

PH 737: “Policies and Programs in MCH Services”

University of Hawaii at Manoa ~ Fall Semester 2012

Faculty: Nancy S. Partika, RN, MPH HPM Faculty-OPHS Office: Biomed C-103 , UH-Manoa Phone: #(808)956-5756 Email: nantika@hawaii.edu and Emily Roberson, MPH, EPI PhD student, OPHS ekrobers@hawaii.edu	Credits: 3
	Days/Time: Wednesdays 4:00pm-6:45 pm online
	CRN#-75881/CRN#1248 Course Location: online URL
	Office Hours: By appointment (Biomed C-103-UHM), also via email or phone

Course Description:

This course will provide instruction in maternal and child health (MCH) programs and policy with a particular emphasis on those related to the organization, financing, delivery and quality oversight of personal health services for mothers and children. There will be a strong “Data to Action” focus; meaning that students will be instructed in accessing existing MCH data sources, determining community and/or population needs, and using this information to enact change in policies and or programs - all from an evidence-based standpoint. Course materials will be derived from local, state, national and international MCH data, peer-reviewed research articles, case examples, and other resources related to MCH policy and program issues. The course is intended for students pursuing graduate degrees in public health, social work, and other related fields. It is open to early and mid-career professionals working in MCH program or policy development. It will offer all students the opportunity to develop and strengthen their basic capacity in MCH and public health policy and program competencies.

Course Objectives:

Students should achieve: (1) an understanding of the elements of maternal and child health services, programs and policy, including the financing and organization of care for pregnant women, infants, children and children with special health needs; (2) an understanding of the program and policy development process, including allocation of responsibility among levels of government and between the public and private sectors; (3) an understanding of sources of data on MCH populations locally, nationally, and internationally; (4) an understanding of the “Data to Action” process of moving from problem identification to enacting program and/or policy changes from an evidence-based standpoint.

Core Competencies:

Per the Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice, *Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals* (May 3, 2010), the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals are a set of skills desirable for the broad practice of public health. They reflect the characteristics that staff of public health organizations should possess as they work to protect and promote health in the community. This course focuses on tier 1 and 2 of MCH core competencies in policy development and program planning, designed for entry level PH practitioners or those with management and/or supervisory responsibilities. As a result of participation in the course, the student should be able to demonstrate increased competency in:

- 2A1 & 2B: Gathering & analyzing information relevant to specific PH policy issues in maternal & child health.
- 1A5 & 1B5: Identifying and referencing sources of MCH PH data and information.
- 2A2 & 2B2: Describing & analyzing how policy options can influence MCH PH programs.
- 2A3 & 2B3: Explaining the expected outcomes & determine potential feasibility of specific MCH policy options.

- 2A4 & 2B4: Gathering information that can inform policy decisions & describing the implications of policy options.
- 5A7: Describing the role of governmental & non-governmental organizations in the delivery of MCH community health services.
- 5A7: Describing the PH laws & regulations that govern MCH PH programs, in Hawaii and nationally.

Methodology:

PH 737 is a synchronous online course-- meaning that all students and faculty will be online on Blackboard/ Collaborate Live for the 3 hour class from 4pm to 7pm (Hawaii time) each week. Class participation requires:

- Registration and access to the class URL
- Computer with direct internet access
- Updated JAVA software (downloaded free via internet)
- Headphone with microphone
- Webcam - only if you wish to be seen online (optional)

Please review the technical assistance at the link for students from the Blackboard Collaborate site: <http://support.blackboardcollaborate.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8336>

Visiting this site will help you check your Operating System compatibility; get the latest Java version, etc.

Step 3 has some good training for online participants to ensure make sure that you are ready for your first session on Blackboard.

PH 737 will follow an evidence-based learning approach with reading and policy updates, lectures and guest presenters with diverse perspectives, class interactive sessions with group discussion/activities as well as individual student policy papers to be presented to the class. All students will complete 12 or more weekly journals/blogs on Laulima, one policy paper and present a PowerPoint presentation on a policy issue, as well as participate in weekly online small group activities.

