HEALTH, DISEASE AND HEALTH SERVICES IN LATIN AMERICA
Community Health Sciences 132
Fall 2010
Tuesdays 10:00am-12:50pm, Room CHS 61-269

Instructor
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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00pm and by appointment

Course Goals
This course aims to acquaint students with important issues regarding health, disease and health services in Latin America. The course focuses on Public Health and Latin American topics in a broad introductory course for students from Public health, Latin American Studies, International Studies, Anthropology, Geography, Medicine, Nursing, Social Welfare, Public Policy and other departments. The course will include lectures, readings, and discussions. Students are encouraged to follow this course with specific courses which most interest them such as, traditional medicine and shamanism, infectious diseases, medical anthropology, mental health, maternal and child health, environmental health, etc.

Course Learning Objectives
This overview course on health issues in Latin America aims to provide graduate students and undergraduate upper classmen with:
1) A comprehensive understanding of cultural, psychological, political, social and economic influences on health status at the individual, and community levels in a regional global context
2) An exploration of health promotion and health education interventions, including clinical, socio-political, grass roots, educational
3) Opportunity to critically research and assess the literature on cross-cultural health topics

Prerequisites
The course is open to graduate students interested in learning about public health in Latin America. It is also open to qualified upper division undergraduates.

Assignments and Evaluation
Evaluation of student performance will be based on:
1. Week to week class participation/attendance (20%)
   This will include turning in articles from scientific journals. The articles should be about health issues in Latin America, preferably tied to the weekly course topics. Students are asked to bring one article weekly, weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 photo copied onto 8 X 11 paper.
   Attach a cover page with:
   a. Student’s name and date
   b. A brief commentary about what you learned from the article,
   (Maximum ½ to 1 page double spaced)
Assignments Continued:

2. Country Health Paper (30%).
In groups of three, students will research and write a descriptive paper which discusses key aspects of one health problem in three Latin American countries, or three health problems in one country, as identified in the PAHO book, Volume II.
Your paper should include the following sections:

A. Description and Significance of the problems(s) highlighted (Prevalence, incidence, mortality, why important, etc.)
B. Description of Risk Population(s) most impacted and how (i.e. children, all, etc.)
C. Examples of treatments/interventions/programs addressing the problem(s)

References to be used:
1. PAHO, Volume II: Countries
2. Minimum of six scientific journal articles or books about your health problem/countries,
3. Information from at least three websites, i.e. organizations, databases, etc.

Length to be 10 pages for undergraduates, 12 pages for graduate students; double spaced and typed, 12" font. The paper will be due Week 7, in class, and students will be expected to make a 10 minute group presentation about their findings that week.

Late papers will lose 5 points.

3. Exam. November 30, week 10, in class, to cover lecture material, films, readings (50%).

READINGS - Required

Texts: (Available at the Biomedical Bookstore)
Health in the Americas, Pan American Health Organization, (PAHO) 2007, Volumes I and II

Course Reader
Available for purchase week at Westwood Copies on Gayley Ave in Westwood village.

Recommended
Berenson, A. Control of Communicable Diseases in Man
Most recent edition

Farmer, Paul Pathologies of Power, Health, Human Rights and the New War on the Poor, U of Calif Press 2005, Los Angeles and Berkeley
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<td>Overview/Geography &amp; Health Politics, Economics and Health (Quiroga)</td>
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<td>HIV/AIDS in Latin America (Detels)</td>
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<td>NOVEMBER 30</td>
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Week 1  Overview
PAHO I: Overview, ch.1
II: Bolivia, Argentina, Cuba, Venezuela
Politics/Economics/Mortality
PAHO I: Ch. 2, 3, II: Chile, El Salvador, Colombia

ARTICLES:
Health Agenda For The Americas, 2008-2017, PAHO
Anderson, Tim The structuring of health systems and the Control of Infectious Disease: looking at Mexico and Cuba Rev Paman Salud Publica J Pub Hlth 19(6) 2006
Diaz-Briquets, Sergio Cuba’s Future Economic Crisis: The Ageing Population and the Social Safety Net, p. 400-409,2004

Week 2  Indigenous Health
PAHO I: Review Ch. 2:p.155-162,Special Populations
II: Mexico, Guatemala, Paraguay

ARTICLES:
Indigenous Health in Latin America and the Caribbean
The Lancet Vol 367 June 2006
Sieber, Eric. And Bertrand,J.
Access as a factor in differential contraceptive use between Mayans and ladinos in Guatemala Health Policy and Planning 17,2,167-77, Oxford University Press, 2002

Week 3: Women and Children’s Health/Nutrition
Garcia,Sandra,Becker,David,Tatum C. et.al.
Belfer,ML and Rohde,L. Child and Adolescent mental health in Latin America and the Caribbean: problems, progress and policy research, Pan Am J Pb Hlth 18,4/5,2005
Readings Continued- CHS 132, Fall 2010/Taub

Week 4: Human Rights/Violence

Sabin, M. Sabin, K et al. The mental Health status of Mayan refugees after repatriation to Guatemala, Revista Panamericana de Salud 19(3), 2008

Others to be announced

Week 5 Parasitic Disease, Malaria, Chagas

PAHO I: Ch.6 II: Ecuador, Brazil

ARTICLES:

Winch, Peter, Community Based Dengue Prevention Programs in Puerto Rico, Am J Trop Med Hyg, 2007


Battling with Chagas Disease in South America, Lancet, Vol 5, August 2005

Week 6 HIV/AIDS

PAHO II: Honduras, Belize

Articles:


Week 7 Student Presentations
Readings-CHS 132/Taub/Fall 2010

Week 8  Natural Disasters/Environmental Health
PAHO I: Review Ch.3:p.208-239,
II: Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Trinidad & Tobago

ARTICLES:

Botter, D. et.al., A longitudinal study of mortality and air pollution for Sao Paolo, Brazil 
Journal of Exposure Analysis and Envior. Epi  (2002),12,335-343

Boy,Erick, et. al. Birth Weight and Exposure to KitchenWood Smoke During 
Pregnancy in Rural Guatemala, Environmental Health Perspectives, Vol 110, Number 1, 
January 2002

Week 9  Mental Health/Disabilities
PAHO II: Costa Rica, Peru

Borges,G,et.al. Treatment and Adequacy of Treatment of Mental Disorders Among 
Respondents to the Mexico National Comorbidity Survey, 
Am J Psychiatry 163:8 August 2006

Saldivia, S., Vicente, B., Kohn, R. Rioseco, P., & Torres, S. Use of Mental Health 
Services in Chile, Psychiatric Services, January 2004, Vol. 55 (1), 71-76.

Vicente,B, Kohn,R et.al. Regional Differences in psychiatric disorders in Chile, 
Soc Psych Epi 2006

Week 10: Exam  Review PAHO books, articles, lecture notes