

**Department of Health Promotion and Behavior  
College of Public Health  
University of Georgia**

**HPRB 5160  
Health Issues in Croatia  
Maymester, 2008**

**Course Information**

Instructor: Dr. Carol Cotton  
Office Location: 325 Ramsey  
Phone: 706/542-2804 (office); 706/542-3313 (secretary)  
Email: cpcotton@uga.edu  
Office Hours: by appointment only

**Course Meeting Time and Location**

Building: Variable  
Room: Variable  
Day: Daily from May 19-June 8  
Time: Variable

**Textbooks and Other Required Course Material**

No text is required.

Readings

Catford, J. (2007). Chronic disease: preventing the world's next tidal wave – the challenge for Canada 2007? *Health Promotion International*, Vol. 22, No. 1, pp. 1-4.

Elder, J.P. (2001). *Behavior Change & Public Health in the Developing World*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc. pp. 1-42.

Green, L.W. & Frankish, C.J. (2001). Health promotion, health education and disease prevention. In C.E. Koop, C.E. Pearson, & M. R. Schwarz (Eds.), *Critical Issues in Global Health* (pp. 321-330). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Lee, K. & Collin, J. (2005). *Global Change and Health*. Berkshire, England: Open University Press, pp. 111-125

Scrimshaw, S.C. (2006). Culture, behavior, and health. In M.H. Merson, R.E. Black, & A.J. Mills (Eds.), *International Public Health* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., pp. 43-69). Boston: Jones and Bartlett.

## **Course Description**

An examination of the significant health problems in Croatia and the nature of health promotion programs.

## **Course Learning Objectives**

This course is designed to prepare students to understand the nature of health issues in Croatia and what health promotion programs exist in Croatia.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe and explain a health problem within a cultural context.
2. Describe psychosocial and cultural risk and protective factors.
3. Identify the basic principles of health promotion.
4. Diagnose a health problem from a multilevel perspective.

## **Course Requirements for Grading Purposes**

1. Students are expected to attend all course sessions, activities, and meetings.
2. Students will keep a daily journal, discussing and reflecting on information presented that day, answering instructor questions that focus on important course concepts. Students are required to bring a separate notebook or journal for this purpose and make daily entries into the journal. The journal entries are a common component of all courses in the program, so students need only submit one journal for both courses; however, the faculty for these courses may have slightly different expectations for the journal entries, so students need to take the requirements of both courses into account when writing journal entries.
3. Students will participate in discussions that focus on the assigned readings and the daily instruction/site visit.
4. Students will submit a paper by 5 pm on July 29 that answers one of three questions provided by the instructor. The paper will be formatted in APA style ([www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org)) and follow the guidelines listed below. It must include a cover page and a reference page; other than those requirements, students may construct the paper however they wish.

## **Topical Outline**

This course will consist of semi-structured lectures, group discussions and site visits utilizing local resources in and around the Croatian cities of Zagreb, Vukovar, and Split/Makarska. Students will visit local health facilities, government departments or community areas where specific health issues present a challenge. Local health/safety officials will interact with students to explain and discuss current public health programs; group discussions will present information on health promotion program development and implementation and recognizing and overcoming barriers; site visits will provide opportunities to observe health promotion and public health strategies at work.

Students will have the opportunity to examine cultural factors in Croatia that relate to health. These factors may promote or inhibit health. Students will be observing health in a unique cultural setting and will examine the issue of health in society from a multilevel perspective.

## **Grading Policy**

Grading: Students will receive a grade of 'I' since Maymester grades are due on June 9 and the final paper is not due until July 29. A grade change will be initiated after final grades are determined.

Students will receive a grade based on: 1) participation in daily class discussions and attendance (30%), 2) journal entries (30%), and 3) paper (50%).

Journals will be checked at mid-point and returned to the student. Journals will be turned into the instructor at the end of the course for a final grade. Journal grades will be based on a) the integration of the on-site experiences to public health concepts/models, (20%), b) the reflective nature of the entries (50%), and c) the answers to any daily questions (30%).

The final paper grade will be based on 1) formatting, punctuation, syntax (10%), 2) complete exploration of the problem (30%), 3) use of real examples to illustrate points (20%), 4) integration of the study-abroad experience within the answer (20%), and 5) comprehension of the relevant issue (20%).

Participation grade will include student generated discussion, responses to instructor questions, and interaction with speakers and officials.

### Croatia Study Abroad Paper Guidelines

1. Due date: July 29, 2008 by COB (5:00 pm).
2. Format:
  - a. double-spaced, white paper, black ink, 12 pitch Times New Roman or Arial font, 1.25-1.5 inch margins on each edge, Word document
  - b. cover page: include on the cover page your name, the name and number of the course, instructors name, and the due date
  - c. staple or bind; do not use paper clips or gym clips
  - d. paginate
  - e. no less than 10 pages; no maximum length required
3. Submission: can be submitted by 5:00pm electronically or delivered to my office (room 325) or my mailbox in the Ramsey Center.
4. Answer one of the following three questions in your paper:
  - A. What is the current state of health promotion programs in Croatia (please use specific examples)? Make recommendations for any changes in these programs or related to

these programs that you believe would improve their effectiveness. Support your recommendations.

B. What do you feel is the most pressing health problem in Croatia currently? Describe what policies, regulations, or related factors (socioeconomic, political, cultural, etc.) in Croatia help or hinder the development of programs intended to address this problem. Describe any secondary problems you believe are relevant to the continued existence of the primary issue.

C. Who or what bears the burden of disease in Croatia? Describe any health problems that you believe are not being adequately addressed in Croatia at this time and present a strategy for addressing those issues.

### **Make-Up Policy**

There is no make-up policy in this course. Work is due as outlined on this syllabus and no exceptions will be permitted.

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all course sessions, activities, and meetings.

Participation in daily class discussions and attendance (30%)

### **University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy**

Students are expected to conduct themselves as representatives of the University of Georgia and the US at all times while studying abroad. All instructors take academic honesty very seriously and students are referred to *A Culture of Honesty* ([www.uga.edu/ovpi](http://www.uga.edu/ovpi)) for the complete Academic Honesty Policy of the University of Georgia.

The information contained in this syllabus is considered correct and current. Any necessary changes to this syllabus will be announced in advance.

*All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.*

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.

## General Disclaimers

*The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*