Course readings will include chapters in a recommended text for the class (*Kotch, J. (2005). Maternal and Child Health: Programs, Problems and Policy in Public Health. Jones and Bartlett (2nd or 3rd Ed)*), but will not necessarily be in sequential order. Other required weekly readings will be assigned and be placed on Laulima for downloading at <https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal> in the weekly modules.

Course Requirements:

Students are required to accomplish the following:

1. **Attend all class sessions online: 24 points**

Attendance will be taken weekly, and missed classes will result in fewer points.

Class URL: <https://sas.illuminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=2009377&password=M.F57CF53B9431622755338880CAA73A>

2. **Read all required readings** as assigned and incorporate concepts into class discussions, activities and assignments due. Readings include recommended chapter readings from the Kotch textbook, as well as required readings provided on Laulima under the weekly Modules.

3. **Weekly Small Group Class Activities and Journal/Blogs: 10 weekly blogs = 24 points** (due weekly)
 There will be weekly Small Group Class Activities that will generally include a variety of discussion questions, and topic-specific case studies. Make meaningful contributions via weekly online group discussions and activities. The in-class discussions/activities will generally include a variety of discussion questions, and topic-specific activity. Active and meaningful participation in these exercises/case studies is expected of all class members. Weekly Blogs/Journals (on Laulima) consisting of 1-2 paragraphs on the weekly activities will be maintained by all students, with comments (1-2/week) on other student’s weekly blogs.

4. **“MCH Data Policy to Action” briefing paper: 26 points**
 Students may work individually or in teams of 2 on an “MCH Data Policy to Action” briefing paper. The paper must be turned in by the due date, be typed with one-inch margins and no more than 1.5 line spacing, have class and student author identification and a paper title, have numbered pages and cite all references, according to APA convention (see Laulima Resource section for APA formatting guidelines). Paper should be 8-10 pages in length (no longer than 10 pages), including APA-formatted references/citations. Papers will be graded on the quality of critical thinking and writing skills-more information on the criteria and content will be provided in Class 1.

5. **Online PPT Presentation of your MCH Data Policy to Action Paper: 26 points**
 You will be prepared to present (individually or in teams of 2) on your “MCH Data Policy to Action” briefing paper in a PowerPoint (PPT) format with key findings, and conclusions, to the PH 737 class during the last online class session. Plan to prepare no more than 12-15 slides for your 15-20 minute presentation to the class.

Recommended Course Textbook and Required Class Readings:

- *Kotch, J. (2013). Maternal and Child Health: Programs, Problems and Policy in Public Health. Jones and Bartlett (3rd Ed).* This is an excellent MCH textbook, but is recommended (not required) reading—recommended chapters in Kotch are listed below in the readings for each weekly module.

- Required readings will be in **Laulima** online course management system under **PH 737 weekly Modules** (readings & assignments) to download.

Online Resources:

See Laulima Site for PH 737 under **Resources** for specific recommended online sites: <https://laulima.hawaii.edu/portal>

Course Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	Readings/Deliverables/Due
Class 1 8/22/12	Course Introduction and Course Orientation (Nancy Partika)	(Required readings in Laulima week 1 Module)
Class 2 8/29/12	MCH Policies & Programs: Definitions and Overview; Policy development and Implementation; basics of policy to program development (NP)	Kotch, Chap.1 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 3 9/5/12	MCH History and Systems Development: Connections to Policy & Programming (NP)	Kotch-Chap.2 & 3 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)

