Course Description
Community Organizing for Health Equity equips interprofessional health professions students with the organizational tools to address the social and structural inequities that contribute to and perpetuate health disparities among individuals and communities identified as vulnerable, marginalized, or underserved. By working in interprofessional teams, students will hone their communication and collaboration skills; their understanding of different professions’ roles, responsibilities and expertise; and address social determinants of health in underserved populations. The didactic coursework will be complemented by community engagement experiences that allow student teams to apply skills and to collaborate around specific community-identified projects and goals.

Credit Hours
1.0 credit hour inter-professional elective.

Prerequisites or Concurrent Enrollment Requirements
Undergraduate or Graduate Standing in an OHSU Health Professional School or permission of faculty.

Term, Year, and Campus
Fall, 2016, Portland

Faculty Information

Name: Kristen Beiers-Jones, MN, RN
Email: beiersjo@ohsu.edu
Oregon Health & Science University
School of Nursing Portland Campus
3455 SW US Veterans Hospital Rd. SN-5N
Portland, Ore. 97239-2941
Office Hours: Arranged on 1:1 basis

Name: Cliff Coleman, MD, MPH
Email: colemancl@ohsu.edu
Oregon Health & Science University
School of Medicine
Pager: 11716
Building & Office Number: OHSU RFH 102
Office Hours: Arranged on 1:1 basis
General Course Meeting Day and Time

**Monday** 5:30 - 7:30pm CLSB 2S024 and 2S028

Oct 10th  
Oct 24th  
Oct 31st  
Nov 14th  
Nov 28th  
Dec 5th

Course Delivery Mode

Course content will be delivered through presentations, class discussion, and Sakai. Students will meet in small groups each week and complete required learning activities. Course leaders will also work with students to co-lead sessions to help them develop leadership skills. A community organizer from the Metropolitan Alliance for Common Good will help to provide students with first-hand community organizing strategies and experience.

Course Objectives, Competencies, or Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the characteristics of health equity and community organizing.
2. Demonstrate or identify the basic steps of community engagement and empowerment.
3. Apply knowledge of community organizing through participation in a community-lead health equity event.
4. Describe the collaborative nature of health equity work and the benefit of interprofessional perspectives.

Required Texts and Readings

   

2) Out in the Rural: A health Center in Mississippi [https://vimeo.com/9307557](https://vimeo.com/9307557)

Supplemental Suggested Readings or Reference Material
See Appendix

Attendance Requirements

Attendance at all 6 classroom sessions and two community events is required. Up to two (2) of the 8 required sessions may be missed with prior approval from the course directors. Any missed session(s) must be made up with a supplemental assignment in order to receive credit.

Course Specific Grading Standards

This is a Pass/No Pass course. Students will be evaluated on the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percentage of grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class attendance</td>
<td>Remediation will be required if a course session (in class or outside community event) is missed. Remediation will consist of a reading and written statement selected by the faculty and/or attending a community event and a written reflection. No more than 2 remediations will be allowed.</td>
<td>30 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satisfactory completion of 6 reflective writing assignments on required readings and in-class activities</td>
<td>Written reflections will be required after each session and due before the next session. Reflections should demonstrate understanding of the reading and content of the week’s in-class activities. Reflections should be at least one double-spaced page and no more than 2 pages, using 1-inch margins and 12-point font.</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance at two or more community organizing events, with satisfactory completion of 2 reflective writing assignments on the events attended</td>
<td>Participate in or attend at least two activities or events and write up a brief report about each activity. The report should incorporate concepts from the course and how they were addressed at the community activity. The report should be at least one double-spaced page, with no upper limit, using 1-inch margins and 12-point font. Reflections are due no later than one week after the event. The last day for submitting an event reflection is Dec 5th.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Activities will be available through Metropolitan Alliance for the Common Good (MACG) and the Health Equity Circle, and will be posted and emailed to students. Potential events may include research action with legislators or experts, community events, house meetings or action assemblies. Students can suggest their own events which will be considered on a case by case basis, and should be approved by the Course Directors prior to the event.</td>
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Students must fulfill 100% of these requirements in order to receive a passing grade.

