

PH 210: MCH Core Course  
Fall 2007

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For course website go to <https://bspace.berkeley.edu>

**Purpose**

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Core Course is designed for both one and two year students in the MCH Program as well as for students seeking to earn a certificate in the MCH Specialty Area or others interested in learning about MCH. The MCH Core Course offers a broad overview and introduction to MCH-related issues in the U.S. and includes a focus on the ways in which poverty, politics, and racial and ethnic disparities affect the health of families, women, children and adolescents. Students will be given the opportunity to discuss and examine the history and organization of MCH related services in the U.S., review a broad array of current issues central to maternal and child health, discuss the organization and financing of MCH health services, review existing data sources and the uses of data to improve maternal and child health, analyze the ways in which the political context in the U.S. and abroad affects the health and well-being of families, and critically examine the ways in which knowledge about an issue, an understanding of the social strategies to address that issue, and political will are leveraged to influence the creation of public health policy.

The MCH Core Course is designed to be a rigorous and engaging undertaking. Some of the readings will be discussed in class, student participation will be a vital part of class sessions, course assignments will be expected to be completed on time and to be of high quality, and lively and intellectually stimulating discussions will be the hallmark of the class style.

**Objectives**

By the end of this semester-long course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the historical roots and structure of Maternal and Child Health services in the U.S.
2. Discuss new approaches in the field of MCH that suggest that disparities in birth outcomes are the consequence of differential exposures not only during pregnancy but across the span of a person's life.
3. Describe at least 3 domestic and/or international health issues central to improving maternal and child health globally
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of knowledge, social strategies, and political will in shaping public health policy and practice with regard to MCH.

**Course Format**

Each class will provide an opportunity to discuss the key issues identified for that day. Some class sessions will be a combination of lecture and discussion; others may be structured for small and large group discussions. For some class sessions, guest speakers have been invited in order to give students an opportunity to interact with individuals with diverse expertise and perspectives. Some classes will include time for student led presentations.

## Course Assignments and Requirements

1. All students are expected to attend each class, participate in class discussion and other student-led activities, and complete the required readings.
2. Each student will be expected to complete three short papers during the semester. These papers will be an opportunity for students to identify and write about an MCH topic they want to examine and explore in depth (see topic areas below). The papers are designed to build upon one another, Paper 1 setting the stage for Paper 2, and Paper 2 laying the foundation for Paper 3. Additional information for each paper assignment will be distributed in class.
  - Paper 1: This will be a 2 page (double-spaced) paper identifying and describing the topic you have selected. This paper should include a clear definition and description of the problem and/or issue with a rationale for why it is a topic of importance in the field. **This paper will be due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, September 19, 2007.**
  - Paper 2: This will be a 5 page (double-spaced) paper examining one or two of the major approaches and strategies being utilized to address this issue. Students should provide both a description and critique of these approaches, including a discussion of the strengths and limitations of the existing approaches. **This paper will be due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, October 24, 2007.**
  - Paper 3: This 5 page (double-spaced) paper will be a proposal for an intervention (program, policy, etc.) to address the problem and/or issue you are examining. This paper will be an integration of the first two papers and should include: 1) a description of the proposed policy/program, 2) discussion of the political context in which the issue and your proposed solution exist, and 3) the major constituencies who will be affected and those who will be engaged in implementing this program or policy. **This paper will be due at the beginning of class on Wednesday, November 28, 2007.**
  - Each paper requires the student to be well-organized and concise. To the extent possible, we recommend that you use data sources that are comprehensive and seminal, primarily from peer-reviewed literature. Each paper should have a reference list, using the format from the JAMA (Index Medicus format).
  - Possible topic areas for course papers include: Access to Care, Adolescent Health, Oral Health, Nutrition (obesity, physical activity, breast feeding), Disparities in Birth Outcomes, Mental Health, and Perinatal Substance Abuse. Students wishing to write papers in other topic areas should discuss this with instructors.
3. There will be opportunities for students to participate in student-led presentations during the semester that fall into some of these topic areas. Each student group will consist of approximately 3-4 students. Guidelines for these presentations will be reviewed in class.
4. Each student will be expected to complete an interactive data sources activity (to be described further in class).

