ENV H 596/NURS 580

Current Issues In Occupational and Environmental Medicine

Winter 2018

Course Times: Thursdays, 3:30pm - 5:20pm

Course Location: South Campus Center, Rm 348

Instructors:
June Spector, MD, MPH
Associate Professor
Departments of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (DEOHS) and Medicine (General Internal Medicine)
Office: HSB F 225
Phone: (206) 897-1979
E-mail: spectj@u.washington.edu

Esi Nkyekyer, MD, MPH
Clinical Instructor
Department of Medicine (General Internal Medicine)
Office: HSB F-226B
Phone: (206) 616-9870
E-mail: esink@uw.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Website: https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1125793

Course Description:
This course is offered during Autumn, Winter and Spring quarters of the academic year and is a requirement for UW Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM) residents, Madigan Preventive Medicine (PM) residents, and other students enrolled in the DEOHS OEM MPH academic degree program. The course is also open to other clinically-oriented students, including but not limited to occupational and environmental health nursing students, medical fellows in other medical subspecialties, residents in internal medicine, family medicine, emergency medicine, and rehabilitation medicine, and third and fourth year medical students. The course is also open to non-clinically-oriented students, including exposure sciences students, with permission of the instructors.

During the Winter 2018 quarter, this course will focus on an array of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM) topics and current issues related to biomonitoring, occupational medical surveillance, occupational public health surveillance, large scale workplace events, disparities in occupational health, disaster preparedness and response, and risk communication in occupational and environmental clinical and population settings. Emphasis is placed on critical reading of the literature and practical application of evidence-based OEM to real world scenarios. To promote integration of concepts, students will watch short video lectures, review background materials, and read pre-assigned journal articles before each session; discussions involving both students and faculty/guest experts will occur during class time.
Course Logistics:
Students may register for one to six quarters of this course, and up to 12 credits can be earned for taking it. Students may register for the course on a graded or credit/no credit basis, although graded status is required if the course is being taken to fulfill a degree requirement. UW OEM residents and Madigan PM residents typically attend and participate in all six quarters of the seminar over a two-year cycle.

*During the second year (for second year beginning Fall 2018), students enrolled in the two-year cycle additionally learn to select appropriate materials for and facilitate in-class case-based discussions.*

E-mail is the standard medium used for communication regarding this course, and readings and other resources will be distributed via the course web site. Students are responsible for ensuring that their correct email address is on file and for informing the instructors if unable to use electronic media.

Remote Participation:
In situations deemed by the instructors to be necessary, students and faculty may participate remotely using the ZOOM video conferencing platform. For each weekly session, a unique login URL and login instructions will be sent via email. ZOOM is easy to use and only requires a computer or laptop with a built-in camera, microphone, and reliable wifi or Ethernet connection. First time users will be prompted to download and install a desktop client application (which may require administrative permissions if the computer is centrally managed). Users may create a free account or login as a guest each time. More detailed information can be found in “ZOOM – Getting Started on the PC and MAC.”

*Students requesting to participate remotely must request permission from the instructors at least one week prior to the class.*

Course Learning Objectives:
By the end of this course, students should be able to:
1. Critically review a scientific paper, using a structured approach to determine the validity of the work and to describe how it might affect the practice of occupational and environmental medicine.
2. Discuss the role and importance of biomonitoring in exposure and risk assessment, surveillance, and research in occupational and environmental health.
3. Define workplace medical surveillance, describe the differences between medical surveillance and screening, and summarize the limitations of OSHA medical surveillance.
4. Define occupational health surveillance and distinguish between active, passive and sentinel surveillance.
5. Describe how occupational health disparities arise, and how employment conditions, work organization, and job insecurity can exacerbate these health disparities.
6. Describe the components of the disaster management cycle, and the framework for disaster preparedness and response in the United States.
7. Describe the common characteristics of, precipitating factors for, and appropriate response to large scale workplace events such as mass psychogenic illness.
8. Describe the role and importance of risk communication in the risk analysis framework, key goals of risk communication in the clinical setting, and factors that can influence the effectiveness of risk communication.
9. *Second year students (for second year beginning Fall 2018): Select appropriate materials for and facilitate discussion of cases illustrating current issues in OEM.*

Course Format:
Overview:
This course uses a flipped classroom approach ([http://www.washington.edu/teaching/teaching-resources/flipping-the-classroom/](http://www.washington.edu/teaching/teaching-resources/flipping-the-classroom/)). Prior to each session, students watch a short video mini-lectures, review background materials, and read the assigned journal article. In-class time is devoted to: assessing uptake of information presented in the short lecture videos and background materials using a question- and-answer format, working through a case-based exercise, discussing the
weekly journal article, and interacting with guest experts.

**Session format:**
In general, the format for each session will consist of:
15 min: Knowledge probe using question-and-answer format
20 min: Journal article review and discussion
30 min: Case-based exercise
45 min: Guest lecturer interactive session

**Format for student-led article discussion:**
Each student will lead a journal article discussion during 1 – 2 sessions of the course. Students may use the article review format outlined in ‘Appraising the Evidence: A Quick Guide to Reviewing a Journal Article’ located under ‘Files’ on the course Canvas website to prepare to lead the article discussion.

Students will be expected to generate and distribute to the class at least 2 questions for journal article discussion 3 days in advance of the session for which they are leading. These questions will be used to prompt initial discussion at the beginning of the article review session. The student leading the discussion will then guide the group through an in-depth review the article, using an interactive format which involves posing guiding questions to discussion participants, and serving as the expert for discussion of participant responses.

**Course Requirements:**
High-yield readings and review of multimedia resources combined with instructor- and student-led discussions and activities in class will test students’ ability to demonstrate application of knowledge.

