EPIB 641/KNES 689Y – Public Health and Research Ethics
Spring Semester, 2014

Instructors: Bradley Hatfield	Barbara Alving
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Office: SPH 2351	SPH 2242W
Office Hours: By appointment	By appointment

Class time: Fridays 11:00 – 12:50am
Credit Hrs: 1 cr.
Location: SPH 0305
Dates: January 31, 2014 – March 14, 2014

Course Pre- and Co-requisites: NA

Required Texts, Other Readings and Exercises:

Required:
Required reading assignments will be available on Canvas (www.elms.umd.edu)
A first approximation of the readings for the first session is included in this schedule.
Additional readings will be assigned throughout the semester.
Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) online training for research with human subjects.

Recommended:

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide an overview and discussion of ethical issues that face public health practitioners and researchers. Students are expected to participate fully in small and large group discussions that are designed to highlight ethical topics of concern to those in public health practice and research.

Course Learning Objectives & Competencies:
By the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Conceptualize, identify, and critically analyze ethical issues and solutions surrounding public health practice and scholarship that protect the public.
2. Describe and critique responsible conduct of research with respect to protecting human subjects.
3. Identify sources of scientific misconduct and evaluate alternative strategies to prevent misconduct.
4. Critically analyze the policies, procedures, professional codes and rules of scientifically responsible conduct in your field of practice and/or research.
5. To compare and contrast the various solutions to ethical dilemmas in public health practice and scholarship.

By the conclusion of this course, MPH students in Epidemiology and MPH students in Biostatistics will meet the following competency:

1. Compare basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use and dissemination of epidemiologic data.

Course Requirements: 

1. **Complete the CITI training**
   
   DUE: Feb 14, 2014
   
   15%

   CITI (Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative) is considered the “gold standard” in online training for those doing research with human subjects. CITI training can be accessed at: [https://www.citiprogram.org/](https://www.citiprogram.org/). Be sure to select the University of Maryland College Park as your institution. You must complete the “Biomedical Research Investigators” (14 modules).

2. **Online engagement of class issues (posting to Discussion Board)**
   
   35%

   Throughout the semester, you will be given topics and readings for comment and discussion. These assignments will be made on the Discussion Board and students’ response/comments will be posted here.

3. **Participation in weekly discussion in class**
   
   50%

   Since interactions with others in the class are critical to learning in this course, your contributions to each week’s class will be expected and evaluated. Since class participation cannot happen unless you are in class – class attendance is expected. If you miss class it is your responsibility to inform the instructors before class that you will be absent (and why) and explain how the work will be made up.

   **NOTE:** Successful completion at a satisfactory level in all three-course requirements is required to pass the course.

Course Policies:
Email – The Official University Correspondence:

Verify your email address by going to www.my.umd.edu.

All enrolled students are provided access to the University’s email system and an email account. All official University email communication will be sent to this email address (or an alternate address if provided by the student). Email has been adopted as the primary means for sending official communications to students, so email must be checked on a regular basis. Academic advisors, faculty, and campus administrative offices use email to communicate important and time-sensitive notices.

Students are responsible for keeping their email address up to date or for redirecting or forwarding email to another address. Failure to check email, errors in forwarding email, and returned email (from “full mailbox” or “unknown user” errors for example), will not excuse a student from missing University announcement, messages, deadlines, etc. Email addresses can be quickly and easily updated at www.my.umd.edu or in-person at the Student Service Counter on the first floor of the Mitchell Building.

For technical support for University email: www.helpdesk.umd.edu or call 301-405-1400.

Absence Policy:
In accordance with University policy if you are absent for a single (1) lecture due to illness or some form of personal or family emergency, this absence will be considered “excused” and the instructor will accept a note from you attesting to the date of the illness/incident, along with an acknowledgement that the information is true. Whenever feasible, you should try to contact the instructor in advance.

Multiple or prolonged absences, and absences that prevent attendance at a major scheduled grading event (like an exam or test) will require written documentation from an appropriate health care provider/organization.

A link to pull information on the new policy covering absences from class can be found at http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/v100g.html

Late work and Missed Exams / Assignments:
Participation in discussions are time and subject dependent and don’t lend themselves to late submissions. If you miss class it is your responsibility to inform the instructors before class that you will be absent (and why) and explain how the work will be made up. If for some reason you can not inform the instructors before class then contact them as soon as possible and explain how the work will be made up.

