

SCHOOL OF POPULATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

SPPH 581K – Syllabus – Winter 2014

Practical Knowledge and Skills for Working in Global Health

1. Course Description

This course is intended to provide students with an in-depth understanding of the important practical knowledge, skills and key competencies that are required to be successful working in the field of global health. The course will cover (1) planning, delivery, evaluation and sustainability of projects and programs in developing countries, (2) working for global health organizations including United Nations agencies, international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and non-profits, (3) short and long term consulting and (4) volunteering. Knowledge, skills and competencies in the following areas will be delineated and discussed: drafting proposals, responding to RFPs (requests for proposals), funding and budgets, research methods, staffing and human resources, partnerships, community participation, cultural sensitivity, diplomacy, advocacy, health systems, monitoring and evaluation, ethical issues, scaling up interventions and sustainability. Practical Knowledge and Skills Lectures will be supplemented by in-class exercises that apply what was learned. Over the course of the term, students will work in teams to draft proposals for a specific global health 'Request For Proposal (RFP)'. Most of the in-class exercises will relate to the proposals being drafted by the student teams. For example, the lecture on Budgets will be supplemented by an in-class exercise in which a project budget will be prepared for the specific proposals that the student teams are working on. There will also be Lessons Learned presentations by experienced practitioners who will discuss their personal experiences working in global health with an emphasis on case studies and lessons learned in the field. Each session will also involve a facilitated class discussion

- Elective
- Pre-/Co-requisites: SPPH 502 or permission of the instructor
- Maximum enrolment: none

2. Course operation and Instructor Information

Class: Tuesdays, 2-5pm; SPPH B138; Jan 7 - Apr 1, 2014

Instructor: Richard Lester

Biography

Dr. Lester is currently the medical head of HIV/STI control at the BCCDC and Assistant Clinical Professor at Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases at UBC. He has vast experience in basic lab research, clinical trials and public health in global health settings. His specialization is in mobile health for patient engagement in care and clinical infectious diseases. Dr. Lester lived for several years in Kenya and has consulted with organizations such as the World Health Organization and China CDC.

Office – BCCDC Division of STI/HIV Control (through main reception/security)

Office Hours: by appointment with Rita Khimani 604-707-5608

Teaching Assistant: Angeli Rawat

angelirawat@gmail.com

Office: SPPH 427

Office Hours: by appointment

Biography

Angeli is a PhD student in the Global Health Research Program at the School of Population and Public Health. Her research focuses on the impact of integrating antiretroviral therapy and related HIV services into public sector primary care clinics in South Africa. She is particularly interested in equitable access to public sector health services for populations in low and middle income countries and health system strengthening. She has worked in Global Health contexts for the previous 13 years at multiple levels ranging from community health interventions to multi-country program implementation and policy development. Her experience mostly focuses on public sector and NGO-related work.

3. Learning Goals and Objectives

SPPH 581K provides an in-depth review of the most important competencies that students will need to consider and make plans to acquire if they intend to work in the field of global health. Special attention will be paid to the implementation of front line projects in the world's least developed countries. The overall goals of this course for students are to:

(a) Gain in-depth knowledge of the key stages in the planning, delivery, evaluation, scaling up and sustainability of **programs and projects** in developing countries, as well as the skills necessary to be successful, including:

- responding to RFPs (requests for proposals);
- drafting proposals;
- fundraising and preparing and monitoring budgets;
- managing and developing human resources;
- creating partnerships and collaborations;
- securing community participation;
- developing and maintaining cultural awareness;
- acquiring the necessary skills in diplomacy, advocacy and negotiation;
- understanding health systems planning and service delivery;
- planning effective knowledge translation and communications;
- monitoring, reporting and operations, impact and outcome evaluation;
- understanding and applying ethical, legal and regulatory frameworks; and
- scaling up and sustaining successful interventions.

(b) Become familiar with the process of **working for global health organizations** and the key competencies that facilitate successful job applications to United Nations agencies, large and small international NGOs and non-profits.

(c) Acquire an understanding of the field of global health **consulting** including the types of opportunities available, what funding organizations look for in consultants, finding and responding to opportunities and how to draft and finalize reports.

