Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) health: a population perspective
HBEH 705 / HPM 707 /MHCH 707
Spring 2019

Time and Location
Tuesdays: 2:00 p.m. to 4:45p.m; McGavran-Greenberg 1305

Course Instructor
Shoshana Goldberg, PhD, MPH
Research Assistant Professor
Department of Maternal and Child Health
skgold@email.unc.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:30-1:30, location TBD

Course description
This course aims to introduce students to health challenges faced by LGBT populations with an eye towards critically understanding current research, health policy, and existing programs and interventions that aim to address health disparities, and improve the health and well-being of this population. Students will come away from the course with a working knowledge that includes: prevailing theories and frameworks in LGBT research, common health disparities LGBT populations face, social and structural determinants of LGBT health across the life course, and strategies for intervening to improve health. Our discussions and readings will span a breadth of health behaviors and health outcomes, determinants of health, identities, and settings.

As this is a public health course, it will focus particularly on community and population determinants that influence the health of LGBT populations. Underpinning the substantive information throughout the course will be information about conceptual and research paradigms used in LGBT health research and practice.

This course's seminar format requires active participation from all students. Most classes will have a lecture, a journal club discussion of assigned readings, as well as an activity to apply that week's material.

Course objectives
● Students will be able to identify health challenges relevant to LGBT communities
● Students will understand “best practices” in LGBT health research, including SOGI measurement
● Students will be able to identify intervention points at multiple levels to promote LGBT health
● Students will be able to articulate the diversity within LGBT communities and implications for public health practice, research, and policy

Grading (assignments described in detail elsewhere)
● Participation in class (includes attendance, participation in journal club, etc.) (Throughout semester) 20%
● Journal club discussion leader (DUE: February 26th) 20%
● Infographic (Background of health disparity) (DUE: March 19th) 10%
● Advocacy Blog post highlighting health disparity (DUE: April 15th, 11:59PM) 10%
● Recorded media interview on disparity (DUE: May 3rd, 11:59PM) 20%
● Final paper –proposed interventions/research (DUE: May 3rd, 11:59PM) 20%

For graduate coursework at UNC, the "P" grade indicates entirely satisfactory work at the graduate level. The "H" grade indicates clear excellence. "L" indicates inadequate graduate work, and "F" is fail.

Tentative cut-points for final grades are as follows:
≥90 = H;
70-89 = P;
<70 = L;
<60 = F
Required readings
All required readings will be posted on Sakai—in addition to those listed below, additional readings may be assigned throughout the semester at the discretion of the guest lecturers. Included in these readings will be 1-2 articles that will be discussed as a class in a ‘journal club’ format, led by a different student each week (to be assigned during the first week of class). **Students are expected to review all readings prior to class, with the most attention focused on the journal club reading—all students will be expected to actively participate in journal club.**

Recommended resources
The Health Sciences Library has compiled an excellent guide for LGBTIQ health that contains a variety of resources online at [http://guides.lib.unc.edu/lgbtiqhealth](http://guides.lib.unc.edu/lgbtiqhealth). The guide includes research databases, journal articles, professional organizations, and clinical training materials. A link to this guide, along with additional recommended resources to be added throughout the semester, can be found on Sakai under “Additional Resources.”

Academic integrity and UNC Honor Code
Course assignments are all subject to the UNC Honor Code, which may be summarized (crudely) as: “Conduct all academic work within the letter and spirit of the Honor Code, which prohibits the giving or receiving of unauthorized aid in all academic processes.” Academic dishonesty in any form is unacceptable, and any breach in academic integrity, however small, will be investigated and accordingly addressed. If you have any questions regarding the Honor Code, please consult with someone in either the Office of the Student Attorney General (966-4084) or the Office of the Dean of Students (966-4042). Read “The Instrument of Student Judicial Governance” ([http://instrument.unc.edu](http://instrument.unc.edu)).

Disability
We encourage students with disabilities that may affect their participation in the course to contact the student coordinators to make alternate arrangements as appropriate. Additional support regarding such matters may be accessed from the UNC Office of Disability Services: [www.disabilityservices.unc.edu](http://www.disabilityservices.unc.edu) or 919-962-8300.

Acknowledgements
The course instructor would like to thank Derrick D. Matthews, PhD, MPH; Dio Kavalieratos, PhD; Marcie Fisher-Bourne, PhD, MSW, MPH; Kate Shirah, MPH; Joseph Lee, PhD, CPH; Terri Phoenix, PhD; Paul Gilbert, PhD, MSPH; May Chen, MSPH; Willa Dong, MSPH; and Dirk Davis, MPH for their contributions and work towards developing and refining this course over the years. Additional acknowledgement is due to The Summer Institute in LGBT Population Health at The Fenway Institute (Boston, MA) for their syllabus. Finally, acknowledgment must be given to Profs. Steven Meshnik and Audrey Pettifor, for the journal club rubric, and to Noel Brewer and May Chen for helping to develop class assignments.
Syllabus

All readings will be posted to Sakai. Please read all required readings prior to class.