## Course Readings

There is a course reader assigned for this course. Selected articles will also be posted on the course bspace (<https://bspace.berkeley.edu>). The reader can be purchased at Copy Central at 48 Shattuck Square. A copy of the course reader will also be on reserve in the Public Health Library. We have selected readings that are meant to be seminal and thought provoking. Many readings offer excellent references for further reading. We have limited the readings for each week to a manageable amount as students are expected to read all of the readings assigned for the week.

### **Course Grading**

Course grading will be as follows:

1. Class Participation	30%
2. Paper 1	15%
3. Paper 2	20%
4. Paper 3	25%
5. Student-led presentation participation	10%

### **Course Evaluation Committee**

At the second session of this class, three students will be asked to volunteer to be part of the Course Evaluation Committee. This Committee will stay in close touch with the students regarding their impressions and feedback of the class, the instructor's presentations, class readings, discussion, etc. The Committee will meet with either the instructor or GSI every other week to let them know how the class is going from the students' perspectives. This process for gathering class feedback does not preclude students from commenting directly to the instructor or GSI. The purpose of this Course Evaluation Committee is to insure that the students' academic and intellectual needs are being met as part of their participation in this course.

## Schedule of Classes

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
August 29	Welcome and Class Overview Purpose of MCH Core Course and discussion of conceptual framework, assignments, format, and student led sessions Key Issues in Maternal and Child Health Today
September 5	History and Structure of MCH in the U.S. Title V, the MCH Block Grant and MCH Related Programs (Medi-Cal, TANF, Title X, WIC, Head Start, CHDP, CCS, etc.)  Discussion of Paper Topics
September 12	Introduction to the Life Course Perspective Life Course Game Life Course Perspective: A 12 Step Plan
September 19	Weathering and Disparities in Health: Raising Questions for Discussion Preconception Care: A Statewide Initiative <b>Paper #1 due at beginning of class</b>
September 26	MCH as an indicator of Community Health: Data Sources: An important and essential first step Photovoice project as a Community Health Assessment Tool
October 3	Integrating Oral Health into day-to-day MCH practice Lynn Pilant RDH and Padmini Parthasarthy MPH, Guest Speakers Children's Oral Health in El Salvador Laura Stachel
October 10	Perinatal Substance Abuse: Engaging Substance Using Women in Prenatal Care Sarah Roberts, Doctoral Candidate, Guest Speaker Basic Issues in Women's Health (Part 1)
October 17	Adolescent Health Issues: School-based Health Centers Sandi Goldstein MPH, Guest Speaker Investing in Economic and Social Development of youth Jeff Gould and Heidi Winig, Guest Speakers <b>Peer Editing of Student Papers</b>

- October 24 MCH and Nutrition: Current Issues in the Field  
Barbara Abrams, *Guest Speaker*  
**Paper #2 due at the beginning of class**
- October 31 Preconception Care Conference Follow-up and discussion
- November 7 Basic Issues in Women's Health (Part 2)  
Student-led session #1
- November 14 Intimate Partner Violence: One Organizations' Approach  
Brigid McCaw, MD, *Guest Speaker*  
Student-led session #2
- November 21 Political will: Identifying, Mobilizing, and Making a Difference  
Designing an Effective System of Care for Addressing Perinatal Substance Abuse  
Student-led presentation #3
- November 28 MCH Policy and Legislation: Taking Action  
Charlotte Newhart, *Lobbyist*  
Student-led session #4  
**Paper #3 due at the beginning of class**
- December 5 Final Class: Review and Integration  
Reviewing where we started and where we are now  
Discussion of Student Papers  
Class Evaluation

## **MCH Core Course**

### **Reading Assignments Fall 2007**

#### **August 29 Key Issues in MCH Today/Course Overview**

Atwood K, Colditz G, Kawachi I, "From Public Health Science to Prevention Policy: Placing Science in it's Social and Political Contexts," *American Journal of Public Health*, October 1997, Vol.87, No.10, pp. 1603-1606.

