HEALTH PROGRAM PLANNING: SEXUAL HEALTH

GNDR_ST 332 / HDPS 351



Sexual health is a growing sector of public health outreach and program development. It is also an increasingly integral component of holistic care, mental health assessments, physical health screenings, and most controversially, K-12 education. As such, the goals of this course are to (1) provide students with a foundational understanding of sexual health, (2) identify and describe different topics relevant to sexual, reproductive, and related-physical health, (3) understand the relationship between these topics and specific populations (e.g., women, sexual

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and gender minorities, racial/ethnic groups), and (4) broadly synthesize and plot health programs to improve individuals' or communities' sexual and physical health. Operationally, students will learn the start-to-finish processes of sexual and physical health programming. This includes understanding sexual health problems using existing data, developing and using program goals/objectives, basic program design, message construction, planning, implementation, and preliminary evaluation that links back to goals/objectives. The course will also include an overview of effective sexual and physical health-related interventions using the socio-ecologic framework (individual/behavioral, environmental/social/community and policy), IMB model, and other theoretical approaches to health problem-solving. In terms of class products and evaluation, students will be formed into groups according to their interest in specific sexual, reproductive, or related-physical health problems. They will work throughout the quarter to develop a suitable program that might help to alleviate their designated problem, culminating in final class presentations and a final program plan. This course is extremely beneficial for students interested in public health, social work, education, health disparities/social justice, and health administration.