Public Health Emergency Law and Biosecurity Law

This course explores the law underlying American health security, particularly public health emergency, homeland security, and biosecurity law. Attention will be given to the health security challenges and opportunities presented by developments in synthetic biology. The legal underpinnings and structure of public health and emergency response systems will be examined, with an emphasis on their integral role in protecting the American people from health consequences of both natural and manmade emergencies, including pandemic disease and bio-terrorism. This course is a seminar. The student's work will focus on a research paper analyzing selected aspects of public health emergency response, health security, biosecurity, or homeland security law. Although not a prerequisite, a prior course or basic background in public health law, biosecurity, or homeland security concepts will be helpful for students who wish to produce original research suitable for publication.

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