On completion of this course the student will be able to:

- (a) Identify and knowledgeably discuss the key competencies necessary to be successful in planning, delivering, evaluating, scaling up and sustaining global health projects, in working for organizations that focus on global health issues and in global health consulting and volunteering;
- (b) Discuss the specific stages involved in the process of developing and delivering front line life-saving interventions;
- (c) Knowledgeably delineate common reasons for the failure of projects and programs;
- (d) Understand proven and innovative strategies for ensuring successful initiatives;
- (e) Critically review and synthesize the scientific literature on global health project delivery;
- (h) Identify high profile global health organizations and discuss their work;
- (i) Complete an application for global health employment;
- (j) Draft a proposal for a global health project; and
- (k) Better understand the global health work options best suited to their careers.

4. Course Structure

Lectures, combined with pre-assigned readings, will outline concepts, issues and examples. Small group discussions and class participation will provide a forum to apply these concepts and to pursue new ideas. Lectures will be supplemented with in-class exercises to apply the knowledge learned. Experienced global health practitioners will discuss their projects, provide practical insight and relate valuable lessons learned in the field. Drafting a funding proposal will result in a better understanding of specific skills required to work in the field of global health

5. Textbook and Course Materials

The course syllabus can be downloaded from the SPPH website. There will be readings for each session but there is no mandatory textbook for this course. A few copies of the following general global health resource textbooks will be ordered at the UBC bookstore and a copy of each will be held on reserve at the Woodward Library:

- Skolnik R. Essentials of Global Health. Sudbury, Massachusetts: Jones & Bartlett Publishers (2007).
- Markle WH, Fisher MA, Smego RA Jr (editors). Understanding Global Health. USA: The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (2007).
- Lindstrand A, Bergstrom S, Rosling H. Global Health: An Introductory Textbook. Lund (Sweden): Studentlitteratur AB (2006).
- Seear M. An Introduction to International Health. Toronto (Canada): Canadian Scholars' Press Inc. (2007).
- Jacobsen KH. Introduction to Global Health. Sudbury, Massachusetts: Jones & Bartlett Publishers (2007).

Useful URLs include:

- World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/topics>
- Global Health Council: <http://globalhealth.org>
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID): <http://www.usaid.gov/>
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS): <http://www.unaids.org/en/>
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: <http://www.theglobalfund.org/>
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): <http://www.undp.org/>
- The World Bank: www.worldbank.org
- www.idealists.org
- www.internationaljobs.com

6. Student Evaluation

A variety of methods will be used to accumulate marks to a potential total of 100, class participation, drafting a funding proposal and developing a global health CV.

Distribution of Marks

- 1) Project Proposal (50 marks)
- 2) Class Attendance (20 marks)
- 3) In-class presentation (30 marks)

1) Draft Project Proposal

Working in teams of 3-4, students will draft a full project proposal for a global health RFP or project funding opportunity assigned by the instructor that will be worth 50% of the final grade.

2) Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes and be prepared. Readings are to be completed before class and students should be ready to participate in class discussion and activities. The attendance mark will reflect the proportion of lectures and exercises attended and will comprise 20% of the final grade.

3) In-class Presentation

Students will present 2 student presentations. One in a group of their proposal idea as a "pitch" to potential funders for selected global health project and another applying skills learned in class to a potential project of their interest which could be used to apply for funding in the future. Topics will be identified by for this presentation by the mid-term of the class and guidelines will be provided by the instructor. Each presentation will comprise of 15% of the final grade.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Students are expected to know the following: (1) what constitutes plagiarism, (2) that plagiarism is a form of academic misconduct and (3) that such misconduct is subject to penalty. Please review the Student Discipline section of the UBC Calendar (available on-line at www.ubc.ca). Please also visit the UBC

Plagiarism Resource Centre for Students (available on-line at www.library.ubc.ca/home/plagiarism/).

