Welcome to the PUBH 4050 Public Health and Health Policy Fall 2023 course. My name is Dr. Naomi Meier. I will be your instructor for this course. I look forward to working with you this semester as we examine health policy, the policymaking process, and the vital role the legal system plays in the development and implementation of policy.

Course Information
Course Number and Title: PUBH 4050 Public Health and Health Policy
Meets: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm
Location: LIFE A106
3 Credit Hours

Instructor Information
Naomi Meier, DrPH, MS
Office Location: Chilton Hall 218H
Phone number: (940)369-8096
Email: naomi.meier@unt.edu
Email will be the best way to communicate with me this semester. In most cases, I will reply to messages left at the department and emails within 48 hours.
Office hours:
By appointment
In-person or Virtual options are available

Teaching Assistant:
Cheng Yin chengyin2@my.unt.edu

Course Description
This course is designed to introduce students to social, ideological, economic, and political forces that influence health policymaking. The course will involve an examination of the US health care system and the role of key players in health policymaking. Students will become familiar with the policymaking process and ways to impact the process. The course will familiarize students with the legal system and the vital role it plays in the debate, creation, and implementation of health policy. The course will also focus on essential factors in health policy including inequality in health, access to healthcare, the economics of health policy, healthcare reform in the United States, and public health preparedness.

Pre-requisites
Recommended prerequisite(s): PUBH 1010, PUBH 2010, PUBH 2015 (ONLY for Public Health Majors)
Course Objectives

- Understand the concepts of health policy and policymaking
- Describe the legal system and legal concepts that impact health policy
- Discuss the ethical dimensions of healthcare and public health policy
- Analyze the impact health policy has on disparities in health, access to care, and healthcare costs
- Understand the responsibilities of different agencies and branches of government
- Discuss federal health insurance programs and their impact on health
- Detail the differences between public and private health insurance
- Understand healthcare economics and its relationship to health policymaking
- Discuss the main perspectives and methods used to examine healthcare policy
- Understand the relationship between politics, research, and health policy

Required Materials

Required Textbook:
The 4th Edition of the textbook will suffice for this course.
Any additional required readings will be posted in Canvas each week and will be available electronically.

Technical Support

UIT Help Desk: UIT Student Help Desk site
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Sage Hall, Room 130
(940)565-2324
Walk-in Availability: 8 am–9 pm
Telephone availability:
  Monday-Thursday: 8 am-midnight
  Friday: 8am-8pm
  Saturday: 9am-5pm
  Sunday: noon-midnight
For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help

Technical Requirements

We will be using Canvas as our main platform for interaction this semester. You will need regular access to the internet, Canvas, and Zoom (including a webcam and microphone). We will be using programs in the Microsoft Office Suite including Word and PowerPoint. You will also have to access Adobe Acrobat Reader for pdf files. Finally, you will need to have the ability to upload and download files, send and receive emails with/without attachments, and communicate with fellow students in various electronic formats such as videoconferencing. Check the electronic resources available to students through the College of Health and Public Service as well as the library to see if they offer laptops and webcams for students to check out.
Course Requirements
A student’s performance in this course will be assessed in five different ways including weekly participation, weekly discussions, and three projects. See below for the points breakdown, details about the assignments, and late work policies. Additional information for each assignment will be posted in Canvas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15 @ 10 points each</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 100 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>15 @ 20 points each</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 300 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Fact Sheet</td>
<td>100 points</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Brief</td>
<td>200 points</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Analysis</td>
<td>250 points</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points Possible</td>
<td>1000 points</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participation:
Students are required to attend class. They are also required to complete the readings assigned in the textbook and review the supplemental material before class on Monday. Participation points are earned by attending class. Each time attendance is taken it is worth 10 points.

Discussions
Students are required to participate in weekly discussions worth 20 points each. Discussions will become available Monday of each week. Students are required to complete the following weekly:
Thursday by 11:59pm – post your response to the discussion question/s (15 points each week)
Sunday by 11:59pm – comment on a fellow student’s post (5 points each week)

Policy Fact Sheet
Students will complete a 1 to 2-page policy fact sheet worth 100 points. See Canvas for more details.

