Study Center in Gaborone, Botswana

Course name: Community Health Practicum
Course number: PUBH 3002 GCPH
Programs offering course: Community Public Health
Language of instruction: English
U.S. Semester Credits: 03
Contact Hours: 45
Term: Summer 2018

Course Description

The course takes a multi-disciplinary approach to examining theory and conceptual frameworks in public health, epidemiology, and health care administration. Students gain an understanding of major social, behavioral, cultural, environmental, ethical and regulatory factors that affect the health of local and global populations.

TOTAL IN CLASS HOURS: 16 HOURS (2 hours a week for 8 weeks)

Students shadow healthcare service providers in government-sponsored clinics to gain a better understanding of current health problems and hazards in Botswana.

TOTAL HOURS: HOURS—(4 hours per day for 3 days a week: 8 weeks)

Students also spend a week in a rural Botswana observing in clinics for purposes of investigation, observation, and community education and also understand the difference between health care delivery system in urban and rural Botswana.

TOTAL HOURS: 20 HOURS (4 Hours per day for 5 days)

Through observation and discussions with local healthcare professionals, students gain a better understanding of current health problems and hazards in Botswana, and a final project is based in part upon the two field experiences

Learning Objectives

1. Illustrate public health’s interdisciplinary, cross-cutting character and the contributions of different disciplines and professions to improving health.
2. Explain how practitioners assess interventions for improving population health.
3. Identify how social and behavioral interventions affect population health.
4. Explain how policy and law affect population health in Botswana.
5. Identify the impact of the environment and describe how communicable disease affects health.
6. Explain the burden of infectious and chronic diseases and injuries on morbidity and mortality and approaches to early detection and prevention.
7. Describe the basic organization of healthcare and public health systems in Botswana and the contributions of health professionals.
8. Identify the roles of public health in addressing health disparities and the needs of vulnerable populations
9. Participate in the implementation of health care policies in the various community health settings.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites required for this course.

Methods of Instruction

This course is taught through a combination of approaches: i.e. direct instruction, clinic observations, and field trips. 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. Regular class attendance and active participation in class discussions are essential for achieving a meaningful learning experience.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Reflective Journal X 3 30%
2. Research Project 50%
3. Class Presentation on research project 10%
4. Class Participation 10%

This course will be assessed by continuous assessment only and there will be no final examination.

Course Requirements

Clinical Activities/Observations

Students will rotate through the following clinical sites:
- Health Clinics in Gaborone
- A week in Kanye (Village Clinics)

There will be a weekly clinical conference where students are expected to analyze and share experiences from the health care settings.

What to Observe in the Clinics:
• How patients are received?
• Communication between patients and providers – language used
• Health information they are given concerning their health condition (verbal, handouts, brochures)
• Privacy and confidentiality during the interaction with providers
• Availability of supplies, equipment & medications
• Sanitation and hygiene
• General health status of clients/patients (malnutrition)
• Health promotion activities (health education)
• Environmental hygiene
• Health policies, manuals and guidelines used in the facilities
• Health message and signage (signs)
• How patients are screened
• How child growth and development is monitored
• Observe other services

**G-West:** Focus on how patients are screened, human resource issues, how children are assessed, and child development and immunizations

**Block 6:** Focus on how non-communicable diseases are treated, including diet

**Phase 2:** Focus on the Infectious Disease Care Clinic, specifically how patients are received, types of service providers available, what type of information is given, and treatment adherence rates

**Mafithakgosi, Tlokweng:** HIV/ AIDS and male circumcision; Referrals from Tlokweng to Gaborone

**Extension Two Clinic:** Health policy especially referral guidelines, what kind of conditions/health problems are referred to Princess Marina Hospital and how referrals are done, Sanitation and hygiene

**Clinics in Kanye:** Health education/promotion, common health topics, how are health messages disseminated and availability of supplies, equipment & medications

**ASSESSMENTS:**

1. **Reflective Journals (10 % each journalx3)**

Students are expected to keep an experiential diary to record their learning experiences and submit THREE reflective journals (2-3 pages typed) which will include but not limited to:

