

WST 4704 (class #24191)
Fall 2023
DISCRIMINATION AND HEALTH

MWF 10:40-11:30 a.m. in Rolfs 0205

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

PROFESSOR: Alyssa N. Zucker, Ph.D.

OFFICE: Ustler Hall 204

PHONE: 352-273-0384

E-MAIL: azucker@ufl.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 10:30-12 and Wednesdays 1-2:30; all office hours will be available simultaneously in person and on [Zoom](#). Please drop in during these times, no appointment necessary (or email to schedule an appointment at a different time).

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Mary Kate DiFresco

E-MAIL: mary.difresco@ufl.edu

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Examines discrimination and health from a variety of perspectives. Explores links of discrimination experiences with health behaviors and outcome, discrimination in healthcare settings, and routes to improving health at individual, group, and legislative levels. Addresses multiple forms of discrimination (e.g., race, sex, class, sexual orientation/gender identity) and their intersections.

By the end of the course, students will:

- List and discuss physical and mental health challenges and disparities faced by populations targeted by discrimination.
- Analyze how social and environmental factors create, contribute to, and exacerbate health challenges for people targeted by discrimination.
- Evaluate how multiple systems of power and oppression interlock to shape individuals' experience of the world and impact their health.

This class counts as a social science or gender and science course for Women's Studies majors; an HESJ elective for students with the Health Equity and Social Justice

specialization; a TPS elective for majors or minors in Theories and Politics of Sexuality; and as a category A or B elective for the Health Disparities in Society minor.

COURSE MATERIALS

- *Required Book* (accessible electronically through the UF library reserve system)
Donoghue, E. (2020). *The pull of the stars*. New York: Little, Brown, and Company.
[referred to as PotS in the course calendar]
- All other assigned material is available through Canvas.
- Materials and Supplies Fees: None

ASSESSMENT AND GRADES

Graded Course Activities

All assignments are explained in detail on Canvas.

Assignment	Point value	Number of assignments	Total points accruable
Exams	18	2	36
Personal Reflection	6	1	6
Reading Reflections	5	8	40
Group project	18	1	18
Total			100

Grading Scale and Policies

At the end of the semester, final grades will be determined by the following formula:

94 and more points = A	80-83 points = B-	67-69 points = D+
90-93 points = A-	77-79 points = C+	64-66 points = D
87-89 points = B+	74-76 points = C	60-63 points = D-
84-86 points = B	70-73 points = C-	59 and fewer points = E

In cases where the number of points falls in between letter grades, points will be rounded to the nearest whole number. All grading will be done in compliance with the UF grading policy <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

COURSE CALENDAR

This calendar is subject to change for pedagogical or logistical reasons. To the extent possible, students will be notified in advance of any such changes.

	Date	Topic	Assignment or Activity Due
Part 1: Theoretical Models			
W	8/23	Course Introduction	
F	8/25	Health Disparities	
M	8/28	Social Determinants of Health I	Personal reflection
W	8/30	Social Determinants of Health II	
F	9/1	Discrimination and Mental Health	
M	9/4	No Class -Labor Day	
W	9/6	Discrimination and Physical Health	Reading reflection
F	9/8	Discussion	
M	9/11	Intersections of Oppression I	Reading reflection
W	9/13	Intersections of Oppression II	
F	9/15	Discussion	
M	9/18	LGBTQ+ Discrimination & Health	Reading reflection
W	9/20	Patient perspectives	
F	9/22	Discussion	
M	9/25	No Class -Yom Kippur	
W	9/27	Provider perspectives	
F	9/29	No Class -work on exam	Take-home Exam 1
Part 2: Maternal Mortality (MM)			
M	10/2	Maternal Mortality unit overview	
W	10/4	Discrimination and MM	Reading reflection
F	10/6	No Class -Homecoming	
M	10/9	Reproductive Justice	
W	10/11	Discussion	
F	10/13	No Class -watch <i>Trapped</i> on your own	
M	10/16	Discussion	Reading (movie) reflection
W	10/18	Abortion care to reduce MM	
F	10/20	Contraception to reduce MM	
M	10/23	Complications of LARCs and racism	
W	10/25	Group assignment	Worksheet distributed in class
F	10/27	Group assignment	Worksheet distributed in class
M	10/30	PotS Discussion of Red	Reading reflection
W	11/1	No Class -keep reading PotS	

	Date	Topic	Assignment or Activity Due
F	11/3	PotS Discussion of Brown	Reading reflection
M	11/6	PotS Discussion of Blue	Reading reflection
W	11/8	PotS Discussion of Black	
F	11/10	No Class-Veterans' Day	
Part 3: Making Changes			
M	11/13	Structural competency	Take-home Exam 2
W	11/15	State/Policy changes	
F	11/17	Group assignment	Worksheet distributed in class
M	11/20	No Class-Thanksgiving	
W	11/22	No Class-Thanksgiving	
F	11/24	No Class-Thanksgiving	
M	11/27	Group assignment	
W	11/29	Group assignment	
F	12/1	Group assignment	
M	12/4	Group presentations	Group presentation
W	12/6	Group presentations and wrap-up	Group presentation

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Attendance and make-ups

Describe class policies and include the following statement:

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

Academic integrity

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A "class lecture" is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To "publish" means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

For a list of additional campus resources, see section C 5 here:

https://syllabus.ufl.edu/media/syllabusufledu/syllabi_policy_09_09_2022.pdf

The Office for Accessibility and Gender Equity <https://titleix.ufl.edu/>

Office of Victim Services 1515 Museum Road, (352) 392-5648 (Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) (352) 392-1111 (after business hours and on weekends)

Alachua County Victim Services & Rape Crisis Center 352-264-6760 Monday-Friday, 8:30AM - 5PM, some services available 24/7

Peaceful Paths Domestic Abuse Network 352-377-8255 (24-hour helpline)