* 2002; 359:1055-59.

Childress JF, Faden RR, et al.: Public health ethics: mapping the terrain. *J Law Med Ethics* 2002; 30:170-78.

Oct 13 **Brief History of Public Health**

Rose G. Sick individuals and sick populations. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 33-44.

Beauchamp DE. Community: the neglected tradition of public health. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 45-56.

Gostin LO, Boufford JI, Martinez RM. The future of the public's health: vision, values, and strategies. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 57-70.

Rothstein MA. Rethinking the meaning of public health. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 71-81.

Oct 27 **Autonomy and Paternalism**

Wikler D, Who should be blamed for being sick? In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 89-104.

Bayer R, Moreno JD. Health promotion: ethical and social dilemmas of government policy. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 105-116.

Goodin R, No smoking: the ethical issues. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 117-126.

Sullum J. For your own good: the anti-smoking crusade and the tyranny of public health. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 127-134.

Nov 10 Infectious Disease

Bayer R, Fairchild AL. Surveillance and privacy. I In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 255-259.

Gostin LO, Bayer R, Fairchild AL. Ethical and legal challenges posed by severe acute respiratory syndrome: implications for the control of severe infectious disease threats. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*,. 261-277.

Diekema DS, Marcuse EK. Ethical issues in the vaccination of children. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 279-288.

Nov 24 Justice and Health

Deaton A. Policy implications of the gradient of health and wealth. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 171-86.

Wilkinson RG. Putting the picture together: prosperity, redistribution, health, and welfare. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 187-204.

Daniels N, Kennedy BP, Kawachi I. Why justice is good for our health: the social determinants of health inequalities. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 205-30.

Jennings B. Health policy in a new key: setting democratic priorities. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 231-45.

Dec 08 Environmental and Occupational Health

TBA

Dec 22 Genetics and Public Health

Burris S, Gostin LO. Genetic screening from a public perspective: three 'ethical' principles. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 357-367.

Clayton EW. The complex relationships of genetics, groups, and health: what it means for public health. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 377-390.

Sankar P, Cho MK, Condit CM, et al. Genetic research and health disparity. In: *Public Health Ethics: Theory, Policy, and Practice*, 391-401.

Jan 12 Final Presentation/Ethical Analysis Essay Due