

## Syllabus

**Course:** Disparities in Health Care Today

**Day:** Tuesday 6:00-9:00 pm  
**Instructor:** Doris Palazzo  
**Email:** [dfpalazzo@aol.com](mailto:dfpalazzo@aol.com)

### Objective:

The existence of racial and ethnic disparities in health care represents a failure of the system to provide equal, high quality care to all individuals, regardless of ethnicity, race and other related factors. The class will look at various disparities within society, and its relationship to the health care model. We will focus on the delivery system, cultural differences, stereotyping, language barriers, access, lack of education and environmental setting.

Certain diseases will be examined and the relationship of prevalence in certain ethnic groups. Individual research will be required during this class.

### **Reading:**

Because this topic is changing constantly, handouts will be given out in class, along with articles that students will be asked to bring in.

**No reading text is required although I can recommend texts if you desire more information.**

### Grading:

Participation: 20%  
Presentation: 45%  
Paper: 35%

6/6	Review of syllabus – Intro to health care disparities Review of final paper, expectations of the course
6/13	Co-variables in addressing disparities Community Health Care initiatives in addressing disparities
6/20	Presentation

6/27	Presentation
7/4	<b>OFF</b>
7/11	Presentation
7/18	Final due- emailed on that day

**Presentation:**

Each student will give an oral presentation to the class addressing a disparity of a particular disease or procedure in health care today. The presentation will be a verbal description of your final paper. You may use power point, handouts or any other materials to instruct the class on the disease and its disparity.

You may choose your own topic, (with instructor's approval) or you may use a subject listed below:

- Alcoholism and the Native American population
- Increase of diabetes/obesity minority children
- Childhood asthma and the Hispanic population
- Disparities in mental health amongst various ethnic groups, based on cultural beliefs
- Disparities in health care ( access, transportation, availability) in the migrant population
- Low birth weight in minority women

**Final Paper:**

Based on your presentation topic, (approval by Professor required) write a 10- page paper on that disease, and the existence of racial, cultural or ethnic disparities that affect it.

Be sure to include:

- Background on the disease
- Comparison of populations effected by the disease and treatment in relationship to various groups
- Public health initiative
- Cost
- Political views
- Future trends.

In essence it is a written parallel to your oral presentation, with a bit more data, and case studies included.

Use journal articles as part of your paper; include at least one case study to back your findings. Use at least 8 references.