This course relates to several current courses at the UBC, especially within the MPH program at the School of Population and Public Health (SPPH):

A. SPPH 506 (Introduction to Program and Economic Evaluation) - This course will provide information on the strategic importance of program and economic evaluation in the global health workplace, an overview of the key stages of this process and practical advice on options for acquiring skill in this area.

B. SPPH 515 (Surveillance and Monitoring in Public Health) - This course will discuss the critical importance of basic surveillance in developing countries and provide practical direction with regard to simple but effective monitoring strategies in the least developed nations of the world.

C. SPPH 581D/528/536 – (Health Care Priority Setting, Rural and Remote Health, Aboriginal People and Public Health) - This course will cover the planning, implementation, evaluation, scaling up and sustainability of projects focused on the delivery of health care to underserved populations in poor countries as a complement to 528 (Rural and Remote Health) and 536 (Aboriginal People and Public Health). As well, this course will discuss health care priority setting in the Third World as a complement to 581D that introduces principles and methods related to health care priority setting in general.

D. SPPH 538 - The ethical issues in poor countries are often different to those in Canada. This course will discuss the specific ethical, legal and regulatory challenges involved in delivering and evaluating programs where resources are limited.

F. SPPH 550 (Analysis of Health Care Organizations) - This course will discuss the global health workplace including UN agencies, major NGOs and non-profits, and the process of working in this area.

Instructors Consulted

This type of course was suggested by students and supported by instructors at the Town Forums devoted to the Global Health and Vulnerable Populations Theme. It addresses the practical competencies required to work in global health. Students who had previously acquired MPH degrees with a focus on global health commented that they had not received adequate career information, direction and counseling. The following UBC instructors were consulted and support this new course - Charles Larson, Patricia Spittal, Jerry Spiegel, David Patrick, Martin Schechter, Bonnie Henry, Monika Naus, Kishor Wasan, Robert Brunham and Gina Ogilvie. Dr. Richard Lester is currently bringing his expertise from his years of working and living in developing country contexts to assist students in acquiring the necessary skills to be successful and fruitful in these contexts.

Lecture: Ethical and Cultural Issues (Shafik)

Class Schedule (Please note these dates are subject to availability of guest lecturers and may change)

Class	Topic	Lecturer	Readings and Assignments (Due)
1. Jan 7	Lecture: Introduction, Harnessing your expertise and assembling your team, Institutional intelligence and capacity Activity:	Richard Lester	Familiarize yourself with course syllabus and indicate priority learning objectives. Choose a class project.
2. Jan 14	Getting Started with a new global health project.	David Cox	Environmental scan, needs assessment,

	Activity Refine plan		intuitional capacity
3. Jan 21	Lecture: Project Planning and Development Activity: Work in project teams to design a logic model and organizational structure for your project	Gina Ogilvie	
4. Jan 28	Lecture: Writing and Developing Grant proposals Activity: Mock CIHR grant review panel exercise	David Moore	
5. Feb 4	Lecture: Budgeting Activity: Develop a budget for your project according to RFP guidelines	TBD	
6. Feb 11	Government Engagement from an NGO Perspective	David Ojakka	
READING WEEK			
7. Feb 25	Lecture: Ethics Activity: complete action planning cycle for community participation in your project	Shafik Dharamsi (To be confirmed)	
8. Mar 4	Lecture: Research methods in developing countries	Ed Mills	
9. Mar 11	Lecture: Monitoring and Evaluation Activity: Develop an M&E plan for your project (RFP Steps	Maureen Mayhew	

	<p>2&3)</p> <p>Discussion: What evaluation method and why?</p>		
10. Mar 18	<p>Lecture: Strengthening Health Systems, Scaling up and Sustainability</p> <p>Activity: Teams present salience of their assigned articles in 5 sentences and choose key words</p>	Charles Larson	
11. Mar 25	<p>Dissemination Innovation and Global Access</p> <p>Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Discuss scaling up and sustainability with WRT team projects b) How to ensure access to products and services reaches the intended populations 	Kish Wasan	
12. Apr 1	<p>Lecture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Wrap Up and Student Presentations <p>Activity:</p> <p>Correct/comment on anonymized or fictitious CV or cover letter</p>	Richard Lester	