PH 866 Global Issues and Behavior  
Spring 2017

**COURSE INFORMATION**
Class Days: Thursdays  
Class Times: 1:00pm-3:40pm  
Class Location: North Education Building (NE-085)

**INSTRUCTOR**
Noe Crespo, PhD, MPH  
Email: ncrespo@mail.sdsu.edu  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Office Location: Hepner Hall -143 or IBACH (off campus) 9245 Sky Park Ct, Suite 224, San Diego CA 92123

**COURSE OVERVIEW**
This course addresses topics relating to political, socioeconomic, cultural and demographic conditions of developing countries and their impact on population and family health, and the environment. Other topics addressed include nutrition, health consequences of poor nutrition, health disparities, health promotion programs, family planning, cultural competence, and community assessment methods.

This course is the product of years of collaboration between the Graduate School of Public Health and Tijuana, Mexico’s medical school at the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC). The course activities will center on our semi-annual Viaje Interinstitucional Docente, Asistente y Investigación (VIIDAI-Inter-institutional Teaching, Service and Research Field Trip), organized by UABC for their students and their counterparts from SDSU and UCSD’s School of Medicine. Students will be working in service and research teams in our 4-day trip to San Quintin, Baja California.

**Course learning objectives:**
Students who successfully complete PH 866 will be able to:
- Identify the major public health problems in developing countries, and how these apply to general living conditions in a poor community in San Quintin, Mexico.
- Identify factors that determine poverty and health in poor countries.
- Describe the impact of social and economic development on disease patterns.
- Apply international health promotion concepts to fieldwork.
- Propose a culturally competent study/project that aims to understand and promote health in a rural community in Mexico.
- Design and prepare a written proposal that includes appropriate, specific, measurable, and clear goals.
  - Understand and appropriately apply methods for survey development and data collection.
  - Develop a data analysis plan.
- Collect, analyze and summarize qualitative and quantitative data.
- Prepare and deliver a professional presentation.
- Prepare a scientific report describing the project’s rationale, methods, results, limitations and strengths, conclusions, and recommendations for follow up studies/efforts.
- Describe how different social classes within countries influence health and disease distributions.

Students who successfully complete this course for a second time will be able to:
- Reinforce the skills mentioned above gained during the first semester, given that they have been exposed to these methods in prior training.
- Provide meaningful input on written documents of first-time student projects
- Apply leadership skills by guiding the new students through the proposal development (e.g., assist in refining study goals), IRB submission, study design, database development, data analysis, and interpretation of results.
- Apply lessons learned from the course activities to broader public health related issues stemming from globalization, excessive consumption, poverty and disparities, and overpopulation.
Enrollment Information:
This is an exceptional opportunity for students to learn firsthand the reality of global health (and for that matter, economic globalization), and to get to know students and their professors with similar interests from UABC and UCSD. Although the ability to speak Spanish is desirable, we anticipate enough language skills among all students and faculty groups to be able to accommodate the motivated non-Spanish speaker. Students must, however, be able to:
- Attend all the SDSU class sessions
- Attend a six-hour planning seminar in Tijuana at UABC on a Saturday (Date TBD).
- Attend the VIIDAI trip to San Quintin (BC, Mexico) from April 28th – May 1st. DO NOT REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THIS TRIP ON THESE DAYS. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A VALID PASSPORT.

Course Materials:
Textbook (Optional)

Required Materials
• Readings will be available through Blackboard.

Other resources
• VIIDAI website (http://www.viidai.com): In the website, there is currently a 'Participant' section for all VIIDAI participants that includes final reports and documents from previous VIIDAIs. While some documents are still in the process of being uploaded to the site, the information that is available will be useful for students preparing for the upcoming report and trip. The login is: “student” and password: “viidai”

Course Structure and Conduct:
Student Conduct and Grievances
• SDSU is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy living and learning environment for students, faculty and staff. Sections 41301, Standards for Student Conduct, and Sections 41302-41304 of the University Policies regarding student conduct should be reviewed.
• If a student believes that a professor’s treatment is grossly unfair or that a professor’s behavior is clearly unprofessional, the student may bring the complaint to the proper university authorities and official reviewing bodies. See University policies on Student Grievances.

