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**Disaster Epidemiology**

**550 DME**

**Course Syllabus**

**May 18 – 29, 2015**

**MPH Joint Program**

College of Medicine:

Departments of Family & Community Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Health informatics

College of Applied Medical Sciences:

Department of Community Health Sciences

**King Saud University**

General Course Information

**Course**

Disaster Epidemiology

**Coordinating Unit**

Department of Family & Community Medicine, College of Medicine, King Saud University

**Teaching Period**: May 18 – 29, 2015

**Units**: 2 credit hours

**Contact Hours**: 2 Week Intensive, 1-5 pm Saturday-Wednesday

Pre-requisite: For academic credit available to Postgraduate students at the King Saud University, and Family and Community Medicine residents. Open for audit for in-service health managers, administrators

**Coordinator**

Dr Eric Noji

**Lecturers**

Dr. Eric K. Noji

**Learning Objectives**

* to learn to assess the epidemiological impact of disasters, to rapidly evaluate the public health severity and response to a disaster, to rapidly estimate the medical needs of communities affected by a disaster, to institute data collection systems during and following a disaster;
* to learn basic principles of epidemiology and biostatistics and how to use epidemiological indicators to monitor community health services and to evaluate their impact

**Required Readings**

* On-Line course readings accessible via Box.net or DropBox

**Course Organization**

Announcements – Every week reminders and significant issues covered from the previous week’s lecture will be posted on the Box.net site. Important messages will be sent via email.

Course Information – student syllabus, objectives, meeting times, quiz, article review, final project information.

Course Documents

- Includes PowerPoint presentations (posted day after lecture)

- Assigned Readings in PDF format, and Article Review assignments

- Recommended Texts for additional readings are posted on Google Books.

- We will constantly add more material to the site as it comes available.

External Links – WWW links relevant to the course on disasters, news sites, UN, NGOs, science, policy, news groups.

Office Hours -- Every Monday and Wednesday 10:00 am to 12:00 (or by appointment).

**SCHEDULE OF CLASS LECTURES**

May 18, 2015

**Introduction, Overview, Definitions**

Lecturer: Dr. Mandil

May 19, 2015

**Public Health Mapping During Disasters**

Lecturer: Dr Mandil

Group Project: Select an issue, and define tasks of the individual students

May 20, 2015

**Disaster Surveillance**

Lecturer: Dr. Mandil

Group Project: Discussion and Development

May 21, 2015

**Rapid epidemiological needs assessment (cluster sampling)**

Lecturer: Dr. Eric Noji

Group Project Discussion and Development

May 22, 2015

**Mid-Term Examination**

May 25, 2015

**Analytic Epidemiology Part I: Case-control studies**

Lecturer: Prof Eric Noji

* Group Project Discussion

May 26, 2015

**Analytic Epidemiology Part II: Cohort studies**

Lecturer: Prof Eric Noji

* Group Project Discussion

May 27, 2013

**Conclusion and Course Summary**

Lecturer: Prof Ahmed Mandil

* Group Project Discussion

May 28, 2015

**Students Group Project Presentation**

May 29, 2015

**Final Examination**

Assessment

Assessments are part of the learning process and reinforce learning in addition to measuring the achievements of the learning objectives.

**18 – 29 May**

Attendance and active participation in class room discussions 10%

**22 May**

Mid-Term Examination – MCQ 20%

**28 May**

Group Project, 3-4page (about 1200 words) report 20%

Group Project, Participation & Presentation

**Date: 29 May**

Final Exam – MCQ 50% Individual marks

**Attendance & Participation**

For self and collective learning active participation in discussions at the class room and in group work is essential. **The participation in lectures carries 10% marks**. Active participation is reflected in and assessed on the basis of students taking part in discussion, asking relevant questions, reflecting and presenting some observations from literature or health care or management practice.

**Group Project (similar to Disaster Psychology course group project, individual papers and final group presentation)**

The students will work in a group. Each student will select an actual public health crises. On the basis of the group work and individual readings each student will prepare his/her **individual report** which should:

* Describe the nature and extent of the crisis in terms of its effect on community mental health and health system (half a page),
* Describe the epidemiological skills and competencies that would be required for the public health professionals to address that crisis (half a page)
* Discuss a few salient features of the actions taken by the authorities in that region vis a vis epidemiological interventions, and highlight the professional qualities that are reflected in those actions. (one page)
* Reflect on how a capable epidemiologist would have reacted to address the situation (1 page)

The students are also required to develop a 15 minute **group presentation** comprising of about 6-8 slides based on their discussion about the epidemiological professional competencies shown/required to respond to community public health needs during the crises (for which the students read and write a their report). All MPH Senior faculty will be present to make comments and ask pertinent questions. The **Group Project** carries **10% marks**

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Course Information – Disaster Epidemiology course syllabus, objectives, meeting times, quiz, article review, final project information, case studies and final examination

Course Documents - Includes Powerpoint presentations, Assigned Readings and Optional Readings if available in a .pdf format, and Article Review assignments, Recommended Texts for additional readings are posted in. pdf format. We will constantly add more material to the site as it comes available.

External Links – WWW links relevant to the course on disaster epidemiology, news sites, UN, NGOs, science, policy, news groups.