COURSE DESCRIPTION: A robust body of research and practice documents that family and community violence are widespread public health and human rights problems. This course focuses on the social epidemiology of family and community violence, as well as prevention of, and intervention for, interpersonal violence from a developmental, intersectional perspective. In this course, “family” is defined broadly to comprise any intimate relationship and “community” is defined broadly as a culture-sharing group.

We will address child abuse and neglect, bullying, adolescent and adult intimate partner violence, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and elder abuse. This course places special emphasis on how systems of privilege and oppression shape vulnerability to family and community violence, and systems response to survivors of family and community violence on macro, mezzo, and micro levels. Students will be challenged to critically think about and analyze the social, legal, political, and organizational factors affecting service delivery as well as methods employed in models of intervention and prevention of family and community violence.