

HEALTH EQUITY, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Examination of health disparities and how civil rights law and health impact assessments (HIAs) can help address them. Will feature guest lecturers from the disciplines of law, public health, and medicine. Students will lead discussions on readings with assistance and in partnership with faculty.

Learning Objectives:

- Provide an overview of health disparities: definitions, associated factors, affected populations and approaches to addressing.
- Examine civil rights laws and their relationship and utility in addressing health disparities.
- Provide an overview introduction to conducting HIA: purpose, steps, and how to it can be a tool to address health disparities

Course Chairs: Michael Rodriguez, M.D., MPH, Dr. Michael A. Rodriguez is professor and vice chair in the Department of Family Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, founding director of the UCLA Blum Center on Poverty and Health in Latin America, and co-director of the Center of Expertise on Migration and Health of the University of California Global Health Institute. His research activities include ethnic/racial health disparities, immigration, food insecurity, violence prevention, and development of research capacity in low- and middle-income countries.

Robert Garcia, JD, the Founding Director and Counsel of The City Project, a nonprofit legal and policy team based in Los Angeles that works on issues of public health and equal justice. Mr. García is also on the Community Faculty at Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science. One of The City Project's main goals is to educate lawyers, government agencies, health professionals, social science experts, community advocates, and foundations that civil rights tools, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 12898, the Affordable Care Act, and parallel state laws, can be used to address health disparities based on race, color, or national origin. Mr. García's work in the past decade has focused on equal access to park, school, and health resources throughout Los Angeles and California.

Brian Cole, DrPH, MPH, is an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences and Project Manager for the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Health Forecasting Projects in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. Dr. Cole is a nationally recognized HIA expert, having led and advised research teams and worked with community-based organizations conducting HIAs on a variety of policies and projects, including living wage ordinances, water conservation, California's state gas tax, and transit projects.

Additional Faculty Involved: David Martins, M.D., MSc. and Cynthia Gonzalez, Ph.D., MPH.

Student Requirements: There are no pre-requisites for this course. Student will prepare a final presentation on a case study addressing how an HIA and civil rights law can be used as tools to address health disparities. Students will be expected to complete reading assignments and engage in discussion during each lecture.

Teaching Methods: Discussions and problem-based learning

Enrollment: Maximum of 15 students, minimum of 5 students.

Sponsoring College: Urban Underserved College

Schedule: 7 Monday afternoons, Session A starting 9/12/2016

Location: TBD at UCLA