**Grading Criteria, Academic Standards, and Release of Final Grades**

**THIS IS A PASS/NO PASS COURSE:** 100% score is required to pass

30%: attend all class sessions or provide remediation activities

40%: Satisfactory completion of all 6 written reflections on readings and in-class activities.
30: Attend at least 2 community organizing activities and satisfactory completion of 2 written reports.

Note: OHSU policy requires Sakai sites to close three weeks after grades have been submitted to the register in compliance with the US Copyright Law and adherence to the fair use doctrine of copyrighted materials in educational settings. You have the right to retain a copy of any downloadable material posted to an online class. You are encouraged to download any needed material before sites are permanently closed.

**Course Content Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session title (2 hrs each)</th>
<th>Course objectives addressed</th>
<th>Required pre-work reading and/or other assignment(s) 3 hrs each</th>
<th>Assessment method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>1) Introduction/Course Overview Health Equity &amp; Interprofessional Engagement</td>
<td>1,4</td>
<td>Going Public: Preface and Introduction Citizens UK: What is community organizing Bias and ground rules</td>
<td>Class participation Written reflection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>2) Power: Power Over vs Power With</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>Going Public: Chapter 1-2 Gardener’s Tale video Session 1 reflection due</td>
<td>Class participation Written reflection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>3) Organizational Change: Broad Based Organizing</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>Going Public: Chapter 3-7 Session 2 reflection due</td>
<td>Class participation Written reflection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>4) Relationship: Relational meetings</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>Going Public: Chapter 8-9 Session 3 reflection due</td>
<td>Class participation Written reflection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Engage the Community 1,2,3
- **Nov 28**
  - 5) Engage the Community
  - Going Public: Chapter 10-12 Out in the Rural video
  - Session 4 reflection due
  - Class participation
  - Written reflection

### Next Steps: Reflection & Evaluation 1,4
- **Dec 5th**
  - 6) Next Steps: Reflection & Evaluation
  - Session 5 and course reflection (#6) due
  - Class participation
  - Written reflection

### Community organizing event 1,2,3,4
- Attend a minimum of 2 events
- Attendance and written reflection on each event

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>36</td>
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## COURSE SPECIFIC INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

In the case of inclement weather, the course coordinators will notify students by email about changes to the class schedule.

## COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

Every reasonable effort has been made to protect the copyright requirements of materials used in this course. Students are may not personally capture audio or video of class presentations without expressed written consent of the course director. Journal articles are provided in Sakai for your
use. Copyright law allows you to make one personal copy of each article from the original article posted. This limit also applies to electronic sources. This practice does not permit you to distribute the material you retain.

OHSU policy requires Sakai sites to close three weeks after grades have been submitted to the registrar in compliance with US Copyright Law and adherence to the fair use doctrine of copyrighted materials in educational settings. This course is unique so it will remain active until the final session. You are encouraged to download any needed material before sites are permanently closed.

Syllabus Changes and Retention

This syllabus is not to be considered a contract between the student and the School of Nursing. It is recognized that changes may be made as the need arises. Students are responsible for keeping a copy of the course syllabus for their records.

Accommodations

OHSU is committed to providing equal access to qualified students who experience a disability in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act (ADA-AA) of 2008. If you have a disability or think you may have a disability (physical, sensory, chronic health, psychological or learning, or other) please contact the Office for Student Access at (503) 494-0082 or studentaccess@ohsu.edu to discuss eligibility for academic accommodations. Information is also available at www.ohsu.edu/student-access. Because accommodations may take time to implement and cannot be applied retroactively, it is important to have this discussion as soon as possible. All information regarding a student’s disability is kept in accordance with relevant state and federal laws.

Technical Support

The OHSU ITG Help Desk is available to assist students with email account or network account access issues between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday at 503-494-2222. For technical support in using the Sakai Course Management System, please contact the Sakai Help Desk at 877-972-5249 or email us at sakai@ohsu.edu.

ACADEMIC HONESTY
Students are responsible for their own academic work. Students are expected to have read and practice principles of academic honesty, as presented in your school’s student handbook.