Health studies’ students express interest in becoming policy makers. To equip students with skills to do social inquiry, I designed this course. Students will examine how policy, law and various forms of regulation, as structural determinants of health, shape everyday lives, and with what consequence. They will learn about the social organization of knowledge approach from sociology, and learn-by-doing original, unobtrusive fieldwork of their own creation; developing conceptual and practical skills to use in professional workplaces or graduate school. By the end of the course, students will be able to do sophisticated, historically informed social analysis drawing from the work of Canadian and Canadian-trained scholars active from the 1960s to today.

- What does feminist praxis teach us?
- How do we make productive use of subjectivity?
- Who are Canadian scholars of social studies of health?
- What do we mean by materialist social inquiry?
- What policy stories do our daily surroundings tell?

I am Laura Bisaillon, Course Director and Professor at the Interdisciplinary Centre in Health and Society. My main areas of research focus are medical decision-making in the Canadian immigration system and social studies of HIV.

HLTC47 is a 12-week seminar-style course open to third and fourth year students in health studies and other social sciences. In fall 2019, it is offered on Thursday from 9am to 11am.