

Quantitative Health Sciences and the UMMS Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD) Present a Special Seminar

**Wednesday, May 10, 2017
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
Albert Sherman Building, AS9-2072**

“Challenging biological essentialism with embodied histories of health inequities: reflections on population health data as archives of the body politic”

A lurking biological essentialism infuses contemporary research on “health disparities.” I discuss the new NIH mandate to account for sex, but not also gender, in all studies, and I draw on ecosocial theory to present an alternative approach that conceptualizes health inequities as embodied history, using examples from trends in US mortality, police violence, breast cancer, including in relation to Jim Crow.



Presented by: Nancy Krieger, PhD

Nancy Krieger is Professor of Social Epidemiology and American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH) and Director of the HSPH Interdisciplinary Concentration on Women, Gender, and Health. She is an internationally recognized social epidemiologist (PhD, Epidemiology, UC Berkeley, 1989), with a background in biochemistry, philosophy of science, and history of public health, plus 30+ years of activism involving social justice, science, and health. She is an ISI highly cited scientist (since 2004; reaffirmed: 2015), a group comprising “less than one-half of one percent of all publishing researchers.” Dr. Krieger’s work addresses: (1) conceptual frameworks to understand, analyze, and improve the people’s health, including the ecosocial theory of disease distribution she first proposed in 1994, concerned with embodiment and equity; (2) etiologic research on societal determinants of population health and health inequities; and (3) methodologic research on improving monitoring of health inequities.

[RSVP here](#)