Note: This syllabus (and schedule), while comprehensive, is a living document and therefore subject to flux (e.g., changes in guest speakers’ availability). As such, the instructors reserve the right to modify the syllabus at any time. Updates will be communicated by email.

WEEK 1 (1/15): COURSE INTRODUCTION

Required Readings:

WEEK 2 (1/22): LGBT HEALTH AND DISPARITIES: AN OVERVIEW

Required Readings:

Journal Club Reading

WEEK 3 (1/29): THEORIES AND FRAMEWORKS OF LGBT HEALTH RESEARCH

Guest Lecture: Ilan Meyer, PhD (Distinguished Senior Scholar for Public Policy, Williams Institute for Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy, UCLA School of Law; Adjunct Professor, Community Health Sciences, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health; Professor Emeritus, Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University)

Required Readings:
All students should read the following required article, and skim the optional article, on Minority Stress
In addition, students will be split into small groups prior to class, and each group will be responsible for reviewing ONE of the following theories in depth (and skimming the remaining theory articles, if time allows).

- **Intersectionality—Group A**

- **Life Course Theory—Group B**

- **Syndemics—Group C**

  - **Resilience—Group D:**

**WEEK 4 (2/05): SEXUAL ORIENTATION/GENDER IDENTITY MEASUREMENT AND DATA COLLECTION**

**Required Readings:**
  - Read Chapters 2 (Demographic Overview of Our Sample) + Chapter 3 (Identity, Attraction and Behavior).
- Cimpian JR, Timmer JD, Birkett MA, Marro RL, Turner BC, Phillips GL. Bias from potentially mischievous responders on large-scale estimates of lesbian, gay, bisexual, or questioning (LGBQ)-heterosexual youth health disparities. AJPH. 2018;108(S4): S258-S265

**DUE (2/08): CHOICE OF HEALTH OUTCOME/POPULATION UPLOAD TO SAKAI**
WEEK 5 (2/12): PUTTING THE B, Q, I, A, AND MORE IN LGBTQI+: BISEXUAL, QUEER, INTERSEX, ASEXUAL, PANSEXUAL, AND OTHER UNDERSTUDIED SGİ GROUPS

Guest Speaker: Lorin Bruckner, Data Visualization Services Librarian

Required Readings:

WEEK 6 (2/19): TRANSGENDER HEALTH

Guest Speaker: Tonia Poteat, PhD (Dept. of Social Medicine, UNC School of Medicine)

Required Readings:
- Poteat T, et al. HIV prevalence and behavioral and psychosocial factors among transgender women and cisgender men who have sex with men in 8 African countries: A cross-sectional analysis.

WEEK 7 (2/26): LGBT YOUTH AND SCHOOLS

Guest Speaker: Will Hall, PhD, (UNC School of Social Work)

Required Readings:

DUE (2/26): INFOGRAPHIC UPLOAD TO SAKAI PRIOR TO CLASS

WEEK 8 (3/05): LGBT HEALTH CARE PANEL

Guest speakers: Eric Klett, MD (UNC endocrinology); Emily Vander Schaalf, MD MPH (Assistant Professor, General Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, UNC pediatrics); April Fields, MD (Fields Family Psychiatry); Nina Jain, MD (UNC Pediatric Endocrinology); Cassie Hamrick, MAAT, LPCA (Art Therapist, Radical Healing)

Required Readings: NONE
WEEK 9 (3/12): NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)

Guest speaker: Derrick Matthews, PhD (Dept. of Health Behavior)

Required Readings:

WEEK 11 (3/26): GLOBAL LGBT HEALTH/POLICY
Guest speaker: Dirk Davis, MPH (Doctoral Student, Department of Health Behavior)

Required Readings:
- Gordian-Arroyo A. A Silent Battle Overcoming Barriers in LGBT Global Health. Amplify. 2016: https://medium.com/amplify/a-silent-battle-b7b2303ae0f
  o ***READ EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ONLY, AND SKIM REST AS INTERESTED

Guest speaker: Barbara Fedders (Assistant Professor of Law, UNC School of Law)

Required Readings: TBD

DUE (4/2): HEALTH DISPARITY BLOG POST
UPLOAD TO SAKAI PRIOR TO CLASS

WEEK 13 (4/9): US LGBT POLICY II: BEYOND MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Required Readings:
LGBT Population Health (Spring 2019) Syllabus


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WEEK 14 (4/16): Part 1: LGBT POLITICAL PARTICIPATION
Guest Speaker: Andrew Reynolds (UNC Dept. of Political Science)

Part 2: LGBT HEALTH + RIGHTS: A HISTORY DRIVEN BY ADVOCACY

Part 2 Required Readings:
- Eliason MJ, Schope R. Shifting sands or solid foundation? Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender identity formation. In: Meyer I and Northridge ME (Ed.) The Health of Sexual Minorities. (pp. 3-26).

WEEK 15 (4/23): EQUALITY AT HOME: PANEL
Guest Speaker: SafeSchools NC (Holly Jordan, Chairperson); LGBTQ Center at UNC (Terri Phoenix, PhD, Director); SAGE Raleigh; EqualityNC

Required Readings: NONE

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