HLED 4021-40 or 5021-40 (online), 3 credits Creating Conditions for Community Health

Spring 2021



Public health = creating conditions that enable people to be healthy

In this online course we will analyze and discuss how to change environmental causes and influences on individual health behavior or health status. The assignments center on a community and health issue that you chose (e.g., chew tobacco use in school baseball players in Wyoming; texting while driving among UW students; meth use in your hometown). You will assess the issue and the research on its immediate and its "macro" socio-ecological causes. You will then develop an action plan to improve the conditions (the environment) in that community in ways that scientific evidence suggests will help improve health.

This course content will include participation in the award-winning "Preventing Childhood Obesity" online course originally created by Cornell NutritionWorks (in collaboration with Porter) and watching and discussing the "Unnatural Causes" public television series on inequity and public health.

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