

**PUBHHBP 8899.01 1st Year Doctoral Seminar in Health Behavior and Health Promotion
Autumn 2025
1 credit hour**

Instructor: Liz Klein, PhD, MPH

PhD in Behavioral Epidemiology, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, 2007

MPH in Epidemiology/Biostatistics, University of California-Berkeley, 2002

BS in Community Health Education, Western Michigan University, 1995

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Class Time & Location: Monday 12-12:55, 330 Cunz Hall

Instructor's Office Hours & Location: Monday at 11-12, 358 Cunz Hall or by appointment

Videoconference link:

<https://osu.zoom.us/j/93506669216?pwd=Ami4MaSomT4V0XGg9VOWipgUhxF2jq.1>

Course description: This first semester seminar course for doctoral students in public health to introduce students to the academic field of health research. The purpose of the course is to a) provide students with a strong foundation on strategies for success as a doctoral student and b) an understanding of the history of public health, including ethical challenges both past and present. The class meets weekly for 1 hour.

Prerequisites: Enrollment in a public health doctoral program.

Course Format: The course uses a seminar format. Each session has an assigned topic or is student led and the topic is chosen by the students. Each topic is associated with articles, chapters, webinars and/or other resources. The sessions will either have a short presentation, followed by discussion, or discussion for the entire hour. All course materials will be posted on Carmen.

Students will be required to lead one session in pairs. If we have an odd number of students, one session will have 3 students. For the student-led sessions, the student pair must identify the topic, receive approval from the instructor, select the readings, and lead the discussion for 20 minutes.

Course Objectives: After completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of having a mentor and create a mentoring plan.
2. Describe conflicts and ethical dilemmas which can arise in professional life, and strategies and principles which may help guide conduct.
3. Explain the importance of public health history for current understanding current health problems and potential approaches.

PhD Core Competencies:

1. Explain how the core public health concepts of biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health, health behavior/health promotion, and health administration relate to the student's area of specialization.

A complete list of College of Public Health Competencies is located in Appendix C of the CPH Graduate Student Handbook that can be found at: <https://go.osu.edu/cphgradcompetencies>.

Grading: Fifty percent of your S/U grade will be based on your own contributions to the class discussion and discussion board. Fifty percent of your grade will be based on the quality of your leadership of class discussion.

Carmen:

There is a Carmen site for this course: <https://carmen.osu.edu>. All course materials are available via Carmen.

You will need to use BuckeyePass (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the BuckeyePass - Adding a Device help article for step-by-step instructions (<https://admin.resources.osu.edu/buckeyepass/adding-a-device>)
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application (<https://admin.resources.osu.edu/buckeyepass/installing-the-duo-mobile-application>) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

Participation Policy: Your presence is expected at all classes. If students have an *extenuating* circumstance (e.g. unforeseen medical issues, death in the family, etc.) that prevents them from attending class, they should notify the instructor *before* class. **Students may not miss more than one session without prior approval of the instructor.**

Additional Course Policies: Please limit the use of cell phones and other electronic devices during class. These devices can be distracting to your classmates and presenters. Given that this course is a seminar, I also encourage you to limit your laptop use to the papers being discussed. If you are comfortable with the environmental impact of printing out readings, I encourage you to do so and leave your laptop off during class.

Office of Student Life: Disability Services

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion.

If you are ill and need to miss class, including if you are staying home and away from others while experiencing symptoms of a viral infection or fever, please let me know immediately. In cases where illness interacts with an underlying medical condition, please consult with Student Life Disability Services to request reasonable accommodations. You can connect with them at slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; or slds.osu.edu.

Mental Health Services

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766). CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766) and 24 hour emergency help is also available 24/7 by dialing 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Religious Beliefs or Practices Accommodations

Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement and the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the [Civil Rights Compliance Office](#). (Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#))

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee ([Faculty Rule 3335-5-48.7 \(B\)](#)). For additional information, see the [Code of Student Conduct](#).

Grievances and Solving Problems

A student who encounters a problem related to his/her educational program has a variety of avenues available to seek resolution. According to University Policies, if you have a problem with this class, you should seek to resolve the grievance concerning a grade or academic practice by speaking first with the instructor or professor. Then, if necessary, you may take your case to the department chairperson. Specific procedures are outlined in [Faculty Rule 3335-8-23](#), the [CPH Graduate Student Handbook](#), and the [CPH Undergraduate Student Handbook](#). Grievances against graduate, research, and teaching assistants should be submitted first to the supervising instructor, then to the chairperson of the assistant's department.

Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct

The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a community to reflect diversity and to improve opportunities for all. All Buckeyes have the right to be free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability,

ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment. Members of the university community also have the right to be free from all forms of sexual misconduct: sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

To report harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation and/or seek confidential and non-confidential resources and supportive measures, contact the Civil Rights Compliance Office:

Online reporting form at <http://civilrights.osu.edu/>,
Call 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605,
Or Email civilrights@osu.edu

The university is committed to stopping sexual misconduct, preventing its recurrence, eliminating any hostile environment, and remedying its discriminatory effects. All university employees have reporting responsibilities to the Civil Rights Compliance Office to ensure the university can take appropriate action:

- All university employees, except those exempted by legal privilege of confidentiality or expressly identified as a confidential reporter, have an obligation to report incidents of sexual assault immediately.
- The following employees have an obligation to report all other forms of sexual misconduct as soon as practicable but at most within five workdays of becoming aware of such information: 1. Any human resource professional (HRP); 2. Anyone who supervises faculty, staff, students, or volunteers; 3. Chair/director; and 4. Faculty member.

Course outline

Week	Date	Lead	Topic
1	9/1/2025	Klein	Essential skills for a doctoral student [asynchronous]
2	9/8/2025	Klein	Welcome/organization for scientific writing/sanity
3	9/15/2025	Klein	Organizing references [asynchronous]
4	9/22/2025	Moser-Jones	Public health history
5	9/29/2025	Klein	Goal setting and individual development planning
6	10/6/2025	Dobalian	Receiving and giving mentorship
7	10/13/2025	Klein/Norris	Planning for candidacy and beyond
8	10/20/2025	Faculty panel: Hood/Wing/Quist	Career trajectories
9	10/27/2025	Klein	Professional networking
10	11/3/2025	Ewing	Social epidemiology
11	11/10/2025	Franchino-Olsen	Working with vulnerable populations and ethics
12	11/17/2025	Klein	Student led discussions
13	11/24/2025	Klein	Research as inquiry [asynchronous]
14	12/1/2025	Klein	Student led discussions
15	12/8/2025	Klein	Open discussion/wrap up event