

PA 5451/ PH 5281 Immigrant Health Issues

Frequently Asked Questions

What's an 'on-line' course?

Immigrant Health Issues is a distance education, on-line course offered by the University of Minnesota. That means that students can enroll from anywhere in the United States, and take the class from their home or office computers. There is a class web site to which students have access once they register. On the web site is a wealth of information on immigrant and refugee health issues, and links to other materials on the topics covered in the class. Course texts are available from the U of M Bookstore. In addition to the texts students purchase videotapes with segments on each of the course 'modules'. These materials will be available in the U of M bookstore a few weeks before the beginning of the class. The videotape segments include taped interviews with immigrants and refugees, and with experts in the field such as Okokun Udo, former Executive Director of the Center for Cross Cultural Health in Minneapolis, Dr. Pat Walker, Medical Director of the Center for International Health at Regions Hospital, Kaying Hang of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation, and Jennifer Prestholdt, Associate Director of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. Community visits to sites in your geographic area are an integral part of the course, and an opportunity to learn to become culturally competent.

Do we ever meet in person?

There are no required meetings since students may reside anywhere in the United States. However, students in the same geographic area may plan an informal get-together. The schedule of course assignments follows the academic semester of the University of Minnesota since some of the participants are taking the course for graduate credit. Others are participating as non-credit learners to earn 50 Continuing Medical Education (CME units), 50 Nursing CEUs, or 6 CEU credits from the U of M.

Do we all need to be on the computers at the same time?

Students complete assignments, community visits and reading on the days and times that suit them best. We have a web site bulletin board to which students post assignments and comments. Additional interaction with the instructor and with other students occurs through the web site email system. There are times during the semester when we ask all

students to log onto the web site chat room at the same time for an “on-line chat”. Students can select an evening or daytime for these chats or “virtual meetings”.

For more information.....

On how to register for credit or non-credit: contact Stacey Grimes
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On course content or requirements: contact Katherine Fennelly
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