

Syllabus

(Course Number) Unintended Consequences: Environmental Health and Environmental Justice Knowledge Keepers

Instructor:

Contact:

Office Hours:

Class Schedule:

Location:

This course examines different aspects of environmental health and environmental justice. Students engage with each module for approximately two weeks.

Expectations

Students will attend class and complete assignments in a timely fashion. Grades will be based on student engagement with the assigned readings, podcasts, and other materials. Bi-weekly quizzes will help students assess their own comprehension and retention of knowledge. If students are unable to attend class or complete assignments, they are to notify the Teaching Team before the absence or missed assignments occur. If students need assistance with time management, please request a meeting with the Teaching Team. A Final Project is required with students researching and presenting individually or as a group on an environmental health or environmental justice situation or specific aspects.

Final Project

The Final Project can be a paper, video, or podcast. Students must demonstrate comprehension and retention of knowledge from the class materials and class discussions in the Final Project. Final Projects will be presented the last two classes of the term.

Grading

Students will give themselves an evaluation at the beginning of the term, midterm, and end of term. Evaluations will be discussed with the Instructor (and/or Teaching Assistants).

The final evaluation will be based on the student's assessment of their work. If the Teaching Team agrees with the student's self assessment and self grading, that will be student's final grade. If the Teaching Team disagrees with the student's evaluation, a meeting will be set to discuss. There will be no Final Exam, however attendance to the Final Project presentations is mandatory.

Outcomes

Students will understand the meaning of environmental health and environmental justice, learn about the history, health, science, social justice, and business aspects of these topics.

Preparation Before the First Class

Go to www.docs.google.com/xxxx, review this Syllabus and comment. Be ready to discuss and suggest revisions on the first day of class. Hot Tip: Take notes on assigned readings, podcast, videos, etc. in order to be prepared for class discussion.

Weeks 1 & 2

A Brief and Recent History of the Environmental Health Movement

First class: Review Syllabus, agree on revisions, discuss materials

Discussions: Class knowledge of environmental health and environmental justice

Second class: Be prepared to join in class discussions with your summaries and responses to the following assignments.

Podcast

“Unintended Consequences – A Brief and Recent History of Environmental Health”

Readings

“It’s Personal, My History with Environmental Health” by Stephenie Hendricks

Self select one chapter of your choice each from:

Carson, Rachel L. *Silent Spring*. Mifflin, 1962.

Colborn, Theo, et al. *Our Stolen Future: Are We Threatening Our Fertility, Intelligence, and Survival?: A Scientific Detective Story*. Dutton, 1999.

Gibbs, Lois, and Murray Levine. *Love Canal: My Story*. State University of New York Press, 1982.

Select two from these materials:

Videos

[The Love Canal Disaster: Toxic Waste in the Neighborhood | Retro Report | The New York Times](#)

[The Goldman Prize](#) video on Lois Gibbs

[Safety on Fire | Retro Report | The New York Times](#) Arlene Blum

[The Male Predicament](#) - Theo Colborn

[Toxic Hot Seat](#) - About the Chicago Tribune series on toxic flame retardants. ROCO Films charges \$50 for a one time screening.

Articles

["Playing with Fire,"](#) Chicago Tribune series on toxic flame retardants

Websites

[Center for Health, Environment and Justice](#) (Lois Gibbs)

[Coming Clean](#)

[Critical Windows of Development](#) (Theo Colborn, Carol Kwiatkowski)

[Environmental Health News](#) (Pete Myers)

[Green Science Policy Institute](#) (Arlene Blum, Carol Kwiatkowski)

[Science Communication Network](#) (Pete Myers)

[SUDOC](#) (Pete Myers)

[The Endocrine Disruption Exchange](#) (Theo Colborn, Carol Kwiatkowski)

[Wingspread Conference on the Precautionary Principle](#)

Quiz

Weeks 3 & 4

A Brief and Recent History of the Environmental Justice Movement

Weeks 5 & 6

Fenceline Communities, Climate Change and Toxic Exposures

Weeks 7 & 8

Doctors, Nurses, and Health Researchers and Environmental Health

Weeks 9 & 10

Consumers, Industry and Environmental Health

Weeks 11 & 12

Chemists and Other Scientists working on Environmental Exposures

Weeks 13 and 14

What Instead? Green Chemistry, Sustainable Businesses and Environmental Health

Weeks 15 and 16

Overview on Environmental Health and Environmental Justice