Pandemics, Politics and Policies:
PSCI 316W/HIS 374W/ HIS 474/ PHLT 374
Spring 2023 – updated Jan 28 2023
Contact Information
Instructor: Mical Raz MD PhD
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Office Hours: Thursdays 1230-130 in my office (RRL 370B), zoom options available
Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

In this advanced seminar, students will learn about prior epidemics and pandemics
primarily in the United States, and asses the policy responses to these events. They will
learn about a number of key case studies in the history of pandemic response, and examine
how politics shaped local and federal policies. They will critically examine primary sources
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Read Intro, Chapters 6, 7, and Conclusion Policy Briefs discussion
Thursday, February 2, 2023
Cholera
Charles E Rosenberg, The Cholera Years, (1962) available online through the library
Introduction and Part 1, and Part 3 1-98; 175-242
Visitor –

Edgar Sydenstricker, The Incidence of Influenza among Persons of Different Economic
Status during the Epidemic of 1918, Public Health Reports Jan. 23, 1931, Vol. 46, pp. 154-
170
 Troubleshooting Policy Briefs
Thursday, March 2, 2023
Influenza history – present histories and policies.
Markel H, Lipman HB, Navarro JA, et al. Nonpharmaceutical Interventions Implemented by
US Cities During the 19
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Thursday, March 30, 2023

2pm Visit and Talk Dr William Valenti: How to Manage a Pandemic: AIDS, COVID, MPox
AIDS – Federal
Read - Jennifer Brier , Infectious Ideas : U. S. Political Responses to the AIDS Crisis ,
Prologue, chapters 1-3. (ebook at library)
Presentations of Group Memorial Projects II

Thursday, April 6, 2023
AIDS – State/local action
James Colgrove, Epidemic City, Chapter 4
Dan Royles, To Make the Wounded Whole, 6,7
 Visit the AIDS Poster Collections

Thursday, April 13, 2023
Anthrax / Preparedness
Anne Pollock , Sickening, Intro and Chapter 1
Rosner and Markowitz, Are We Ready? Public Health Since 9/11 , intro (1-6) and Chapter 3
Fee and Brown The Unfulfilled Promise Of Public Health: Déjà Vu All Over Again, Health
Affairs, 2002
 Final Project Check Ins
Thursday, April 20, 2023
Covid and the Misuse of History
Reading TBD based on new developments.
Unmasking Textualism: Linguistic Misunderstanding in the Transit Mask Order Case and
Beyond Columbia Law Review Forum, Volume 122: 192-213 (2022)