

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Course Syllabus
CPH 709 001 Global Health Practicum
[Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter Intercession]

LOCATION: TBD

Contact information

Instructor: James W. Holsinger, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
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Office Hours: By Appointment

Course description

This course will consist of a practicum in a foreign country, preferably in a resource-limited setting. Students will have both a University of Kentucky and a local mentor, and will develop a plan for participating in some type of health-related project or activity during a four-week period. A paper summarizing the key components of the practicum experience will be submitted upon returning to Lexington.

Course rationale:

The Global Health Practicum is designed to provide hands on experience for students enrolled in the Graduate Certificate in Global Health. It provides the opportunity for students to apply classroom knowledge in a real world setting. Whenever possible it should serve as a culminating experience for students enrolled in the graduate Certificate.

Course prerequisites

Enrollment in the Graduate Certificate in Global Health, and completion of the course CPH 751, Introduction to Global Health, or approval from the Director of the certificate.

Course objectives

This course will provide the opportunity for students to participate in a global health-related activity, project or program in a resource-limited setting in a foreign country. This will allow students in the Global Health Certificate to gain direct international experience with relevant, current global health issues, and to integrate and apply knowledge and skills learned in their coursework.

The practicum will be 3 credit hours, with a minimum duration of four weeks.

Each practicum will be unique, depending on the student's background and interest, as well as on the needs and resources of the location where it will be conducted. The main activity and setting of the practicum can range from providing primary or specialty direct patient care in a hospital, outpatient or other type of medical setting; prevention, community health or health education activities in schools, neighborhood meetings or other venues; collection of environmental samples from water, soil, food, etc. For students in the colleges of Medicine,

Nursing, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, the practicum may take the form of a rotation. Note that all students, regardless of college or degree, must complete all course requirements and learner evaluations outlined below.

Public Health Competencies for CPH 709

1. Demonstrate international, interdisciplinary skill in the prevention and/or treatment of disease and injury.
2. Demonstrate international, interdisciplinary skill in health care delivery, health promotion and/or in another health-related discipline.
3. Demonstrate collaborative skills in working with colleagues in a global setting.

Student learning outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student will:

1. Describe how disparities relate to the health of communities as well as access to healthcare relating disparities to issues of socio-economic determinants of health.
2. Compare observations of disparities found at their placement site with disparities in their home country.
3. Demonstrate skills in the area of flexibility when working in resource-limited settings.
4. Develop skills to improve their ability to think creatively and work adaptively in resource-limited settings within their home country during the future careers.
5. Enhance intercultural competency through developing cross-cultural communication skills.

Textbooks and Other Materials

None

Course requirements and learner evaluation

Course grades will be based upon evaluation of the following activities:

- Practicum proposal form [20 points]
- Local mentor/preceptor agreement form
- Practicum report [30 points]
- Student post-practicum evaluation [20 points]
- Local mentor/preceptor post-practicum evaluation [30 points]

The course letter grade is based on a 100 point scale as noted above.

100-90=A

89-80=B

79-70=C

69 or below=E

Practicum placements will require completion of a proposal to be submitted to and reviewed by the Global Health certificate director. The practicum proposal shall include a proposed work plan, with activity and learning objectives, and a mentorship plan which should include a UK-GH associate faculty supervisor and a local, qualified mentor or supervisor in the host location. Approval of the practicum proposal will also include consideration of the student's background, interests and language capabilities.

In addition to the field experience, before travelling the student will complete pre-departure orientation and preparation requirements of the Office of International Affairs for students studying and/or working abroad. Upon returning to the U.S., the student must report on the

experience in the form of a written report approved by the UK-GH supervisor, for the completion of the practicum prior to the assignment of a grade.

Exceptions:

- With approval of the GH certificate director, international students may be able to conduct the practicum in a resource-limited or underserved setting in the U.S.
- Reduction of the duration of the practicum abroad to less than 4 weeks will be considered only in exceptional cases and will require written approval of the GH certificate director.

Funding for travel and living expenses will be the responsibility of the student, but the GH certificate director and associate faculty will assist in pursuing travel funds from available resources, such as fellowships, travel awards and financial aid towards study or practice abroad. The University of Kentucky International Center offers limited scholarships with deadlines of October 1st for winter and spring programs and March 1st for summer and fall programs.

Instructor expectations

1. I expect you to submit papers using proper English grammar, syntax, and spelling. You are encouraged to use spell check and grammar check prior to submitting your written work. The Writing Laboratory is available to anyone who may need assistance. Grammar, syntax, and spelling will account for 10% of the grade for written work.
2. I expect (and encourage) you to provide honest and timely feedback regarding the content and process of this course throughout the semester.
3. I expect you to share in the responsibility for making this course an enjoyable and beneficial learning experience.
4. Wikipedia *cannot* be used as a cited reference as noted by a co-founder of Wikipedia! You may use Wikipedia to identify appropriate source material. Remember Wikipedia is *not* peer reviewed!
5. I require that each learner will utilize the *APA Publication Manual* as a guide for writing papers for this course and the grading rubric will be based on its precepts.

Academic honesty

Academic honesty is highly valued at the University. You must always submit work that represents your original words or ideas. If any words or ideas used in a class assignment submission do not represent your original words or ideas, you must cite all relevant sources and make clear the extent to which such sources were used. Words or ideas that require citation include, but are not limited to, all hard copy or electronic publications, whether copyrighted or not, and all verbal or visual communication when the content of such communication clearly originates from an identifiable sources. Per university policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the university, may be imposed. All incidents of cheating and plagiarism are taken very seriously at the University of Kentucky, and there are specific policies and procedures in place to prosecute them. [See S.R. 6.3.0](#) (PDF) for the exact Senate Rules regarding academic offenses.

Accommodations

If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, submit to me a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center. If you

have not already done so, please register with the Disability Resource Center for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities. Contact Jake Karnes via email at jkarnes@email.uky.edu or by telephone 859-257-2754. You may also visit the DRC website for information on how to register for services as a student with a disability:
<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/DisabilityResourceCenter/>

Religious Observances

Students will be given the opportunity to make up work (typically, exams or assignments) when students notify their instructor that religious observances prevent the student from completing assignments according to deadlines stated in this syllabus. Students must notify the course instructor **at least two weeks prior to such an absence** and propose how to make up the missed academic work.

Inclement weather

The University of Kentucky has a detailed policy for decisions to close in inclement weather. This policy is described in detail at http://www.uky.edu/PR/News/severe_weather.htm or you can call (859) 257-1754.

Late work policy

No grade will be submitted until the student completes the practicum proposal form, practicum report, student post-practicum evaluation and the local mentor/preceptor completes the post-practicum evaluation.

Excused absences policy

Excused absences are not applicable.

Course schedule and topics

The practicum schedule and topics are based on each student's individualized program.