



CIEE Khon Kaen, Thailand

Course name:	Pre-Professional Healthcare Issues
Course number:	PUBH 3004 KKTH
Programs offering course:	Summer Community Public Health
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	4
Contact Hours:	60
Term:	Summer 2019

Course Description

This course takes a multi-disciplinary approach to examining theory and conceptual frameworks in public health, epidemiology, and healthcare administration. Students will examine the public health management system in Thailand, as well as make comparisons to the South-east Asian health care systems.

Foundational concepts, such as epidemiology, health system, and social determinants of health, are introduced early in the course. Health care reform, health care financing, and health care delivery are studied in more detail, using the Thai system as a case study. Trends in health and disease are explored by various topics such as tropical and infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS, non-communicable diseases, maternal and child health, elderly health and mental health.

Classroom concepts are reinforced with site visits to local health service facilities, public health initiatives, and community locations where public health principles are applied.

Learning Objectives

Throughout the course, and by the end, students will be able to:

- Identify specific social determinants, epidemiological trends, and biological relationships related to health and illness in Thailand.
- Critically discuss the Thai public health and healthcare system, including financing, delivery, prevention, and promotion
- Identify burdens of diseases on individual and population health (including HIV/AIDS, infectious and tropical diseases, and non-communicable disease)
- Analyze ongoing reforms to the Thai healthcare system aimed to address challenges
- Experience and evaluate current public health initiatives occurring in Thailand

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction



This course is taught through a combination of approaches, including interactive classroom lectures by Khon Kaen University (KKU) faculty and the course director; trips (site visits) to local healthcare facilities, public health initiatives, or locations where public health principles are applied; and student-led discussion sessions. Weekly student-led discussion sessions will incorporate reading assignments, site visits, and lectures into a consolidated summary of that week’s lesson material. Students will also actively engage course material through in-class discussions and review of public health related current events. Students will be expected to complete assigned readings prior to lecture so that they can actively engage the lecturer with questions.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Homework: ASEAN health service report	20%
2. Field visit brief report	15%
3. Midterm Exam (Units 1,2):	25%
4. Final Exam (Units 3,4):	25%
5. Attendance and class participation:	15%

Course Requirements

Homework : ASEAN health service report

Students will produce a “health system briefing paper” on a selected South-East Asian country (excluding Thailand). A report template and details on content will be provided in the first lecture. A class powerpoint presentation of the briefing paper will be required in lecture 5 and final write-up and powerpoint submitted via email by 5pm, 1 August 2018.

Grading criteria

The briefing paper will be assessed on:

1. Country demographics, socio-economic, cultural, political factors etc and comment on how these may influence health status and service development	30%
2. Overview of current health priorities/challenges	30%
3. Overview and evaluative comment on health service system	30%
4. Referencing, format, grammar, spelling, style (APA style)	10%

Field visit brief report

Students will discuss and produce a report on their learning from the 6 site visits. After the site visits, students will discuss on the key messages, the contributions to Thai health system, comments and recommendations. The final brief report will include summary of key finding from each site visits, problems and recommendations. The field trip report will be submitted by email by 5pm, 1 August 2018.



Grading criteria

The report be assessed on:

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| 1. Summary/outline of health sites visited | 50% |
| 2. Evaluative comments and recommendation | 35% |
| 3. Referencing, format, grammar, spelling, style (APA style) | 15% |

Midterm and Final Exam

The midterm and final exam will be closed-book exams with a variety a question types, including short answer, multiple choice, matching, and computational. Exam questions will be based on assigned readings, homework assignments, and lecture material.

Attendance and Class Participation

Attendance is required at all lectures, briefings, debriefings, site visits, and discussion sessions. Arriving more than 15 minutes late will be considered absent. One unexcused absence is allowed. Each subsequent unexcused absence will result in a 20% reduction of your class participation grade.