Class 4 9/12/12	Introduction to Use of Evidence-Based Data for MCH (ER)	Kotch-Chap.17 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 5 9/19/12	Health Insurance Coverage for MCH Populations (NP)	Kotch-Chap.20
Class 6 9/26/12	Breastfeeding: Policy/Program Implications (guest: Carolyn Donohoe Mather – HHI)	Kotch-Chap.14 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 7 10/03/12	Alcohol use in pregnancy: Policy/Program Implications (guest: Lin Joseph-MOD)	Kotch-Chap.12 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 8 10/10/12	Unintended and Teen Pregnancy: Policy/Program Implications (guest: Judy Clark – HYSN)	Kotch-Chap.5 & 9 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 9 10/17/12	Tobacco use in pregnancy: Policy/Program Implications (guest: Lila Johnson – Tobacco Prev&Ed Prog-DOH)	Kotch-Chap.10 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 10 10/24/12	Prenatal Care Entry; (guest: Kealoha Fox-Office of Hawaiian Affairs)	Kotch-Chap.4 & 6 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
10/31/12	No Class-(APHA meeting)-	Kotch-Chap.11 (recommended readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 11 11/07/12	Obesity and Chronic Disease in Pregnancy (NP and ER)	Kotch-Chap.13 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module)
Class 12 11/14/12	Safe Sleep in Infants: Policy/Program Implications (guest: Gwen Palmer – Hawaii Safe Sleep Workgroup)	Kotch-Chap.7 (Required readings in Laulima weekly Module) <i>“MCH Data Policy to Action” briefing paper due</i>
Class 13 11/21/12	Childhood Injury Prevention (guest: Therese Argoud – Injury Prevention Branch)	(Required readings in Laulima weekly Module) <i>Minimum of 10 weekly Blogs completed</i>
Class 14 11/28/12	Legislative Policy and Process in Hawaii –How to Advocate Effectively with Legislative Policymakers (guest: Joy Gold, Leg. Lobbyist)	Kotch-Chap.18 & 20 <i>PPT Presentations due 12/03 (M)</i>
Class 15 12/05/12	Class PPT Presentations on Data to Policy Action by teams Course wrap-up and good byes (NP and ER)	<i>E-Café Evaluation due (online)</i>

Course Policies

1. Maximum benefit from this class can be achieved only if you attend class, complete the readings and projects as they are assigned, and actively participate in online class discussions.
2. Final grades will be issued on the basis of completed assignments, projects, class attendance and participation. ALL assignments must be completed and turned in for a passing grade. There will be no Incompletes issued. Students are advised to concentrate on doing well on all the assignments given.

3. All written assignments must be typed with one-inch margins, with page numbers on each page, and with references cited according to APA convention. In addition to the grading criteria given for each assignment, all assignments will be graded on the quality of critical thinking and writing skills.
5. PLAGIARISM is unacceptable and will result in a failing (“F”) grade for the assignment. Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the University of Hawaii Student Conduct Code. Copies of the Student Conduct Code are available at the Office of Student Affairs at the Student Services Center.
6. The class schedule is tentative. Topics for discussions may be re-scheduled depending on availability of guest speakers, and the needs and interests of the class as the semester progresses.
7. I am always willing to meet with you to discuss your progress or to clarify course assignment requirements. Best ways to contact me is via e-mail at nantika@hawaii.edu or via my office phone #(808) 956-5756

Evaluation:

Student assessment for this course will be based on the following:

	Assignments	Points
1	Weekly Small Group Class Activities and Journal/Blogs:	24 (10 weekly blogs minimum.)
3.	“MCH Data Policy to Action” briefing paper	26
4	Online Class PPT Presentation	26
5	Attend all weekly class sessions	24
Total Points		100

Grading Scale – We use the “+/-” grading system

A = 90-100	Excellent, distinctive work. Demonstrates sophisticated understanding: Nuanced and insightful account, powerful and effective application of concepts, frameworks and theories discussed in class and articulated in written work.
B = 80-89	Above average work. Demonstrates accomplished understanding: Thorough, well-documented account; adequate and apt application of concepts, frameworks and theories discussed in class and articulated in written work.
C = 70-79	Average work, sufficient, but not distinctive. Acceptable view with some misconceptions or oversight; not fully supported; acceptable but limited application of concepts, frameworks and theories discussed in class.
D = 60-69	Poor, insufficient work. Naïve or inadequate understanding: simplistic account and use of concepts, frameworks and theories discussed in class. Unable to articulate thoughts and ideas in written work.
F < 60	Unacceptable work