

Cultural Diversity, Health Disparities and Public Health

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Course Description

A primary aim of this course is to provide public health professionals with a broad overview of cultural diversity issues with a focus on race/ethnicity and gender. Health disparities, a major public health problem of interest, is discussed using cultural diversity as the conceptual framework for thinking about the role of the public health community and health policy solutions for addressing these issues. As a part of this process, course participants are exposed to introductory cultural diversity concepts. In addition, participants also have an opportunity to engage in critical thinking regarding the current social and health problems that impact the public's health, particularly racial minorities.

Learning Objectives

- Acquire an introductory knowledge of the cultural diversity terminology and concepts.
- Apply concepts on cultural diversity to the public health problem of health disparities.
- Identify potential social, political and economic determinants of health disparities for culturally diverse population groups.
- Identify and clarify the role of the public health community in addressing health disparities.

Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals **Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice*

- 4A2: Recognizes the role of cultural, social, and behavioral factors in the accessibility, availability, acceptability and delivery of public health services
- 4B4: Explains the dynamic forces that contribute to cultural diversity
- 4A5: Describes the need for a diverse public health workforce

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