Jones CP, "Levels of Racism: A Theoretic Framework and a Gardener's Tale," *AJPH*, August 2000, Vol. 90, NO. 8, pp. 1212-1215.

#### **September 5 History and Structure of MCH in the US**

Margolis LH, Cole GP, Kotch JB, "Historical foundations of maternal and child health," in Maternal and Child Health: Programs, Problems, and Policy in Public Health, second edition, JB Kotch, ed., Gaithersburg, MD: Aspen Publishers, Inc., 2005, pp. 23-55.

Hutchins V, "Steps for the Future," in Health and Welfare for Families in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers, 1999, pp. 605-616.

#### **September 12 Introduction to the Life Course Perspective**

Lu MC, Halfon N, "Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Birth Outcomes: A Life-Course Perspective," *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, Vol. 7, No. 1, March 2003, pp: 13-30.

Hogan VK, "Addressing Perinatal Health Disparities: Another Place for a Paradigm Shift," *North Carolina Medical Journal*, May/June 2004, Vol 65, No. 3, 159-163.

Lu M, Kotelchuck M, Hogan V, Jones L, Jones CP, Halfon N, "Closing the Black-White gap in birth outcomes: A life-course approach," unpublished manuscript submitted for publication, 2004.

#### **September 19 Weathering and Disparities in Health Preconception Care: A Statewide Initiative Paper #1 due at beginning of class**

Geronimus AT, "Understanding and Eliminating Racial Inequalities in Women's Health in the U.S.: The Role of the Weathering Conceptual Framework," *Journal of the American Medical Women's Association*, 2001, No. 56, pp. 133-136.

Crum L, Hogan V, Chapple T, Browne D, Greene J, "Disparities in Maternal and Child Health in the United States," in Maternal and Child Health: Programs, Problems, and Policy in Public Health, second edition, JB Kotch, ed., Gaithersburg, MD: Aspen Publishers, Inc., 2005, 299-345.

Johnson K, Posner SF, Biermann J, Cordero JF, Atrash HK, Parker CS, Boulet S, Curtis MG, "Recommendations to Improve Preconception Health and Health Care - United States," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, April 21, 2006, Vol. 55, No. RR-6.

Bronte-Tinkew J, Horowitz A, Kennedy E, Perper K, "Men's Pregnancy Intentions and Prenatal Behaviors: What They Mean for Father's Involvement With Their Children," *Child Trends (Research Brief)*, June 2007, Publication #2007-18.

**September 26**

**MCH as an indicator of Community Health:**

**Data Sources: An important and essential first step**

**Photovoice project as a Community Health Assessment Tool**

Wise PH, MD, MPH, "Confronting Racial Disparities in Infant Mortality: Reconciling Science and Politics", American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 9, Nov/Dec 1993, pp 7-16

Wang C, Pies C, "Family, Maternal, and Child Health Through Photovoice," Maternal and Child Health Journal, Vol. 8, No. 2, June 2004.

**October 3**

**Perinatal Substance Abuse: Engaging Substance Using Women in Prenatal Care**

Roberts, D, "Making Reproduction a Crime," in Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and the Meaning of Liberty," Vintage Books, 1997, pp. 150-201.

Frank D, Augustyn M, Knight WG, Pell T, Zuckerman B, "Growth, Development, and Behavior in Early Childhood Following Prenatal Cocaine Exposure: A Systematic Review," Journal of the American Medical Association, Vol. 285, No. 12, March 2001, pp. 1613-1625.

Noble A, Vega WA, Kolody B, Porter P, Hwang J, Merk GA, Bole A, "Prenatal Substance Abuse in California: Findings from the Perinatal Substance Exposure Study," Journal of Psychoactive Drugs, Vol. 29, No. 1, January-March 1997, 43-53.

**October 10**

**Children's Oral Health**

"The Interface between Medicine and Dentistry in Meeting the Oral Health Needs of Young Children (A White Paper)," Children's Dental Health Project for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry's Filling Gaps Project.

