



## **CIEE Khon Kaen, Thailand**

<b>Course name:</b>	Pre-Professional Healthcare Issues
<b>Course number:</b>	PUBH 3004 KKTH
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Summer Community Public Health
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>U.S. Semester Credits:</b>	4
<b>Contact Hours:</b>	60
<b>Term:</b>	Summer 2020

### **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, adolescent 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. 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 need to be submitted.

#### **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.

#### **Grading criteria**

The report be assessed on:

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 of question types, including short answer, multiple choice, matching, and computational. Exam questions will be based on assigned readings, homework assignments, and lecture material.

### **Class Participation**

Attendance is required at all lectures, briefings, debriefings, site visits, and discussion sessions. Active class participation is required, particularly during the 3 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**

<b>Week 1</b>	Orientation
1.1	Academic Overview
1.2	Lecture 1: Course Introduction
1.3	Lecture 2: Universal Health Coverage: Concepts and issues Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2017 Global Monitoring Report. (WHO and World Bank, 2017)</li></ul>
1.4	Lecture 3: Health Problems and Challenges of Thai Health Care System Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Kingdom of Thailand Health System Review. Health system in Transition (Pongpisut et al, 2015)</li></ul>
<b>Week 2</b>	
2.1	Lecture 4: Universal health coverage in Thailand: the evolution and comparative analysis with developed countries Readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thailand's Universal Coverage Scheme: Achievements and Challenges. An independent assessment of the first 10 years (2001-2010) (Health Insurance System Research Office, 2012)</li><li>• Universal Health Care: Lessons From the British Experience (Light, 2003).</li></ul>
2.2	Discussion Session 1
2.3	Site Visit 1: Khon Kaen regional hospital
<b>Week 3</b>	
3.1	Site Visit Brief Report 1 due

3.2 Lecture 5: Health care system in SEA

Readings:

- Health and health care system in Southeast Asia (Chongvivat, Phua, Yip, Pocock, Hashim, Wilopa, & Lopez, 2011).
- Health in Southeast Asia (Summerskill & Horton R, 2011)
- Health financing reform in Southeast Asia: Challenges in achieving universal coverage (Tangcharoensathien et al, 2011).

3.3 Mid Term

**Week 4**

4.1 Lecture 6: DM in Thailand

Readings:

- Urban and rural variation in clustering of metabolic syndrome components in the Thai population: results from the fourth National Health Examination Survey 2009 (Ackplakorn, Kessomboon, Sangthong et al, 2011).
- Prevalence of Diabetes and relationship with socio-economic status in the Thai population: National Health Examination Survey. 2004-2014 (Ackplakorn, Chariyalertsak, Kessomboon et al, 2018).
- Diabetes management in Thailand: a literature review of the burden, costs and outcomes (Deerochanawong & Ferrario, 2013).

4.2 Site Visit 2: Accident and Emergency services/KK Regional Hospital

4.3 Site Visit 3: Ubonrat hospital

4.4 Lecture 7: Liver Fluke: Neglected tropical disease

Readings:

- Toward integrated Opistorchiasis control in Northeast Thailand: The Lawa Project (Sripa, Tangkawattana, Laha et al, 2015).
- The Lawa model: A sustainable, integrated Opistorchiasis control programme using the EcoHealth approach in the Lawa Lake region of Thailand (Sripa, Tangkawattana, & Sangnikul, 2016)
- Roles of socio-cultural and economic factors in cyprinid fish distribution networks and consumption in Lawa Lake region, North-east Thailand: Novel perspective on *O. viverrini* transmission dynamics (Sunyoung, Smith, Suwannatrai et al, 2017).

4.5 PPH Lecture 8: Accident and Emergency management system in Thailand

Readings:

- Road safety Institutional and Legal Assessment Thailand (WHO, 2016)
- Global status report on Road Safety 2015 (WHO, 2015)

**Week 5**



5.1 Site Visit Brief Report 2 and 3 due

5.2 Lecture 9: HIV/AIDS

Reading:

- Thailand's Response Progress Report (UNAIDS, 2015)

5.3 Lecture 10: Sexuality and adolescence in Thailand

Readings:

- Thailand's Adolescent Health Situation: Prevention is the Key (Areemit, Suphakunpinyo, Lumbiganon et al, 2012).
- Parental Involvement, Health Behaviors and Mental Health among school-going Adolescents in Six Asian Countries (Pengpid & Peltzer, 2016).

5.4 Lecture 11: Environmental Health

Readings:

- Third National Environmental Health Strategic Plan 2017-2021 (Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Thailand, 2017)
- The Challenge of Faecal Sludge Management in Urban Areas – Strategies, Regulations and Treatment Options (Ingallinella et al, 2002).
- Fecal Bacterial Contamination in Natural Water Reservoirs as an Indicator of Seasonal Infection by *Opisthorchis Viverrini* in Snail Intermediate Hosts (Kaewkes et al, n.d.)

## **Week 6**

6.1 Lecture 12: Primary health care in Thailand

Reading:

- The four Decade Development of Primary Health Care in Thailand (1978-2014) (The Primary Health Care Division, The Department of Health Service Support, 2014)

6.2 Site Visit 4: Community Medical Center in Nong Waeng

6.3 Discussion Session 2

## **Week 7**

7.1 Site Visit Brief Report 4 due

7.2 Lecture 13: Elderly care system

Reading:

- Thailand: Country Report on Social Welfare and Health Care Services for Elderly (Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Thailand, 2007).



