ENV H 594
Current Topics in Environmental Health
Course Syllabus

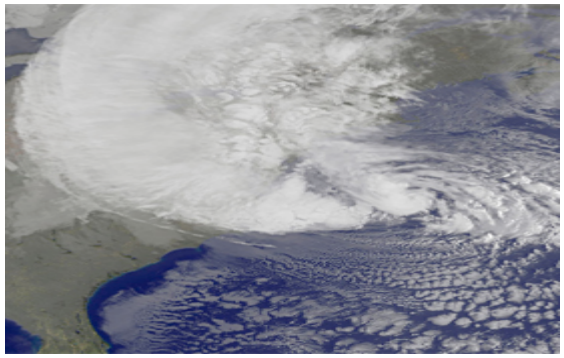
Winter Quarter 2013

Wednesday's at 12:30-1:20 in T-359 Health Sciences Center
Dr. Marilyn C. Roberts marilynr@u.washington.edu 543-8001 F161D office

Open to: MS and MS, PhD and advanced undergrads

Credit hours: 1

Topic for the Quarter: ***Impacts of Extreme Weather Events on Public Health***


John Makely / NBC News

Description: Course them varies from year to year this year. In the wake of super storm Sandy we will be examining the impact of extreme weather events on varying aspects of Public Health

Objectives: Develop skills required to understand, interpret and discuss environmental health topics from multiple perspectives

Goals of course:

1. Look at the impacts of climate and weather pattern changes, especially with regard urban population centers
2. We will examine the impacts of extreme weather events on human health
3. Determine how these events interrupt or alter; a) basic infrastructure needs, b) contamination of essential support systems like sewage treatment and disposal, c) safe drinking water, d) food distribution, e) transportation, and the f) preparedness of hospitals and first responders.

Format of the course:
There will be 7 lectures and three student lead discussions that will be on a different topic. The students will be divided into three groups and at each discussion session a group will take one of three parts of that days topic; 1) physical aspects, 2) biological, or 3)preparedness/mitigation/response. Each group will find one paper dealing with their area within the topic and be prepared to discuss questions posed for each of the 3 areas. **At the end of the first lecture students, will decide which of the potential discussion topics will be discussed on those dates listed below.**

Grading: Students will participate and lead in active discussion of environmental health topics Class participation is required**.** The course is graded credit/no credit and will be based on class participation. Attendance is required.

Class Schedule

Jan 9, 2013 Introduction to Extreme Weather Impacts on Public Health (Dr. Marilyn Roberts)

Jan 16, 2013 Climate and Extreme Weather Events (Dr. LuAnne Thompson, Oceanography)

Jan 23, 2013 Impacts on Water and Wastewater Infrastructure (Dr. Scott Meschke)

Jan 30, 2013: Environmental change and infectious disease emergence (Dr. Jerry Cangelosi)

Feb. 6, 2013 Student Led Discussion: **Impacts of vectors and vector-borne disease**
Group 1: physical aspects; Group 2: biological, Group 3: preparedness/mitigation/response

Feb. 13, 2013 Impacts on Health Care Infrastructure and Preparedness (Dr. Mark Oberle)

Feb. 20, 2013 Impacts on Solid and Hazardous Waste (Dr. John Kissel)

Feb. 27, 2013 Student Led Discussion: **Effect on health**
Group 1: biological; Group 2: preparedness/mitigation/response; Group 3: physical aspects

March 6, 2013: Impacts on the Built Environment (Senior Lecturer Chuck Treser)

March 13, 2013 Student Led Discussion: **Impact on non-infectious diseases**
Group 1: preparedness/mitigation/response;
Group 2: physical aspects; Group 3: biological

Student lead discussion groups

Group 1: Elizabeth Burton, Katie Fellows, Amy Leang

Group 2: Jonathan Nagata, Momoka Nakamura, Tyler Nicolas, Sam Serrano

Group 3: Trevor Peckham, Rachel Wood, Vivian Tran

Possible topics for 3 student lead discussion sessions:

Impacts on vectors and vector-borne disease

Economic impacts

Effect on health

Impact on non-infectious diseases