



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Mel & Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health

**Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
University of Arizona**

EHS 526 Topics in Environmental Justice

Catalog Description: This course will provide an introduction to environmental justice concepts as they apply to public health. Issues relating to race/ethnicity, gender, social class, environmental policy and law will be used to critically examine environmental health disparities. Graduate-level requirements include additional meetings with the professor. A 10-12 page term paper on a topic and degree of complexity to be determined in conjunction with the professor. (3 units)

Course Topics:

- Regulation, Risk & Exposure to Environmental Toxins and Hazards
- Environmental Policies
- Environmental Justice Concepts
- Government and Community Responses to Environmental Injustices
- The Law and Environmental Justice

Course Objectives: During this course, students will:

- Articulate multiple theories of environmental justice and their own definition.
- Examine institutional processes impacting race, class and the environment.
- Critically evaluate environmental scenarios to assess for disproportionate impact on certain populations.
- Identify and define the roles of key stakeholders in environmental problems.
- Analyze government, community and legal responses to environmental injustices.
- Describe and discuss real cases of environmental justice and their impact on health from the local to the global context.

Learning Outcomes (Competencies Obtained): Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice
2. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels
3. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs
4. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
5. Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue
6. Recognize and classify the major types of chemical, physical and biological exposure agents capable of inducing disease in the public
7. Demonstrate fundamental knowledge of the principles of environmental health sciences and be able to apply them
8. Demonstrate knowledge of local, federal and state regulatory programs

9. Develop effective written and oral communication skills
10. Exhibit a comprehensive knowledge of the principles of environmental health sciences
11. Develop expertise in an environmental health science subspecialty
12. Develop effective external written and oral communication skills for use with the public, government, and other professionals