

# ENV H 311 A Sp 24: Introduction To Environmental Health

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## ENV H 311: Introduction to Environmental Public Health

### Spring Quarter 2024

(3 Credits)

### Course Location

M/W/F: Health Sciences Education Building Room 345

### Instructor / Office Hours



**Tania M. Busch Isaksen** (she/her)

*Teaching Professor*

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**Office Hours:** By appointment.

# Syllabus

[Syllabus \(https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1719026/files/118298658?wrap=1\)](https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1719026/files/118298658?wrap=1) (Updated 2/21/2024 - draft )

<----- Please use the Modules tab to track schedule, required readings, assignments, etc.

## Graduate Teaching Assistants

**Joey Teresi** (he/him)

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Office Hours: by appointment

**Mariana Cortes Espinosa** (she/her)

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Office Hours: by appointment

## Course Description

This course explores the relationship people have with their environment, the risk management choices made, and the resulting associations that affect health and physical well-being for the individual, communities and susceptible populations. The field of Environmental Public Health, itself, is a professional, interdisciplinary field focused on the science and practice of preventing injury and illness from exposures to hazards in our environments.

ENVH 311 is designed as a survey course and is intended to introduce students to foundational and technical concepts in the field of Environmental Public Health (EPH). Primarily, students will learn how a variety of environmental factors impact health outcomes, the control measures currently used to prevent or minimize the health effects from these negative impacts, and where to access additional information to make a difference at the individual, community or higher level. The course is designed to acquaint the student with the scientific and technical foundations of the field, and examines both practice and research contributions to understanding and controlling environmental hazards. This course also is intended to be a service course, meaning that everyone is touched by EPH principles and topical areas of concern everyday; we all eat, drink, produce waste and breathe air each day. This course delivers important information and resources for the students' own health and wellness advocacy as they move out beyond this institution.

## Course Meeting Times and Location

This course is being taught through a didactic lecture format during two of the three class sessions and with a flipped discussion format during the remaining weekly class session. Students are expected to come to each class having read the posted materials for the day. The weekly flipped

discussion sessions are designed to dig deep into the course content, apply learning objectives to new scenarios, explore online tools and resources in a small group setting, and practice interpersonal communication, facilitation, and negotiation skills.

**NOTE:** There is 1 UW-observed holiday that falls on a Monday this Spring quarter. We will not meet on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

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## Tentative Schedule (updated March 10, 2024)

No	Day	Date	Lesson Topic	Lecturer
<b>Week 1</b>				
Our class starts off with a case study module about the <b>Flint, MI water crisis</b>				
1	Mon	March 25	Course Introduction	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
2	Wed	March 27	<b>Recorded lecture:</b> Population Dynamics & Public Health <b>Discussion session:</b> Pop. Dynamics IHME exercise	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
3	Fri	March 29	Environmental Public Health/Risk Assessment Framework	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 2</b>				
4	Mon	April 1	Toxicology	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS

No	Day	Date	Lesson Topic	Lecturer
5	Wed	April 3	Epidemiology <b>Interactive/Group work session</b>	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
6	Fri	April 5	Exposure Assessment & Control	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 3</b>				
7	Mon	April 8	<b>Recorded lecture:</b> Housing Precariousness & Health <b>Discussion session:</b> Flint, MI Epi/Exposure assessment discussion	Dr. Jamie Vickery, NOAA Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
8	Wed	April 10	Environmental Justice & Community Action	Resham Patel, DEOHS
9	Fri	April 12	Water Resources	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 4</b>				
10	Mon	April 15	Drinking Water Quality	Joey Teresi, DEOHS
11	Wed	April 17	Intro. to Occ. Health & Safety	Dr. Marissa Baker, DEOHS
12	Fri	April 19	<b>Recorded lecture:</b> Flint, MI Wrap Up <b>Discussion session:</b> Synthesis Assignment prep	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS Joey Teresi & Mariana Cortes Espinosa, DEOHS
<b>Week 5</b>				
<b>During week 5 we move into a new short module: Food Safety Rocks!</b>				

No	Day	Date	Lesson Topic	Lecturer
13	Mon	April 22	Human Disease Transmission, prevention & Control	Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
14	Wed	April 24	Food-borne Illness/Outbreak investigation	Ms. Emily Hovis, DEOHS
15	Fri	April 26	<b>Recorded Lecture:</b> Food Protection & Policy video <b>Discussion session:</b> Food Safety Rocks	Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 6</b>				
<b>During week 6 we move into a new module: Climate Change and Health</b>				
16	Mon	April 29	Climate Change Basics	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
17	Wed	May 1	Climate Change Health Risks / Heat & Wildfire smoke	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
18	Fri	May 3	<b>Recorded Lecture:</b> Dig Deeper <b>Discussion Session:</b> Climate Change Mitigation	Student Directed! Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 7</b>				
19	Mon	May 6	Climate Change and Nutrition	Dr. Yona Sipos, DEOHS
20	Wed	May 8	Zoonotic/ Vector-borne Disease Transmission & Control	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
21	Fri	May 10	<b>Recorded Lecture:</b> Climate Change Communication: Myths & Denial	Dr. John Cook, Skeptical Science

No	Day	Date	Lesson Topic	Lecturer
			<b>Discussion Session:</b> Climate Change Adaptation + preview/prep for synthesis assignment	Dr. Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 8</b>				
<b>During week 8 we move into a new module: Duwamish River Superfund Site</b>				
22	Mon	May 13	<b>Group crowdsource:</b> Historical Overview / Legacy Waste + prep for synthesis assignment	Joey Teresi & Mariana Cortes Espinosa, DEOHS
23	Wed	May 15	Air Pollution & Health	Mariana Cortes Espinosa, DEOHS
24	Fri	May 17	Solid/Hazardous Waste Disposal	Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 9</b>				
25	Mon	May 20	Alternatives to Landfilling	Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
26	Wed	May 22	<b>Posted lecture:</b> Wastewater Treatment – Decentralized <b>Discussion/class session:</b> Solid waste & sustainability	Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
27	Fri	May 24	Wastewater Treatment – Centralized	Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 10</b>				
	Mon	May 27	<b>No Class: Memorial Day</b>	
28	Wed	May 29	Sustainability & Green Chemistry	Ms. Nancy Simcox, DEOHS

No	Day	Date	Lesson Topic	Lecturer
29	Fri	May 31	<b>Posted Lecture:</b> Radiation Health & Safety <b>Discussion/class session:</b> The Perfect Storm / Course Wrap Up	TBD, UW EH&S  Tania Busch Isaksen, DEOHS
<b>Week 11</b>				
			<b>No in-person Final</b>	