

## **Instructions for Paper #2: Public Health Issue Analysis**

**DUE Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> via *hardcopy* at the beginning of class**

**Objective:** To define and critically analyze a public health issue of interest to you

### **Assignment**

Select a public health issue, target population, and country of interest. Then, write a 5-page analysis of your selected public health issue, among that target population, and in that specific country. The first half of the paper should establish why this is an issue to which limited public health resources should be dedicated and for whom (target population). Support your argument with data and information from in-class and outside resources. The second half of the paper should present the issue within the framework of an Ecological Model by discussing behavioral, social/cultural, and environmental level factors affecting the issue. Conclude your paper by recommending an intervention (or type of intervention) to address the issue and indicating what level (or levels) of the Ecological Model the intervention would address.

NOTE: you CANNOT select a topic and country combination used in the Levine *Case Study* book!

### **Logistics**

- 5 cited references (at least 1 web-based reference & 2 outside peer-reviewed journal articles); the other 2 references can be book chapters, journal articles or class readings or other sources that you find; NOTE: Wikipedia is not an appropriate citation for a formal paper
- References in APA (parenthetical by author's last name) or AMA (sequential number) format
- 5 pages in length plus a list of cited sources with the full references
- Typed with the paper titled
- 11 or 12-point font
- Double-spaced
- 1-inch margins
- Stapled
- Pages numbered

You need submit a typed paragraph describing your anticipated public health issue, target population, and country of interest plus references for 1 web-based source and 1 outside journal article that you anticipate using in your paper. The paragraph with two references listed is due *via hardcopy at the beginning of class* on **Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Grading Rubric**

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| ▪ Descriptive paragraph ( <b>due March 24<sup>th</sup></b> ):            | 10         |
| ▪ Argument for the importance of the public health issue:                | 25         |
| ▪ Use and relevance of references cited:                                 | 15         |
| ▪ Discussion of public health issue within an Ecological Model:          | 25         |
| ▪ Recommendation of intervention:  | 10         |
| ▪ Readability (cohesiveness, follows instructions, minimal typos, etc.): | 15         |
| ▪ <b>TOTAL:</b>  | <b>100</b> |

### **Training in Database Searching**

- Jennifer Moore, reference librarian for anthropology, will conduct 3 1-hour database searching training sessions. These sessions will provide students hands-on experience in searching common anthropological and public health databases in a small group setting.

- The sessions will be offered on **Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>** in the ARC, level B, Olin Library. The sessions will run from 2-3pm, 3-4pm, and 4-5pm. Students should sign up in class for the session they plan to attend.
- All students attending one of the training sessions will receive 1 point of extra credit towards the participation portion of their grade.

### **Helpful Hints**

- The course website housed on the Olin library site contains tabs with guidance for both APA and AMA citation formats.
- Medline, PubMed, Anthropology Plus, and Social Sciences Citation Index are some of the many databases available through the WashU libraries that contain public health articles.
- Review articles can provide good introductions to a topic. Many databases allow a user to flag review articles or to limit searches to review articles.
- A list of web resources for public health topics and data is posted on the course website housed on the Olin library site. These websites are good places to start looking for data and information related to your topic and country of interest.
- Both the professor and TAs are happy to help you talk through your ideas and provide suggestions for improving your writing. Please make use of office hours.
- The Writing Center on campus has both online and in-person resources available to help students improve their writing.
- An example paper written by a student in a previous class will be posted on Blackboard.