Religious Observances:
The University System of Maryland policy provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs; students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances. **It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor in advance of any intended absences for religious observance.**

**Special Accommodations / Disability Support Services:**
If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations for test taking or other needs, you will need documentation from Disability Support Service (301-314-7682). If you are ill or encountering personal difficulties, please let the instructor know as soon as possible. You can also contact Learning Assistance Services (301-314-7693) and/or the Counseling Center (301-314-7651) for assistance.

**Academic Integrity:**
The University’s code of academic integrity is designed to ensure that the principle of academic honesty is upheld. Any of the following acts, when committed by a student, constitutes academic dishonesty:

- **CHEATING:** intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in an academic exercise.
- **FABRICATION:** intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- **FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this code.
- **PLAGIARISM:** intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

For more information see: [http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html](http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html).

The Honor Pledge is a statement undergraduate and graduate students should be asked to write by hand and sign on examinations, papers, or other academic assignments. The Pledge reads:

*I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination.*

The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit

Inclement Weather / University Closings:
In the event that the University is closed for an emergency or extended period of time, the instructor will communicate to students regarding schedule adjustments, including rescheduling of examinations and assignments due to inclement weather and campus emergencies. Official closures and delays are announced on the campus website (http://www.umd.edu) and snow phone line (301-405-SNOW), as well as local radio and TV stations.

Course Evaluations
The University, the School of Public Health, and the Departments of Kinesiology and Epidemiology and Biostatistics are committed to the use of student course evaluations for improving the student experience, course and curriculum delivery, and faculty instruction. Your evaluations help instructors improve their courses; help deans and department chairs decide on merit pay for faculty, renewal of contracts, and support tenure and promotion decisions; and help current and future students decide on classes. The system (www.CourseEvalUM.umd.edu) will open at the end of April for Spring 2013 courses.

Available Support Services: Specific readings will be provided throughout the course. In addition, the following offices have materials and references of relevance to this course.

DHHS Office of Research Integrity: http://ori.hhs.gov/
DHHS Office for Human Research Protections: http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/
UMD Division of Research: http://www.umresearch.umd.edu/

Grading Procedures: See note under course requirements. Grades are based on completion of required readings and exercise and active participation in discussions online and in class. Full class and discussion participation and completion of required reading and training will secure a high grade.

A  90-100
B  80-89
C  70-79
D  60-69
### Course Schedule, Topics and Required Readings:
All readings will be on the course Canvas site and posted in advance of next session:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TOPICS:</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS:*</th>
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| **1/31** Introduction to Ethics in Public Health & the Responsible Conduct of Research | Honor in Science, Chapters 1 – 2  
| **2/07** Research Integrity: Case Study                                | VIEW NIH video:  
http://ori.hhs.gov/TheLab/  
You will be assigned to one of the 4 characters in the video on 1/25. In advance of the class, discuss the choices you made during the video with other students who have your same character. You will lead the discussion for your character. |
| GUESTS: Ms. Denise Clark, Assistant Vice President for Research Administration & Advancement  
Dr. Cher Dallal, Assistant Professor, Dept. Epidemiology and Biostatistics, SPH | |
| **2/14** Scientific Misconduct:                                        | CITI Training Due ** |
| Dr. Louise Ramm  
Assistant Vice President, Research Integrity  
Office of Academic Affairs/University Accountability, UMB | |
| **2/21** Engaging with Communities with Varied Cultures and Races       | |
| Vulnerable Subjects  
GUESTS: Drs. Sandra C. Quinn and Stephen Thomas | |
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/28</td>
<td>Protection of human subjects &amp; the Institutional Review Board</td>
<td>GUEST: Dr. James Hagberg, Co-Chair, IRB</td>
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<td>HIPAA &amp; right to privacy: The case of genetic testing</td>
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<td>3/07</td>
<td>Data Acquisition Management, Sharing, and Analysis (record keeping)</td>
<td>GUEST: Dr. Gayatri Varma, Executive Director, Office of Technology Commercialization</td>
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<td>Intellectual Property</td>
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<td>3/14</td>
<td>Leadership and Teams in Public Health: The Power of Interprofessionalism and Collaborative Research</td>
<td>Team Leaders: Brad Hatfield and Barbara Alving</td>
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*The instructors reserve the right to change readings and assignments when appropriate and with reasonable advance notification.*

**Assignment Due:** Complete the HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH TRAINING: “CITI training for biomedical research investigators”