Study Center in Gaborone, Botswana

Course name: Pre-Professional Health Care Issues in Botswana
Course number: PUBH 3003 BOTU
Programs offering course: Community Public Health
Language of instruction: English
U.S. Semester Credits: 04
Contact Hours: 60
Term: Summer 2017

Course Description
This course addresses basic social determinants of population health (social, cultural, economic and environmental factors), basic principles of epidemiology (rates, incidence, prevalence as well as risk factors, disease determinants, causation and public health surveillance), the fundamentals of tropical diseases (causes, symptomology, transmission, prevention and control), communicable disease particularly HIV and AIDS, TB and STI’s, chronic and neglected diseases as well as traditional medical approaches to health. The analysis of these topics is from the perspective of global issues and local practices and challenges. Students will address various medical-sociology topics, with emphasis on their particular manifestation in Botswana, Southern Africa, Africa and a broader global perspective.

Learning Objectives
By the end of the course, students will be able to:
- Identify social and biological factors related to health/disease.
- Utilize different theoretical and methodological tools for the implementation of participatory health interventions in the community.
- Analyze the situation of the health system and health status of the population in the Botswana, Southern Africa and Africa

Methods of Instruction
This course is taught through a combination of approaches: i.e. direct instruction, field trips and students will also actively engage course material through in-class discussions and review of public health related current events. The set of assigned readings and written assignments will broaden the student’s understanding of topics covered in class and reinforce the concept of multidisciplinary integration in public health.

Assessment and Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exams</th>
<th>Units to be evaluated</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>Units I, II, III</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>Public health program/policy analysis paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written presentation</td>
<td>Public health program/policy analysis paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>Units IV, V, VI</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Requirements

Class Attendance and Participation
All students are required to attend all classes on time, and valid reasons should be given for absenteeism. If you miss more than 2 classes, you will lose half a letter grade.

All students are expected to participate in class. Failure to do so will result in loss of participation marks. Late submission of assignment will result in loss of marks (5% after the first day & 1% everyday afterwards)

Midterm Examination
A one hour forty five minute written examination by individual students.

Review of a Public health program/policy in Botswana (written presentation)
Students will write and submit a typed 6-8 page analysis paper on a selected public health program/policy in Botswana. The report should carry a comparison of the selected program/policy with international best practice and make recommendations as to how the policy/program can be improved. The report should critic the program/policy from a social medicine perspective. This assignment requires literature support. (Group assignment).

The program/policy is to be from amongst the following:
- Maternal and Child Health
- Sexual and Reproductive health
- School health
- Occupational Health
- Chronic Diseases

Presentation of the Public Health program/policy analysis
10 -15 minutes briefs of submitted papers (Power point) and discussions by group members

Final Examination
A two hour written examination by individual students.

Academic Dishonesty
Cheating and plagiarism in any course assignment or exam will not be tolerated and may result in a student failing the course or being expelled from the class and/or university.

Please read the following university documents that facilitate learning:
- Revised Academic Honesty Policy for students (2006)
- Learning and Teaching policy (2008)
Weekly Schedule (T, W and F)

Week 1: Introduction to medical sociology as science.
Overview of the syllabi and class
Group Assignment
Sociology and Health; Their practical significance.
1.1. Brief historical evolution of health sociology in Southern Africa and the Botswana
   - Present and Future.
   - Major studies in our country.
Reading:
Guest Lecturer: Dr. Maude Dikobe

   - Behavior, personality and socialization.
   - Behavior and illness according to culture.
   - Motivation, interest, and social action strategies.
Guest Lecturer: Dr. Sethunya Mosime

1.3. Systems of social stratification.
   - Classic theories of social stratification.
   - Contemporary social stratification: class, status, and power.
Reading:

1.4. Social mobility
   - Concept.
   - Social mobility and health.
Reading:

Week 2: Social construction of health and illness.
   - Human development and health.
   - Natural history of disease.
Reading:
   - Controlling the causes and responsibility for the effects.
Reading:

Group Paper Topic Due
   - Disease models and models of care.
Reading:
Week 3: Social inequalities in health - The issue of equity.
Guest Lecturer: Dr O. I. Motsamai
Social inequalities in health. Concepts
Reading:
- Epidemiological studies and historical reports- Guest Lecturer
- The report of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health; The WHO 2008.

Readings:

Week 4
A week village homestay in Kanye
Sir Seretse Khama Day (Public Holiday)

Week 5: Life styles and healthy behavior.
- Socio-cultural dimensions in practices relating to health.
- Healthy lifestyles.
- Lifestyles and new diseases.
Readings:
- Botswana STEPS Non-communicable Disease Risk Factor Survey 2007

Mid-Term Exam

Week 6: Diseases Behaviors.
- The patient's role.
- Healthy spaces.
Readings:
- The doctor-patient relationship.
- Social networks support.
Reading:
• Concept and definition of mental illness.

Readings:

Week 7: Analysis of health systems. The health system.
• Health systems in the world.
  Reading:
• Botswana health system.
  Reading:

Final Examination

President’s Day (Public Holiday)

Public Holiday

Week 8: Student Presentations
Group Presentations
Group Paper Due
Additional Readings:


