

Spring 2005

**CHS 434A
Maternal and Child Health
in Developing Areas**

Course ID#: 840-668-200
Day and Time: Tuesday & Thursday 1:00-3:00
Room: 41-235 CHS
Credit: 4 units

Instructor: Charlotte Neumann, MD, MPH
Office: 26-051 CHS
Office Hours: Tuesday 3:00-5:00, Thursday 1:00-3:00, & by appt.
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Intent

The vulnerability of young children and women of childbearing age to unfavorable biological, physical, cultural, socioeconomic, and political factors is well recognized. Adverse conditions are particularly evident in developing countries, where women and children comprise about two-thirds of the total population, but also evident to a considerable extent in disadvantaged communities in all nations.

The intent of the course is to cover the main health problems of mothers and children in developing areas and to examine the biological, environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic determinants of health status. These will be discussed from the point of view of age-specific health problems, identification of risk factors, and setting priorities in dealing with these problems. Successful and unsuccessful approaches and policies will be discussed. The extensive and practical experience of Department faculty and students themselves provides for a realistic and in-depth consideration of the problems presented.

This course serves primarily as a background for students who intend to work in developing areas of the world, but is also relevant to health problems in disadvantaged areas of industrialized countries.

Course Mechanics

The course meets twice per week for two hours each session. The lecture will comprise about half of the session, and student presentations and class discussion the other half.

Student Class Presentations

Brief student presentations will comprise the second hour of each class. The student will present a topic relevant to the lecture being presented. The talk is to be based either on the student's own experience or on existing literature. The students must check in advance with the instructor as to what they will present. The student is not meant to present a lecture on the general topic! Student topics are suggested for each session, but alternatives may be chosen if approved by the instructor.

Final Paper

After the general background lectures have been presented, students will be asked to submit a short paper identifying a problem in maternal or child health, based on actual experience or through readings of case studies. This will serve as the basis for a "consultant's" report further defining, analyzing, and offering a solution(s) to the stated problem, using the principles and material discussed during the course. These "solutions" form the basis of a final term paper, and will be presented in class. The term paper will be due at the end of the course, in lieu of a final examination.

The course is offered yearly and is recommended for students interested in International Family or Maternal and Child Health who are preparing for or have worked in developing countries. Students enrolled in the MPH program in Community Health Sciences and the articulated African Studies, Latin American Studies, or Middle Eastern Studies Program are encouraged to take this course.

Student Expectations

The course is designed for MPH, DrPH, MD, MSN, graduate, nursing, or medical students, and students from Area Study programs (African Area Studies, Latin American Studies, Near Eastern Studies, and others) who are interested in public health. Only those with health professional backgrounds (nursing, medicine, social work, health education, nutrition, etc.) and generalist students with health work experience and/or bioscience backgrounds will be permitted to enroll. Students with plans or interest in working in developing countries or disadvantaged areas of industrialized countries will be given preference.

Prerequisites

One or more of the following courses:

CHS 200, Global Health Problems

CHS 210, Community Health Sciences

CHS 231, Maternal and Child Nutrition

Epi M418, Rapid Epidemiologic Surveys in Developing Countries

OR: Health experience in developing countries

Course Requirements

1. A brief classroom presentation (15-20 minutes) relevant to the course lecture on the same day.
2. "Two-thirds term" written examination will be given on May 19, 2005.
3. Final Paper
 - a. A short statement requesting assistance for a problem in maternal or child health, based on actual experience or through readings of case studies (see section on Problem Description and Term Paper). Due May 12, 2005.
 - b. A term paper, the basis of which will be a consultant's report, consisting of a proposal to address the problem identified in the student's short statement. Principles discussed during the course should be included in the final paper. Due June 10, 2005.

Grading

The final course grade is based approximately on the following:

Midterm exam	30%
Classroom participation and short presentation	20%
Presentation and written term paper	50%

Readings

Required texts: On reserve in Biomedical Library.

Williams CD, Baumslag N, Jelliffe DB. *Mother and Child Health: Delivering the Services*, 3rd edition. Oxford University Press, 1994. (Now out of print; will offer photocopies.)

A course reader of relevant reprints, organized by session, will be available for purchase at Course Reader Material, 1137 Westwood Boulevard, (310) 443-3303. (Some selections appear out of order because of last-minute schedule changes and rescheduling of the course to Spring quarter.)

Recommended texts: Also on reserve in Biomedical Library.

Semba RD, Bloem MW. *Nutrition and Health in Developing Countries*. Totowa, NJ: Humana Press, 2001.

Wallace H. *Health Care of Mothers and Children in Developing Countries*. Third Party Publications, 1990.

Koblinsky M, Timyan J, Gay J. *The Health of Women*, NCIH. Boulder: West View, 1993.

Sear MD. *Manual of Tropical Pediatrics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000.