Policy Brief
Students will complete a three to four-page policy brief. The policy brief is worth 200 points. Due dates are listed in the calendar. See the Policy Brief Guidelines and Rubric for more details.

Policy Analysis
Students will complete a six to seven-page policy analysis. The Policy Analysis is worth 250 points. The Policy Analysis Guidelines and Rubric will be posted on Canvas later in the semester.

*See Canvas or the Course Calendar on the last page of the syllabus for tentative due dates*
Late Work Policy
Any work submitted after the deadline will lose points. All assignments are set to close in Canvas 24 hours after the deadline. Once an assignment closes you may not submit work without contacting me first. Please contact me if you have any issues meeting a deadline.

Grading
All of the components of a student’s grade will have a point value system, based on A being equivalent to a 4.0. Points will be given based on a student’s performance, such as the quality of information presented, writing skills, research skills, and ability to illustrate comprehension of all course topics. Each assignment will include a rubric for specific details on grading criteria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points Possible for Semester/Grading Scale = 1,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1000 – 900 = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>899 – 800 = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>799 – 700 = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>699 – 600 = D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>599 – 500 = F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course Expectations
As the instructor of this course, I am responsible for:
1. Providing course materials that will assist and enhance your achievement of the stated course goals
2. Providing timely and helpful feedback within the stated guidelines
3. Assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone

As a student in this course, you are responsible for:
1. Reading and completing all requirements of the course in a timely manner
2. Working to remain attentive and engaged in the course and interact with your fellow students
3. Assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone

UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy
Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. Work submitted may be analyzed by software for academic integrity.
UNT Policies continued

**ADA Policy**
UNT makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. I aim to make success in this course attainable for all students. Please reach out to me about accommodation options. Students seeking accommodation should register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [Office of Disability Accommodation](mailto:officeofdisability@unt.edu) website. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)**
The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

**Emergency Notification & Procedures**
UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

**Access to Information - Eagle Connect**
Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu). All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect.

**Acceptable Student Behavior**
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s [Code of Student Conduct](http://studentconduct.unt.edu) to learn more.
UNT Policies continued

Sexual Assault Prevention
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off-campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565 2759.

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses
This course employs lecture capture technology to record class sessions. Students may occasionally appear on video. The lecture recordings will be available to you for study purposes and may also be reused in future course offerings. I will provide accommodations for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings. No notification is needed if only audio and slide capture is used or if the video only records the instructor’s image. However, the instructor is encouraged to let students know the recordings will be available to them for study purposes.

Class Recordings & Student Likenesses
Synchronous (live) sessions in this course will be recorded for students enrolled in this course to refer to throughout the semester. Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

Copyright Notice
Some or all of the materials on the course website may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. Additional copyright information may be located on the UNT website.
UNT Policies continued

University of North Texas Compliance
To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.
If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:
(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.
Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, they should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Rules of Engagement

• Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines.
• While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.
• Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
• Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.
• Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.
• Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
• Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
• Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.
• Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.
• Proofread and fact-check your sources.
• Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.
See these Engagement Guidelines for more information

For all other UNT Policies, please go to the Student Handbook
COVID-19 Information

Mandatory Testing
As of May 2022, UNT is not requiring COVID-19 testing. Students can still access testing services at the Student Health and Wellness Center. Testing requirements are subject to change.

Face Masks
As of May 2022, UNT is not requiring individuals to wear masks while on campus. UNT face-covering requirements are subject to change due to community health guidelines. UNT will alert all students if changes are made. I will uphold any requirements put in place.

COVID-19 Vaccinations and Boosters
I also STRONGLY advise getting vaccinated. OVERWHELMING evidence suggests people with the vaccination can avoid serious illness and death. UNT has vaccines and booster shots available to students at the Student Health and Wellness Center. Booster shots are also available. I highly recommend getting the booster shot if you have gotten the vaccine.