• Observations
• Reflections (analysis of one experience)
• Recommendations
The journals will address the following areas:
1. Strengths and weaknesses of the health care system.
2. Public health ethics observed
3. Make recommendations based on your own clinical observations

Submission of assignments should be made on due date.
Late submission of assignments will be marked down 5% after the first day and 1% every day afterwards), and that

**Individual Review of Intervention/ Program at the Clinics**

Students will write a review of intervention or program at the clinic worth 30%. The review should be 5-8 pages each covering public health issue the intervention is addressing. Each paper should be typed with font 12 points, Times New Roman, double spaced. The format of each review should be as follows:
1. Title page: Title of the paper, your name and student number and the name of the course and course code.
2. Abstract: Your abstract should be only 200 words giving the background of the paper, the objective of the paper, the methods of collecting the information, your findings and your recommendations
3. Introduction: This section should give an overview of the issue you are discussing and the expanded objectives of the paper (recognizing that in your abstract you were only summarizing)
   **This should be one page long only**
4. Challenges, strength of the program/intervention and success
5. Recommendations

The following rubric will guide the grading of the Individual Review of Intervention Assignment:

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<th>Not done</th>
<th>Partially done</th>
<th>Extensively done</th>
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<td>Clearly states motivation for selecting program</td>
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<td>Gives an overview of how the program currently functions</td>
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<td>Identifies strengths of the program</td>
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<td>Identifies important weaknesses</td>
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<td>Provides logical recommendations for improvement</td>
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Supporting literature

Key:
9-Exceptional
8-Outstanding
7-Outstanding
6-Very Good
5-Good
4-Satisfactory
3-Fair
2-Marginal
1-Poor
0-Not done

Attendance and Class Participation

A roll call will be taken during class. You are expected to attend class 100% of the time. There should be valid reasons for missing class. Submission of assignments should be made on due date. Late submission and lack of class attendance should be supported by valid reasons such as sick leave etc. Late submission of assignments will be marked down 5% after the first day and 1% every day afterwards), and that no coursework will be accepted after the last day of class.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1 Introductions and expectations
Lecture on Overview of the Botswana Health care delivery system
The Role of traditional Medicine in the Botswana Health care Delivery system

Challenges and Issues within Health Care Delivery
Class discussions
Dr. Bontle Mbongwe

Readings:


Week 2

Overview of HIV and AIDS in Botswana
Guest Lecture
Children health
Lecture notes & class discussions: Dr. Orapeleng Puswane

Covering vaccinations, nutrition an pediatric and adolescent, HIV Care and Treatment in Botswana

Readings:
Accelerated Child Survival & Development Strategy- Botswana
Botswana National Roadmap for Reduction of Maternal and Newborn Mortality
Botswana Expanded Programme on Immunization
Botswana National Strategic Framework II (2010-2016)

Reflective journal 1 Due

Week 3

Village Observation
Observation of rural health care delivery system and ethical challenges in primary health care settings

Week 4

Maternal Health, Sexual Reproductive health in Botswana

Readings:


**Reflective journal 2 Due**

**July 1** Sir Seretse Khama Day (Public Holiday)

**Week 5**

**Public Medical Ethics**

Guest Lecture: Dr Tiny Masupe:

**Week 6** Non communicable diseases in Botswana

**Readings:**
Botswana STEPS Non-communicable Disease Risk Factors Survey 2007
Dr. Tiny Masupe

**Week 7** The role of communities in Public Health
Challenges of Developing a Human Right Approach to Public Heath

Dr. Bontle Mbongwe

**Readings:**

**Reflective journal 3 Due**

**July 17** President’s Day (Public Holiday)
**July 18** Public Holiday

**Week 8**
Student Presentations  PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR FULL POWERPOINT PRESENTATION and FULL PAPER PRIOR TO THE PRESENTATION DUE DATE BY EMAIL

Group Presentations
Group Paper Due

Additional Readings


The impact of universal access to antiretroviral therapy on HIV stigma in Botswana.


Guidelines for Diagnosis and Treatment of Malaria in Botswana. Ministry of Health