International Development: Public Health and Social Services

COURSE DESIGNATOR: MSID 4001
NUMBER OF CREDITS: 4
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: French
CONTACT HOURS: 20 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Public Health and Social Services will give students an overview of health-related issues in Senegal. It will highlight health determinants, explain the choice of the Senegalese to prioritize the fight against certain illnesses, and present the organization of its public health services.

The course will take place over seven weeks and will meet three hours per week. Remaining hours will be reserved for the final, capstone seminar.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The primary course objective is to present students with an overview of the social-health system in Senegal such that they can appreciate the main obstacles that Senegal has had to overcome in the realm of public health.

Specific objectives:
- Introduce health policies and the organization of the healthcare system
- Identify the healthcare system’s priorities and the main obstacles with which it is confronted
- Identify health indicators in Senegal and discuss the Millennium Development Objectives
- Draw connections between traditional medicine and social services

These objectives will be adjusted according to the needs of participants. The syllabus may be adjusted, as early as the first week. At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:
- Describe healthcare policies and the organization of the health system;
- Interpret health indicators in Senegal and explain the primary obstacles to achieving the Millennium Objectives;
- Explain healthcare priorities in Senegal and the nation’s primary health challenges;
- Describe traditional medicine as a parallel care option.

METHODOLOGY
- Brainstorming,
- Participation
- Synthetic presentations
- Group work
- Critical readings of scientific articles
- Site visits

COURSE INSTRUCTOR
Dr Mohamed Lamine Ly
Dr Ly completed his PhD thesis in 1986 at Cheikh Anta Diop University before pursuing a specialization in medical microbiology in Magdeburg (GDR). Dr Mohamed Ly has occupied successively the positions of District Chief – Doctor of Ziguinchor, Thiadiaye, Yoff, and Medina. In these positions, Dr Ly was responsible for health projects and program implementation. He specialized in Public Health between 1995 and 1997.
**Grading Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.</td>
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**Summary of How Grades Are Weighted**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report on site visits</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall grade</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Course Content**

**Week 1: Introduction**

- Student expectations
- Course guidelines
- Introductory course: Defining public health; factors that influence health; health indicators; the relationship between health and development.

**Week 2: Introduction to Senegalese Healthcare**
• The organization of the Senegalese healthcare system and health policies
• Community health: financing healthcare and traditional medicine in Senegal

WEEK 3: SITE VISITS

- Possible sites include: the Medina Orphanage, CTA, Empire des Enfants, Cases des tous petits, Health Posts, traditional healers

WEEK 4: PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGES: PART I

- Reproductive health
- Communicable diseases (malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS)
- Non-communicable diseases (diabetes, hypertension, cancer, etc.)

WEEK 5: PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGES II

- Reproductive health
- Communicable diseases (malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS)
- Non-communicable diseases (diabetes, hypertension, cancer, etc.)

WEEK 6: SITE VISITS

- Possible sites include: the Medina Orphanage, CTA, Empire des Enfants, Cases des tous petits, Health Posts, traditional healers

WEEK 7: FINAL SEMINAR: DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes while abroad. Many instructors assess both attendance and participation when assigning a final course grade. Attendance alone does not guarantee a positive participation grade; the student should be prepared for class and engage in class discussion. See the onsite syllabus for specific class requirements.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over
others or misrepresenting someone else’s work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

**SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:**

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an “F” or “N” for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

**STUDENT CONDUCT:**

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.