

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL**  
**Public Health Leadership Program**  
**School of Public Health**  
**Spring 2007**

**Course Title:** Interdisciplinary Service Learning Trip

**Course Number:** PUBH 690.961

**Credits:** Elective, 1 credit

**Pre- and co-requisites:** Enrollment in the School of Public Health, and a strong desire for an Interdisciplinary service experience

**Course Faculty:** Cheryll D. Lesneski, DrPH, MA

**Course Description:** Public Health students will join students from the School of Nursing and the School of Social work and other professional community partners on an interdisciplinary service trip to Biloxi and Pearlinton, Mississippi to assist with the provision of clinical service, to participate on public health projects. Some students may opt to participate in repair of homes depending on overall community needs and assignments we receive from our disaster relief agency partner. Students will be expected to actively participate as a professional team member in service activities and to document their reflections about their experiences after the trip. Students will submit a written reflective essay for submission to the UNC student journal *Insight Out* or a short paper about how the trip changed their view of health using a socio-ecological model.

**Course Objectives:**

**At the end of the course students will be able to:**

1. Identify activities needed to plan an interdisciplinary service learning experience
2. Describe the health needs of a post-disaster community
3. Describe the funding sources, organizational structure and client eligibility for free clinics and federally funded community health clinics.
4. Engage in professional reflective practice
5. Share reflective writings with targeted audiences.

**Course Outline:** The purpose of this trip is to provide students with the opportunity to learn from public health, social work and nursing students and faculty as an interdisciplinary volunteer health team. Students will be expected to participate in all aspects of the service project chosen as the focus of this trip. The interventions conducted during the week of service will be identified by the communities we serve. Reflective sessions will be held on certain evenings while in MS and the group will convene at least once after returning to N.C. for active reflection.

Please Note: Travel to and service in Mississippi is not mandatory for you to earn the one credit for this elective class, PUBH690.961. If you elect not to participate in the service trip to MS, an alternative learning experience will be offered and the evaluation criteria will be altered. Please contact the faculty member for more details.

**Evaluation:**

1. Students will participate fully in volunteer projects.
2. Students may write a journal article for submission to *Insight Out* according to information provided to authors, or they may write a short paper reflecting upon the experience and addressing elements such as the following:
  - Summary of week's learning experiences
  - Important issues and factors impacting communities recovering from disasters
  - Ways in which this experience has challenged the student's view of health and health services in the U.S.
  - How this experience and new knowledge will impact public health practice

This Summary Paper will be graded by the course faculty.

<b>Grading:</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>% Grade</b>
	Participation in the trip	70
	Reflection Paper	30

\*\* Paper will be due on April 20, 2007.