Classroom disruptions
• Cell phones and other electronic/mobile devices should be turned off during class time
• You may use your laptop during lectures and group discussions but such use must be strictly limited to note taking and other course-related activities.

Course Assessment and Grading:
Grading
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<th>Points</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Three critique/reflection papers</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Proposal</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Peer evaluation</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Group final report</td>
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100 Total

Course grades will be assigned on each individual’s absolute percentage score; grades will not be “curved.” Grades will be based on the following percentages of the semester points earned:

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<th>Total Points</th>
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<td>95-100</td>
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Attendance:
- Class attendance is mandatory. Successful completion of the course requires that student attend class. Professional behavior will be expected including arriving to class on time and not leaving early.

Religious holidays:
- According to the University Policy File, students should notify the instructors of affected courses of planned absences for religious observances by the end of the second week of classes.

Students with Disabilities:
If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact Student Disability Services at (619) 594-6473. To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and that accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have presented your instructor with an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Academic Honesty:
The University adheres to a strict policy regarding cheating and plagiarism. These activities will not be tolerated in this class. Become familiar with the policy (http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/srr/conduct1.html). Any cheating or plagiarism will result in failing this class and a disciplinary review by Student Affairs.

Examples of Plagiarism include but are not limited to:
- Using sources verbatim or paraphrasing without giving proper attribution (this can include phrases, sentences, paragraphs and/or pages of work)
- Copying and pasting work from an online or offline source directly and calling it your own
- Using information you find from an online or offline source without giving the author credit
- Replacing words or phrases from another source and inserting your own words or phrases
- Submitting a piece of work you did for one class to another class

If you have questions on what is plagiarism, please consult the policy (http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/srr/conduct1.html) and this helpful guide from the Library: (http://infodome.sdsu.edu/infolit/exploratorium/Standard_5/plagiarism.pdf)

Turnitin:
Students agree that by taking this course all required papers might be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. You may submit your papers in such a way that no identifying information about you is included. Another option is that you may request, in writing, that your papers not be submitted to Turnitin.com. However, if you choose this option you will be required to provide documentation to substantiate that the papers are your original work and do not include any plagiarized material.

Assignments
- Three critique/reflection papers [5 points each, 15 points total]
  A 1-2 page reflection paper on an assigned reading/video/topic will be due at the beginning of the class. Assignments will be available in blackboard 1-2 weeks ahead of time. Although the textbook is not required, the chapters in the textbook are intended to give you important background. The first paragraph should consist of a summary of the readings/topic and the rest of the paper should include a critical reflection of the
topic—(i.e., whether you agree or disagree with the author(s), and why). See Blackboard for specific assignment directions and refer to the course calendar for due dates.

• **Group projects [55 points]** (Report=35 points, Peer evaluation=10 points, Presentation=10 points)

Each student will participate in a group project (approximately 1-3 group projects per semester) that will be implemented in the VIIDAI trip. The topic of the project will be determined ahead of time by the SDSU/UABC faculty, which is dependent on the needs/priority of the community. Students will be asked to design a project/study that will help achieve the desired goals, such as creating an intervention program and/or a measurement tool. At the end of the semester, students will turn in a report that will include an introduction, methodology, results, and implication section. The quality of the project and the written report will be evaluated. Each group should have a leader who will be responsible for submitting the summary of the project to the IRB as well as corresponding with the instructor and TA about the group projects. The final reports will be given to our UABC collaborator to be submitted to local Mexican health departments. Thus, it is extremely important that the final reports are polished and professionally written. Samples of previous reports can be found on the VIIDAI website (www.viidai.com). There will be a few weeks in which we are not scheduled to have class lecture. During this time, students are expected to meet with their respective group members to further develop the projects. Following the VIIDAI trip, students will be asked to provide an evaluation of each other (see form). The rationale for including this component is to assure that each group member contributes to the success of the project. Finally, the group presentation will be given on the last day of the course and each group will present for 30 minutes. The goal of this assignment is to share with the rest of the class the findings of the project. The group presentation should be in power point and structured as such: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.