Academic Dishonesty

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

Weekly Schedule

Week 1	Orientation
Week 2	
2.1	Lecture 1 Course Introduction
2.2	Lecture 2 Universal Health Coverage: Concepts and issues
2.3	Lecture 3 Health problems and challenges of Thai health care system
Week 3	



- 3.1 Lecture 4
Universal health coverage in Thailand: the evolution and comparative analysis with developed countries
- 3.2 Discussion 1
- 3.3 Site Visit 1
Khon Kaen regional hospital
- Week 4**
- 4.3 Lecture 5
Health care system in SEA
- 4.4 Mid-Term
- 4.5 Lecture 6
Sustainable community Health Development
- 4.6 Site Visit 2
Ubolrat District Hospital
- Week 5**
- 5.1 Lecture 7
Accident and emergency management system
- 5.2 Lecture 8
Neglected Tropical Diseases: Live Fluke Case Study
- 5.3 SV 2
Lawa Model: Community Integrated Infection Control
- Week 6**
- 6.1 Lecture 9
Health promotion
- 6.2 Lecture 10
Maternal and child health
- Week 7**
- 7.1 Lecture 11
Primary health care in Thailand
- 7.2 Lecture 12
HIV/AIDS in Thailand



- 7.3 Site Visit 4
Hua Thanon and Pralab sub-district
- 7.4 Discussion Session 2
- Week 8**
- 8.1 Lecture 13
Elderly care system
- 8.2 Site Visit 5
Srinagarind Hospital
- 8.3 Lecture 14
Mental health
- 8.4 Site visit 6
Psychiatric hospital
- Week 9**
- 9.1 Discussion 3
- 9.2 Final Exam

Course Materials

- Ashengrau, A. and Seage, G. (2008). The Approach and Evolution of Epidemiology. In *Essentials of Epidemiology in Public Health* (pp. 1-32). Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett.
- Bhundumchareon K, Patcharanarumol W, Pagaiya N and Tangcharoensathein (2011) Demographic and health transition: health systems challenges and future direction. In Jones G and Im-em W ED (2011). *Impact of demographic change in Thailand*. Bangkok, Unites Nations Population Fund.
- Blomqvist, A. (2011). Public-Sector Health Care Financing. In *The Oxford Handbook of Health Economics*. Eds. Glied, S. and Smith, P.
- Chongsuvivat, V, Phua, K., Yap, M., Pocock, N., Hashim, N. Wilopa, S., Lopez, A. (2011). Health and health-care systems in southeast Asia: diversity and transitions. *The Lancet* 377 (9763), 429-437.
- Frogner, B., Hussey, P. Anderson, G. (2011). Health Systems in Industrialized Countries. In *The Oxford Handbook of Health Economics*. Eds. Glied, S. and Smith, P.
- Hanvoravongchai, P. (2013). Health Financing Reform in Thailand: Toward Universal Coverage under Fiscal Constraints. UNICO Study Series 20. The World Bank, Washington, DC. January 2013.



Hughes, D. and Leethongdee, S. (2007). Universal Coverage in the Land of Smiles: Lessons from Thailand's 30 Baht Health Reforms. *Health Affairs*, 26(4), 999-1008.

International Labor Organization SRO for East Asia (2008). Thailand: Universal Health Care Coverage through Pluralistic Approaches. Retrieved from: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---soc_sec/documents/publication/wcms_secsec_6612.pdf

Kanchanachitra, C., Lindelow, M., Johnston, T., Hanvoravongchai, P., Lorenzo, F., Huong, N., Wilopo, S., dela Rosa, J. (2011). Human resources for health in southeast Asia: shortages, distributional challenges, and international trade in health services. *The Lancet* 377(9767), 769-781.

Srithamrongsawat, S., Aekplakorn, W., Jongudomsuk, P., Thammatach-aree, J., Patcharanarumol, W., Swasdiworn, W., Tangcharoensathien, V. (2010). Funding health promotion and prevention – the Thai experience. Work Health Report Background Paper 45. World Health Organization. Retrieved from: <http://www.who.int/healthsystems/topics/financing/healthreport/ThailandNo45FINAL.pdf>

Tangcharoensathien, V., Patcharanarumol, W., Ir, P., Aljunid, S., Mukti, A., Akkhavong, K., Banzon, E., Huong, D., Thabrany, H., Mills, A. (2011). Health-financing reforms in southeast Asia: challenges in achieving universal coverage. *The Lancet* 377(9768), 863-873.

WHO (2015) The Kingdom of Thailand health system review. Available at: <http://www.searo.who.int/thailand/news/thailand-hit-launch/en/>

Media Resources

Thai Health Promotion Foundation Resource Center. Retrieved from: http://en.thaihealth.or.th/RESOURCE_CENTER.html

Towards Healthy Thailand – An Introduction to ThaiHealth. ThaiHealth Promotion Foundation. Retrieved from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vW0mKeIHKuE>