**Evaluation methods:**

**Student-led journal article discussion:** At the start of the quarter, each student will sign up for 1-2 sessions at which to lead a 20-minute journal article discussion. Students will be expected to generate and distribute to the class at least 2 questions for journal article discussion in advance of the session and to lead the group in systematically discussing and critically appraising the journal article using techniques reviewed by the instructors during the first session of the quarter. The journal article discussion will be evaluated based on the depth of critical appraisal of the article, quality of discussion questions, and the clarity of presentation.

**Weekly reflection.** Once a week, students will be asked to write for instructor review a brief written reflection on one aspect of the weekly topic most notable to them, where in the preparatory materials/preparation for class this aspect became apparent, and one question that review of preparatory materials has generated for the guest expert and/or instructors. These assignments will be graded.

*Second year student only (for students enrolled in the two-year cycle who become second year students starting Fall 2018):*

**Article and case selection, and student-led case discussion:** At the start of the quarter each second-year student will sign up for approximately 2 sessions for which to select appropriate journal review articles and cases illustrative of the weekly topic, discuss them with the instructors, and distribute them to the class at least one week prior to the corresponding session. Students will lead 30-minute case discussions based on the selected cases using a toolkit provided by the instructors.

**Readings and Other Preparatory Materials:**
All readings, videos, and other materials will be posted on the class website. All students are expected to be able to access
class materials via the course website. If this presents a problem, students are expected to let the instructor know immediately.

Please be advised that to use the electronic material on the course website, you must agree to the following statement:

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship, or research. If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of fair use that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

**Student Evaluation:**
Course grades will be determined on the basis of:

**Journal article discussion** (80%)
**Weekly reflection** (20%)

*Second year students (students enrolled in the two-year cycle who become second year students starting Fall 2018):*

**Journal article discussion** (40%)
**Weekly reflection** (20%)
**Article and case selection** (20%)
**Student-led case discussion** (20%)

Assignment of numeric grades will use UW Department of Health Services grading guidelines for graduate students. More details are available at the course website. [http://depts.washington.edu/hserv/grading](http://depts.washington.edu/hserv/grading)

- 3.9-4.0 Excellent and exceptional work ...for a graduate student
- 3.7-3.8 Strong work
- 3.4-3.6 Competent and sound work (*default category*)
- 3.2-3.3 Adequate work, although some weaknesses are evident
- 2.9-3.1 Borderline work
- 2.7-2.8 Deficient but acceptable work
- <2.7 Unacceptable work

**Classroom Climate:**
The UW School of Public Health seeks to ensure all students are fully included in each course. We strive to create an affirming environment that reflects community and mutual caring. In this course, it is our intent that students from all backgrounds and perspectives are well-served, that students’ learning needs are addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this course is viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is our intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity encompassed by differences in: age, physical or mental ability, ethnicity, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, nationality, religion and culture. We encourage students with concerns about classroom climate to talk to us (your instructors), your advisor(s), member(s) of the departmental or SPH Diversity Committee, and/or the program director. Please let us know how we can improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally, or for other students or student groups. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated.

**Access and Accommodations:**
Your experience in this class is important to us, and it is the policy and practice of the University of Washington to create
inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you experience barriers based on a disability or temporary health condition, please seek a meeting with Disability Resources for Students (DRS) to discuss and address them. If you have already established accommodations with DRS, please communicate your approved accommodations to your instructor at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course.

DRS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities and/or temporary health conditions. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and DRS. If you have not yet established services through DRS, but have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations (this can include but not limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are welcome to contact DRS at 206-543-8924 or uwdrs@uw.edu or disability.uw.edu

**Academic Integrity:**
Students at the University of Washington (UW) are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic conduct, professional honesty, and personal integrity. The UW School of Public Health (SPH) is committed to upholding standards of academic integrity consistent with the academic and professional communities of which it is a part. Plagiarism, cheating, and other misconduct are serious violations of the University of Washington Student Conduct Code (WAC 478-120). We expect you to know and follow the university's policies on cheating and plagiarism, and the SPH Academic Integrity Policy. Any suspected cases of academic misconduct will be handled according to University of Washington regulations. For more information, see the University of Washington Community Standards and Student Conduct website.

**Course Schedule:**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Guest Expert</th>
<th>Preparation/Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/4/2018</td>
<td>Cascadia Conference (No class)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
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| 1/11/2018  | Biomonitoring                | Matthew Keifer, MD MPH | View Mini Lecture*:  
  - Biomonitoring  
  Read Background:  
  Read Journal Review Article:  
  Review Biomonitoring Case |
| 1/18/2018  | Risk Communication           | NA                     | View Mini Lecture*:  
  - Risk_Comm  
  Read Background: |
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Authors/Section</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>1/25/18</td>
<td>Disaster Preparedness and Response</td>
<td>Nicole Errett, PhD MSPH</td>
<td>View Mini Lecture*</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Read Journal Review Article:</td>
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<p>| 2/1/2018 | Disparities in Occupational Health         | NA                                                   | View Mini Lecture* |
|          |                                            | Read Journal Review Article:                        |       |</p>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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| 2/8/18 | Workplace Medical Surveillance and Standards   | NA                               | View Mini Lecture*:  
- Med_Surveil  
Read Background:  
Read Journal Review Article:  
| 2/15/18| Public Health Surveillance in Occupational Health | David Bonauto                    | View Mini Lecture*:  
- Occ_PH_Surveil  
Read Background:  
Read Journal Review Article:  
| 2/22/18| Large-scale Workplace Events: Mass Psychogenic Illness | NA                               | View Mini Lecture*:  
- Psychogenic  
Read Background:  
Read Journal Review Article:  

* Note: Mini-lectures can be viewed in the Panopto Recordings tab on the course Canvas website.