• **Proposal [30 points]**

Prior to data collection/intervention implementation in San Quintin, a proposal and survey/intervention tool will be developed and submitted to the instructor who will provide feedback for refinement. The proposals will include the following: 1) Aims, 2) Background/rationale, 3) Conceptual Model, 4) Methodology (e.g., recruitment, data collection process), 5) Translation process, 6) Analysis plan, and 7) Limitations and Strengths. A draft of the evaluation tool should also be included for review. If you would like a draft of your proposal to be reviewed, please submit a draft on the due date (see calendar).

No points are given for participation, however students are expected to participate in discussions during class time. Participation will be counted as asking questions during speakers’ presentations, providing comments, etc. Moreover, there will be case studies that will be discussed during class time.

**Written Assignments**

All assignments must be typed. In addition to spelling, grammar, and writing style, your work will be evaluated on professional appearance. Written assignments will be due at the beginning of class and the due date, and should be submitted via Turnitin through Blackboard. No assignments will be accepted via email. Late assignments will not be accepted. The format of all written assignments will be 1-inch margins, 12-point font (preferably Times-New Roman or Arial), APA or AMA-style formatting for paper sections and references in the text and reference section (see “Assignment” folder in blackboard for guides).

**COURSE CALENDAR**

The course topics, dates, and guest lectures may be adjusted or changed. Depending on the needs of the projects, a lecture may be scheduled on the days that indicate “meet with group and work on project”.

| Class 1 | Introductions and expectations (Noe Crespo, PhD) | January 19th | Discuss previous projects, group projects, and course topics |
| Class 2 | Bixby family planning project in San Quintin (Noe Crespo, PhD) | January 26th | **Assignment:** View/read Guns, Germs and Steel by Jared Diamond |
| Class 3 | Survey Development (Nanette Lopez, PhD) | February 2nd | **Readings:** TBD  
Due: Reflection paper on Guns, Germs and Steel |
| Class 4 | Health Disparities in Developing and Developed countries | February 9th | **Readings:**  
### Class 5
- **Water and sanitation: Keystones to public health** (Linda Llyod, Dr.PH)
- **Microbial fuel cells: A sustainable technology for wastewater treatment** (Orianna Bretschger, PhD)
- **Readings:** TBD
- **Assignment:** View TED talks on globalization
  - Globalization and the poor by Krisztina Kis-Katos
  - The myth of globalization by Peter Alfandary
- **Due:** Reflection paper on globalization

### Class 6
- **Proposal Writing** (Elva Arredondo, PhD) 2:30pm
- **Readings:** TBD
- **Due:** Reflection paper on globalization

### Class 7
- **Communicable diseases** (Stephanie Brodine, MD)
- **Readings:**
- **Due:** Reflection paper on Mexico soda tax

### Class 8
- **Promotora project in San Quintin** (Claire & John)
- **Readings:** TBD

### Class 9
- **Mixed methods and qualitative research** (Christina Holub, PhD)
- **Readings:** TBD
- **Due:** Draft of proposal

### Class 10
- **Meet with group and work on project**
- **SPRING BREAK - March 27th to March 31st**

### Class 11
- **April 6th**
- **Meet with group and work on project**

### Class 12
- **April 13th**
- **Meet with group and work on project**

### Class 13
- **April 20th**
- **Meet with group and work on project**

### Class 14
- **April 27th**
- **Due:** Final proposal
- **VIIDAI TRIP - April 28th to May 1st**

For the VIIDAI trip, you will need to pay for your fair share of transportation, food and lodging. This should be expected to be around **$220**. Please bring the amount in cash to the planning seminar UABC (Date TBD). In addition, note that students while on the trip will share rooms and beds.

### Important considerations:
In previous VIIDAI trips, students have raised funds to purchase incentives for participants to complete surveys, etc. Incentives have included small gifts from the dollar store, 5-a day bags, etc. Over the course of the semester, please consider ways to collect small incentives for participants. Also, SDSU is usually responsible for organizing a social activity during our visit in San Quintin. We will discuss the various types of activities that have been organized in the past.