- 7.3 Site Visit 5: Natural resources and Environment
- 7.4 Lecture 14: Mental Health  
Readings:
- ASEAN Mental Health Systems (ASEAN, 2016)
  - Services for depression and suicide in Thailand (Kongsuk et al, 2018)
- 7.5 Discussion Session 3
- Week 8**
- 8.1 Site Visit Brief Report 5 due
- 8.2 Site Visit 6: Psychiatric Hospital
- 8.3 Final Exam
- 8.4 Site Visit Brief Report 6 due

### **Course Materials**

Ackplakorn W, Chariyalertsak S, Kessomboon P et al (2018) Prevalence of Diabetes and relationship with socio-economic status in the Thai population: National Health Examination Survey. 2004-2014. Journal of Diabetes Research 2018.

Ackplakorn W, Kessomboon P, Sangthong R et al (2011) Urban and rural variation in clustering of metabolic syndrome components in the Thai population : results from the fourth National Health Examination Survey 2009. BMC Public Health 2011 Nov 10; 11:854.

Areemit R, Suphakunpinyo C, Lumbiganon P et al (2012)Thailand's Adolescent Health Situation: Prevention is the Key. J Med Assoc Thai 2012; 95 (Suppl. 7): S51-S58.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)( 2016). ASEAN Mental Health Systems. Jakarta, ASEAN Secretariat, December 2016.

Chongvivat V, Phua K, Yip M, Pocock N, Hashim N, Wilopa S, Lopez A (2011) Health and health care system in Southeast Asia. The Lancet. 377(9763): 429-437.

Deerochanawong C and Ferrario A(2013) Diabetes management in Thailand: a literature review of the burden, costs and outcomes. Globalization and health 9(11).

Donald W. Light (2003) Universal Health Care: Lessons From the British Experience. American Journal of Public Health. 93(1):25-30.

Health Insurance System Research Office (2012) Thailand's Universal Coverage Scheme: Achievements and Challenges. An independent assessment of the first 10 years (2001-2010). Nonthaburi, Thailand: Health Insurance System Research Office, 2012.



Ingallinella AM, Sanguinetti G, Koottatep T et al (2002) The challenge of faecal sludge management in urban areas – strategies, regulations and treatment options. *Water Science and Technology*. 46(10): 285-94.

Kaewkes w, Kaewkes S,T esana S, Laha T and Sripa B(n.d.) Fecal bacterial contamination in natural water reservoirs as an indicator of seasonal infection by *Opisthorchis viverrini* in snail intermediate hosts. *Parasitology International*. 61(2012) 49-51.

Kongsuk T, Supanya S, Kenbubpha K et al (2018). Services for depression and suicide in Thailand. *WHO South-East Asia Journal of Public Health*. April 2017; 6(1): 34-38. Available at: <http://www.who-seajph.org>

Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Thailand (2017).Third National Environmental Health Strategic Plan 2017-2021. Ministry of Public Health. Nonthaburi.

Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Thailand (2007)Thailand: Country Report on Social Welfare and Health Care Services for Elderly. Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

Pengpid S and Peltzer K(2016) Parental Involvement, Health Behaviors and Mental Health among school-going Adolescents in Six Asian Countries. *ASR: CMU Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* (2016). 3(2): 115-132.

Pongpisut et al (2015) The Kingdom of Thailand Health System Review. Health system in Transition. 5(5). Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies.

Sripa B, Tangkawattana S and Sangnikul T (2016). The Lawa model: A sustainable, integrated Opisthorchiasis control programme using the EcoHealth approach in the Lawa Lake region of Thailand. *Parasitology International*. Nov 24. Pii S1383-5769(16): 30503-7.

Sripa B, Tangkawattana S, Laha T et al (2015) Toward integrated Opisthorchiasis control in Northeast Thailand: The Lawa Project. *Acta Trop*. Jan, 141(Pt B): 361-7.

Summerskill W and Horton R (2011) Health in Southeast Asia. *The Lancet*. 377(9763): 355-356.

Sunyoung Kim C, Smith JF, Suwannatrai A et al(2017) Roles of socio-cultural and economic factors in cyprinid fish distribution networks and consumption in Lawa Lake region, North-east Thailand: Novel perspective on *O. viverrini* transmission dynamics. *Acta Trop*.170: 85-94.

Tangcharoensathien V, Pacharanarumol W, Ir P, Aljunid SM, Mukti AG, Akkavong K, Banzon E, Huong DB, Thabrany H and Mills A (2011) Health financing reform in Southeast Asia: Challenges in achieving universal coverage. *The Lancet*. 377(9768): 863-873.

The Primary Health Care Division,The Department of Health Service Support (2014) The four Decade Development of Primary Health Care in Thailand (1978-2014). Bangkok. The War Veterans Organization of Thailand



UNAIDS (2015) Thailand's Response Progress Report.

WHO (2015). Global status report on Road Safety 2015. Geneva. WHO. Available at:  
[http://www.searo.who.int/thailand/areas/gsrss2015\\_summary\\_en\\_final.pdf](http://www.searo.who.int/thailand/areas/gsrss2015_summary_en_final.pdf)

WHO (2016) Road safety Institutional and Legal Assessment Thailand. Available at:  
<http://www.searo.who.int/thailand/areas/rs-legal-eng11.pdf>

WHO and World Bank (2017) Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2017 Global Monitoring Report.  
World Health Organization and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development /  
The World Bank; 2017. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.