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>SESSION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
1	Tues. April 5	Organization, brief introduction	Tavrow
2	Thurs. April 7	Mother and child morbidity and mortality; relevant vital statistics	Neumann
3	Thurs., April 14	Maternal morbidity and mortality: safe motherhood	Neumann
4	Tues., April 19	Health problems during the first year of life: perinatal, neonatal, post-neonatal	Neumann
5	Thurs., April 21	HIV/AIDS	Neumann
6	Tues., April 26	Family planning and reproductive health	Tavrow
7	Thurs., April 28	Health problems of preschool children	Neumann
8	Tues., May 3	Emerging infections: Monkey pox	Rimoin
9	Thurs., May 5	Diarrheal disease/Intestinal parasites	Neumann
10	Tues., May 10	Acute respiratory infection and tuberculosis	Neumann
11	Thurs., May 12	Malaria	Neumann
12	Tues., May 17	Immunizations: Expanded Program for Immunizations (EPI)	Kim-Farley
13	Thurs., May 19	2/3 TERM EXAMINATION	Neumann
14	Tues., May 24	Innovative child health programs	Neumann
15	Thurs., May 26	Chronic handicapping conditions	Neumann
16	Tues., May 31	Urbanization	Neumann
17	Thurs., June 2	Student presentations	Neumann
18	Tues., June 7	Student presentations	Neumann
19	Thurs., June 9	Student presentations	Neumann

Term paper serves as FINAL EXAMINATION: To be handed in by June 10, 2005.

HAVE A GOOD SUMMER!

SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR BRIEF STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

<u>SESSION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>STUDENT(S)</u>
3	April 14	Maternal abortion; impact of sociocultural status on women's health	_____ _____
4	April 19	Appropriate newborn care for a developing country	_____ _____
5	April 21	Community-based AIDS programs; breastfeeding and HIV; status of AIDS orphans	_____ _____
6	April 26	Two case studies on family planning (assigned by Dr. Tavrow)	_____ _____
7	April 28	Cultural factors in the treatment of childhood illness (harmful/beneficial, etc.)	_____ _____
8	May 3	Child survival programs for "underfives"	_____ _____
9	May 5	Experience with cereal-based ORS oral rehydration program	_____ _____
10	May 10	Primary health care approach to acute respiratory disease; rotovirus vaccine	_____ _____
11	May 12	Malaria; rapid diagnostic test; vaccine status	_____ _____
12	May 17	Pros and cons of BCG immunization	_____ _____
14	May 24	Innovative programs in MCH: e.g., kangaroo care, birth companion, other child-to-child programs	_____ _____
15	May 26	Community-based rehabilitation programs	_____ _____
16	May 31	Programs for street children	_____ _____

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION AND TERM PAPER

Problem statement, 1000-1500 words, due by May 12, 2005.

Term paper due June 10, 2005.

I. PROBLEM

You are the District Health Officer, or the equivalent, in a less technically developed country. You have encountered a problem or set of problems in the area of Maternal and Child Health that you feel you cannot handle adequately, and you wish to request consultative help. The problem(s) may be based on your own experience or from a case study in the literature. If readings are used, please cite references. If your experience is in the USA, a suitable problem may be drawn from an underserved area or population.

Your assignment is to define the problem(s) and formulate a request for assistance from a consultant. Describe and define the problem, and include material that you consider to be important, and relevant information so that the consultant can get a clear preliminary grasp of the situation. The literature may also be used to supply background information for a given area or country.

The purpose of the assignment is:

1. To stimulate you to delve into your own experiences and the literature to identify a representative Maternal and Child Health problem of a developing country or disadvantaged area in the USA.
2. To consider how best to formulate a request for assistance which involves identifying relevant background information and key elements of the problem, so that it has meaning for a potential consultant who does not know the area firsthand.

II. CONSULTANT'S REPORT OR RESEARCH PROPOSAL IN RESPONSE TO THE STATED PROBLEM (TERM PAPER)

This will serve as the basis for your classroom presentation and term paper. (This is the final examination.) You will be expected to develop a feasible, realistic solution or program for the stated problem. Consideration is to be given to political, economic, cultural, and other relevant factors or constraints and stress principles delineated in class. Your classroom presentation will be for 30 minutes. Group work, particularly if multi-disciplinary, is encouraged and will depend on the size of the class.

Format of term paper:

- a. Description of the identified problem and aims of the consultancy or program proposal.
- b. Previous work: briefly summarize background for present problems, critically evaluate existing knowledge, and specifically identify the gaps of knowledge which your consultancy or program proposal intends to fill (no more than three pages).
- c. Contemplated method of approach to problem: clearly describe overall recommendations of consultancy and how these are to be implemented. Include suggested program and types of personnel strategy.
- d. Evaluation
- e. Summary: briefly summarize your paper (200-250 words).
- f. Literature cited (no page limitation). Internet citations must be cited by author, dates, source literature, document citation. (References are not included in paper length).
- g. Total length: no more than 12 double-spaced pages.