CIEE Study Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina

Course name: Community Health Practicum: Theory and Practice  
Course number: PUBH 3004 APHU  
Programs offering course: Community Public Health, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Language of instruction: Spanish  
U.S. Semester Credits: 3  
Contact Hours: 45  
Term: Summer 2018

Course Description:

An integrated and multidisciplinary focus will be applied to various categories and concepts within the social and medical sciences facilitating students the observance of the primary care level of the public health system of Argentina and Uruguay. Students will cover measurements of the health status within the population and will incorporate a broader population within their solutions to health problems, among other issues in the sector participate of range of activities in the field of the primary care health. Students will be split into small groups for the field work experience, based on their preferences, background and the onsite staff recommendations.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Highlight and compare the strengths and weaknesses of the health system in each local setting related to global topics
- Analyze the difference between the contexts of socio-economic and environmental risks and their relation to the problems surrounding the health of the population.
- Recognize the various models of primary care and health promotion associated with the health issues that is dealt with in each branch.
- Analyze the different intervention strategies from primary care and health promotion in the community.
- Be able to apply health diagnostic tools and quality of life in the community
- Highlight the impact of the social determinants of health in the local settings.
- Integrate the conceptual and theoretical concept to the ground activities at each branch.
Field works sites are placed in: Argentina: Mendoza (Mendoza Province) and Concepción del Uruguay (Entre Ríos Province) and in Uruguay: Montevideo City.

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Core Generic Skills Required
● Ability to analyse and synthesize.
● Ability to learn.
● Ability to work in an interdisciplinary team
● Ability to develop intercultural skills needed to be involved in observations/participations activities at the primary care level of the health system.

Attendance and Class Participation
Out class activities for observance and data analysis. Students will participate in several activities planning and organizing under the supervision of different health professional to observe and analyse how the health system works into variety of social and health settings.
Attendance of these activities is mandatory. Homework’s, notes and the program forum posted will be required by professor. Additionally, attendance will be taken each class/activities and class/activities participation will be assessed as part of the final grade.

Bibliography
The bibliography is assigned on a specificity basis: depending on the themes and activities of each branch. Therefore, the activities schedule and bibliography is particular to each fieldwork site.

Evaluation: final qualification for this stage consists of the completion of four components:

1. Group oral presentations (50%)
2. Evaluation of individual duties during the fieldwork experience (20%)
3. The completion of a blog and essays during the four weeks (10%)
4. Notes & Homework (10%)
5. Attend a weekly virtual Spanish Tutorials (10%)

Branch: Province of Entre Ríos: City of Concepción del Uruguay
Day 1:
Arrival Day.
Orientation.
Introduction of the program.

Week 1: Analysis of the local situation and health problems

- Presentation of Concepción del Uruguay City.
- Social determinants of maternal-infant's health problems in an Entre Ríos population.
- Geographic inequalities of health: Living conditions and geographical occupation of space.
- Diagnostic of risk factors.
- Local hospital health system.
- Neighborhood and community contexts where each component is carried out.
- Practical activities and exercises.
- Mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch.

Week 2: Analysis of the local situation and prioritizing health problems

- Promotion and prevention of health.
- Primary Health Care: Perinatal health in community health centers.
- Construction of the social determinants for maternal-infant health.
- Observations and analysis of social environment risk factors.
- Information technology to evaluate maternal-infant health situations.
- Practical activities and exercises.
- Mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch.

Week 3: Social determinants and the local health practices.

- Construction of the social determinants for maternal-infant health.
- Observations and analysis of social environment risk factors
- Primary Health Care: Perinatal health in community health centers.
- Information technology to evaluate maternal-infant health situations.
- Practical activities and exercises.
- Mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch
Community

- Strategic planning: situation room in health
- Information technology to evaluate maternal-infant health situations.
- Practical learning activities and exercises
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch

Branch: Province of Mendoza: City of Mendoza

Dy 1:
Arrival Day.
Orientation.
Introduction of the program.

Week 1: Analysis of the local situation and health problems

- Presentation of the Mendoza Province.
- Presentation of the Mendoza Province health care system.
- Prevalent problems and determinants for health in Mendoza
- Main characteristics and environmental problems in Mendoza
- Practical learning activities and exercises
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch

Week 2: Analysis of the local situation and prioritizing health problems

- Prevalent health problems in the Province of Mendoza
- Public health system of Mendoza.
- Vulnerability and access to the health system.
- Primary Health Care.
- Practical learning activities and exercises.
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch

Week 3: Social determinants in local health practices.

- Human rights and Health.
- Public health system of Mendoza.
- Health at the National University of Cuyo.
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- Primary Health Care.
- Practical learning activities and exercises.
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch

**Week 4: Health promotion as a strategy to approach a community**
- Public health system of Mendoza.
- Primary Health Care.
- Identifying material and themes for the completion of the Final Project. Practical learning activities and exercises.
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch

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**Uruguay: City of Montevideo**

**Day 1:**
Arrival Day.  
Orientation.  
Introduction of the program.

**Week 1: Analysis of the local situation and health problems: overview of health in Uruguay**
- The country and the Capital.
- Health in Uruguay: The situation, challenges, and approaches.  
- Uruguay Health System  
- The perspective of sexual diversity.  
- Practical learning activities and exercises.
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch

**Week 2: Analysis of the local situation and prioritizing health problems**
- Health promotion.  
- Population with disabilities and health issues.  
- The perspective of sexual diversity.
- Practical learning activities and exercises.
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch.

**Week 3: Social determinants and the local health practices.**
- The perspective of sexual diversity.
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- Educational strategies involving vulnerable populations.
- Drugs: prevention of consumption from a rights perspective.
- Practical learning activities and exercises.
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch.

**Week 4 - Health promotion as a strategy to approach a community**

- Review of the experience and final project proposal.
- Final project proposal.
- Final presentation at the branch.
- Practical learning activities and exercises.
- Elementary mandatory readings included in the Handbook at each branch.