

Urban Gun Violence Prevention: A Public Health Perspective (Spring 2024) ▲▼

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Urban Gun Violence Prevention: A Public Health Perspective

UC Berkeley, School of Public Health

Spring 2024

Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30

BWW Building, 5th floor, Caravan Conference Room

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Overview:

This graduate seminar will explore ways to end the epidemic of urban gun violence by using a public health approach. We will explore current definitions of gun violence as a public health issue and interrogate the practice and research. Students will engage with practitioners from the Bay Area and globally that are using community-based, trauma-informed and healing-centered approaches to eliminate urban gun violence. Students will learn about the structural causes of urban gun violence through a critical view of public policy, policing and public safety history and the law. We will engage with the current-day legacies of structural racism, from slavery and Jim Crow, to the War on Poverty and mass incarceration. We will engage with debates on the role of police in keeping us safe from gun violence. The class will also focus on local and national policy initiatives.

Community-based urban gun violence is a public health equity issue since it is a leading cause of death for young, African American men and contributes to stress and other detrimental social determinants of well-being in neighborhoods where it is prevalent. This class will focus on **community gun violence**, not suicide or mass shootings. Community gun violence is a type of interpersonal violence that takes place in public places between individuals who are not intimately related. For the at least the past two decades, gun homicide has been the number one cause of death for non-Hispanic Black males aged 18 to 34 years old. Non-fatal gun violence has a lasting impact on the quality of life for victims and their families, including post-traumatic stress symptoms, anxiety, and depression, poor academic performance and intergenerational economic hardship.

The course will include regular participation of practitioners who are working at the center of gun violence intervention and prevention. Each class will be structured as a seminar, with the first part discussing the readings and assignments and the second part a reflection with a practitioner guest over how the assigned material applies to practice.

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the root causes of today's urban gun violence epidemic, including structural racism and mass incarceration.


2. Distinguish between a trauma-centered & healing-centered approach to addressing urban gun violence.
3. Identify and explain evidence-based programs that are aiming to reduce gun violence and understand public opinion on gun policy.
4. Review evaluations of community-centered urban gun violence reduction programs.
5. Learn how to be an ally with community-based practitioners at the center of healing efforts



Modules (subject to change - be sure to check bcourses each week):

- Module One (1/16): [Introduction to Urban Gun Violence as a Public Health Issue](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-1-8-slash-23)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-1-8-slash-23>)
- Module Two (1/23): [The History of Urban Violence, Racism & Trauma](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-2-8-slash-30)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-2-8-slash-30>)
- Module Three (1/30): [Peace in Local Government; Richmond's ONS](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-3-9-slash-6)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-3-9-slash-6>)
- Module Four (2/6): [Peace in Government II \(Richmond ONS - Lessons for CVI\)](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-4-2-slash-6)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-4-2-slash-6>)
- Module Five (2/13): [Advance Peace: A Healing-Centered Approach](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-5-9-slash-20)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-5-9-slash-20>)
- Module Six (2/20): [Violence Interrupters](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-6-2-slash-20)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-6-2-slash-20>)
- Module Seven (2/27): [Health Alliance for Violence Intervention \(HAVI\)](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-7-10-slash-4)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-7-10-slash-4>)
- Module Eight (3/05): [Place, Racism, Health & Gun Violence](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-8-10-slash-11-2)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-8-10-slash-11-2>)
- Module Nine (3/12): [Credible Messengers & Wounded Healers](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-9-10-slash-18-3)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-9-10-slash-18-3>)
- Module Ten (3/19): [Community Violence Intervention & Focused Deterrence](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-10-3-slash-19)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-10-3-slash-19>)
- Module Eleven (4/02): [Reflecting on CVI: Does it Heal?](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-11-11-slash-1)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-11-11-slash-1>)
- Module Twelve (4/9): [Public Policy for Urban Safety & Health](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-12-4-slash-9)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-12-4-slash-9>)
- Module Thirteen (4/16): [The Media & the "narrative" of urban gun violence](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-13-4-slash-16)
(<https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/pages/module-13-4-slash-16>)
- Final Presentations (4/23): [Wrap Up & Final Presentations](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/assignments/8742140)
([\\$CANVAS_OBJECT_REFERENCE\\$/assignments/g29af1d92087cf8dcc2d01166b899fd14](https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/assignments/8742140))

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Tue Apr 23, 2024	 Final Presentations -post here https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1531262/assignments/8742140	due by 11:59pm