Michalowicz BS, Hodges JA, DiAngelis AJ, et al, "Treatment of Periodontal Disease and the Risk of Preterm Birth," N Engl J Med 2006(Nov): 355(18): 1885-94.

Goldenberg RL, Culhane JF, "Preterm Birth and Periodontal Disease," N Engl J Med 2006(Nov): 355(18): 1927-7.

<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/oralhealth/index.htm>

**October 17**

**Adolescent Health Issues**

Morone JA, Kilbreth EH, Langwell KM, "Back to School: A Health Care Strategy for Youth," Health Affairs, Volume 20(1):122-136, Project HOPE 2001.

Dailard C, "School-based Health Centers and the Birth Control Debate," The Alan Guttmacher Report on Public Policy: Special Analysis, October 2000, pp. 5-8.

Constantine NA, Nevarez CR, "No Time for Complacency: Teen Births in California," Public Health Institute, Spring 2003.

Fox H, McManus M, Zarit M, Fairbrother G, Cassidy A, Bethell C, Read D, "Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Adolescent Health and Access to Care," Incenter Strategies, No. 1, January 2007.

McManus M, Fox H, "Making the Case for Addressing Adolescent Health Care", Incenter Strategies, No. 3, January 2007.

**October 24**                    **MCH Nutrition: Current Issues in the Field**  
**Paper #2 due at the beginning of class**

Check Bspace for class readings

**October 31**                    **Preconception Care Summit Follow-up and Discussion**

Check Bspace for class readings

**November 7**                    **Basic Issues in Women's Health**

Check Bspace for class readings

**November 14**                    **Intimate Partner Violence**

McCaw B, Berman W, Syme SL, Hunkeler E, "Beyond Screening for Domestic Violence: A Systems Model Approach in a Managed Care Setting," *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, Vol. 21, No. 3, 2001, pp.170-176.

Sharps P, Laughon K, Giangrande S, "Intimate Partner Violence and the Child Bearing Year: Maternal and Infant Health Consequences," *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, Vol. 8, No. 2, April 2007, pp. 105-116.

"Adverse Childhood Experiences Study," Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**November 21**                    **Political Will: Identifying, Mobilizing, Making a Difference**

Richmond JB, Kotelchuck M, "Political Influences: Rethinking National Health Policy," in Handbook of Health Professions Education, McGuire CH, Foley RP, Gorr A, Richards RW and Associates, eds., Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1983, pp. 386-404.

**November 28**                    **MCH Policy and Legislation: Taking Action**

**MCH Policy Making: Choosing your battles wisely**

**Paper #3 due at the beginning of class**

**December 5**                    **Review and Integration**

## Appendix

The appendix contains interesting readings that are of value to the students in their preparation for different class sessions and/or in preparation for their papers. These readings are not required; they are included to broaden your understanding of the field and provide you with additional resources.

Lu MC, Kotelchuck M, Culhane JF, Hobel CJ, Klerman LV, Thorp JM, "Preconception Care Between Pregnancies: The Content of Internatal Care," *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, DOI 10.1007/s10995-006-0118-7, Springer, 2006

Misra DP, Guyer B, Allston A, "Integrated Perinatal Health Framework: A Multiple Determinants Model with a Life Span Approach," *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 2003;25(1), pp: 65-75.

Healthy People 2010 Conference Edition: Section 16: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health, pp. 16.2-16.60.

Mustillo S, Krieger N, Gunderson EP, Sidney S, McCreath H, Kiefe CI, "Self-Reported Experiences of Racial Discrimination and Black-White Differences in Preterm and Low-Birthweight Deliveries: The CARDIA Study," *American Journal of Public Health*, Dec 2004, Vol 94, No. 12, 2125-2131.

Mullings L, Wali A, McLean D, Mitchell J, Prince S, Thomas D, Tovar P, "Qualitative Methodologies and Community Participation in Examining Reproductive Experiences: The Harlem Birth Right Project," *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 2001, Volume 5, No. 2, pp. 85-93.