COVID-19 Impact on Course Assignments
While attendance is expected as outlined above, all of us need to be mindful of our health and safety along with the health and safety of everyone in our community. Please contact me if you cannot complete your work for the week because you are ill or experiencing other issues related to COVID-19. It is important that you communicate with me before the work due date.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or another health care provider. If you have COVID, wear a mask and avoid all contact with others until you recover. These actions are an important part of protecting your health and the health of others in the community.

Student Programs / Services / Organizations

Academic Support Services
Academic Resource Center
Academic Success Center
UNT Libraries

Writing Center
Math Lab

Library Resources
UNT Libraries
UNT Library Research Support
PUBH Subject Library Resources Page
PUBH 4050 Public Health and Health Policy Course Guide
Public Health Subject Librarian - Jennifer Rowe
Email: jennifer.rowe@unt.edu
Phone: 940-369-7815
Student Programs / Services / Organizations continued

Student Support Services
Registrar
Financial Aid
Student Legal Services
Career Center
Multicultural Center
UNT Care Team

Counseling and Testing Services
CARE Team
Student Health and Wellness Center
Pride Alliance
UNT Food Pantry
ALL Programs and Services

Student Organizations
Did you know there are more than 400 student organizations at UNT? Joining an organization is a great way to meet other students with similar interests. There are clubs related to academics, recreation, advocacy, entertainment, and so much more. Many organizations offer students opportunities to gain leadership skills and network with others to expand career opportunities. Student Organization Homepage

UNT Student Organizations Related to Public Health
Public Health Alliance
Future Without Poverty
UNT Rotaract Club
Global Medical Brigades
Student Health Advisory Committee
Alternative Breaks
Health Occupation Students of America
Pre-Physician Assistant Club
Alpha Epsilon Delta Health Pre-Professional Honor Society
Collaborative Urban Planning Association
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Public Administration Student Association
Pre-Physician Assistant Club
Alpha Epsilon Delta Health Pre-Professional Honor Society
American Planning Association
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Public Administration Student Association

Full List of Organizations Related to Public Health, go to the student organization search page and search “public health”
**Calendar**

The semester calendar is posted below. It includes information for each week’s topic, required weekly readings, and due dates for assignments. Remember, weekly supplemental material is not listed here. The Canvas course page is where you will find the supplemental materials, weekly modules, weekly instructions, discussions, the three course projects, grades, and more. Material for the course will be posted throughout the semester. These dates and topics are subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Module Topic</th>
<th>Materials to Review</th>
<th>Participation and Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
<td>Find access to textbook Readings in Module 1</td>
<td>Navigate course on Canvas Participation and Discussion 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Role of Health Policy and Law</td>
<td>Chapter 1 Readings in Module 2</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Policy and the Policymaking Process</td>
<td>Chapter 2 Readings in Module 3</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Law and the Legal System</td>
<td>Chapter 3 Readings in Module 4</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Overview of the Healthcare System</td>
<td>Chapter 4 Readings in Module 5</td>
<td>Participation and Discussion 5 Policy Fact Sheet due 9/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>What is Public Health?</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Readings in Module 6</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Individual Rights in Health Care and Public Health</td>
<td>Chapter 6 Readings in Module 8</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Structural and Social Drivers of Health and the Role of Law</td>
<td>Chapter 7 Readings in Module 9</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Health Insurance Health Economics</td>
<td>Chapters 8 and 9 Readings in Module 10</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Government Health Insurance Programs</td>
<td>Chapter 10 Readings in Module 11</td>
<td>Participation and Discussion 10 Policy Brief Due 10/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Health Reform in the United States</td>
<td>Chapter 11 Readings in Module 12</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>The Art of Writing a Health Policy Analysis</td>
<td>Chapter 14 Readings in Module 7</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Healthcare Quality Emergency Preparedness</td>
<td>Chapters 12 and 13 Readings in Module 14</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Fall Break</td>
<td>No class this week</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Health Advocacy</td>
<td>Chapter 15 Readings in Module 14</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Concluding Thoughts</td>
<td>Readings in Module 15</td>
<td>Participation Discussion 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Finals Week</td>
<td>No readings</td>
<td>Policy Analysis Due 12/13 by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>