Acevedo-Garcia D, Soobader MJ, Berkman LF, The Differential Effect of Foreign-Born Status on Low Birth Weight by Race/Ethnicity and Education, *Pediatrics* 2005; 115;20-30.

Lu MC, Chen B, "Racial and ethnic disparities in preterm birth: The role of stressful life events," *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* 2004, 191, 691-699.

Epstein H, GHETTO MIASMA: Enough To Make You Sick?, *The New York Times*, October 12, 2003 Sunday, Section 6; Column 3; Magazine Desk; Pg. 75

Mouradian WE, Wehr E, Crall JJ. "Disparities in Children's Oral Health and Access to Dental Care," JAMA, Nov. 22/29, 2000, pp. 2625-2631.

Gaffield ML, Colley Gilbert BJ, Malvitz DM, Romaguera R. "Oral Health During Pregnancy: An analysis of information collected by the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System," Journal of the American Dental Association, Vol 132, July, 2001, pp. 1009-1016.

Jeffcoat MK, Geurs NC, Reddy MS, Cliver SP, Goldenberg RL, Hauth JC. "Periodontal Infection and preterm birth: Results of a prospective study," Journal of the American Dental Association, Vol 132, July, 2001, pp. 875-880.

Lillie-Blanton M, Hoffman C, "The Role of Health Coverage in Reducing Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Health Care," *Health Affairs*, Vol 24, No. 2, March/April 2005, 398-408.

Guendelman S, Schauflier HH, Pearl M. "Unfriendly Shores: How Immigrant Children Fare in the U.S. Health System," Health Affairs, Jan/Feb 2001, pp. 257-266

Armstrong MA, Osejo VG, Lieberman L, Carpenter DM, Pantoja PM, Escobar GJ, "Perinatal Substance Abuse Interventions in Obstetric Clinics Decreases Adverse Neonatal Outcomes," *Journal of Perinatology*, 2003, 23:3-9.

Ortiz J, McGilligan K, Kelly P, "Duration of Breast Milk Expression Among Working Mothers Enrolled in an Employer-Sponsored Lactation Program," *Pediatric Nursing*, March-April 2004, Vol. 30, No. 2, 111-119.

Guttman N, Zimmerman D, "Low-income mothers' views on breastfeeding," *Social Science and Medicine*, 50 (2000), 1457-1473.

Healthy People 2010, Chapter 16, Fetal, Infant, and Child Deaths: Section 1, pages 16.12-16.19.

Newacheck, P., Strickland, B., Shonkoff, J., Perrin, J., McPherson, M., McManus, M., Lauver, C., Fox, H. and Arango, P. An epidemiologic profile of Children with Special Health Care Needs. Pediatrics, 1998; 102(1) 117-121.

Maine D and Chavkin W. "Maternal Mortality: Global Similarities and Differences, *JAMWA*, Vol. 57, No. 3, 127-30, Summer 2002.

Hughes DC, Ng S, "Reducing Health Disparities Among Children," *The Future of Children: Health Insurance for Children*, Volume 13, No. 1, Spring 2003.

Newacheck PW, Hughes DC, Hung YY, Wong ST, Stoddard JJ. The Unmet Health Needs of America's Children. *Pediatrics*. 2000;105(4):989-997.

David RJ, Collins JW, "Bad outcomes in Black Babies: Race or Racism," *Ethnicity and Disease*, Summer 1991, 1(3): 236-44

Elster A, Jarosik J, VanGeest J, Fleming M, "Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care for Adolescents," *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine*, Vol 157, September 2003.

Klein JD, Committee on Adolescence, "Adolescent Pregnancy: Current Trends and Issues," *Pediatrics*, Vol.116, No. 1, July 2005, 281-286.

Klein Walker D, "Where is women's health in maternal and child health?" (Editorial) *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 1998(1), 3:191-193.

Collins JW, David RJ, Prachand NG, Pierce ML, "Low Birth Weight Across Generations," *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, Vol. 7, No. 4, December 2003.