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# Stepping Out: Community Based Research Tools and Techniques Mini-Elective Spring 2009

<u>Course Dates:</u>	January 15, 22, 29, February 5, 12, 19 Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 PM
<u>Maximum Students:</u>	10
<u>Class Year:</u>	MS1
<u>Course Director:</u>	Thuy Bui, MD
<u>Contact Information:</u>	Thuy Bui, MD 412-692-4840 <a href="mailto:buit@upmc.edu">buit@upmc.edu</a>
<u>Registration:</u>	Betsy Nero, Office of Medical Education <a href="mailto:betsy@medschool.pitt.edu">betsy@medschool.pitt.edu</a>

## Description:

This six-session mini-elective will introduce students to community-based participatory research, general concepts in survey study, epidemiological investigation, qualitative methods and approaches to implementation and evaluation of community-based interventions. This workshop will help student formulate and implement innovative, effective, and culturally sensitive scholarly projects involving diverse and marginalized populations. It is designed for students interested in pursuing scholarly projects in the community whether with underserved populations in Pittsburgh or overseas. Each session will be composed of lecture followed by small group discussion. Students will have the opportunity to share scholarly projects during the appropriate small group session to get feedback from faculty and peers.

## Objectives:

- To understand the philosophy and general approaches in community-based research.
- To become familiar with some of the tools used in community-based research.
- To encourage scholarly projects in health promotion and disease prevention in the community.

## Requirements:

- Active participation in all sessions.
- Reading assignments (30 pages or less prior to each session).

## Course Outline

### Stepping Out: Community Based Research

#### Course Director:

Thuy Bui, MD  
buit@upmc.edu  
412-692-4840

#### Faculty:

*GSPH's Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences*  
Martha Ann Terry, PhD  
*Center for Research in Health Care*  
Adam J. Gordon, MD, MPH  
Galen E. Switzer, PhD  
*Department of Family Medicine*  
Michael Yonas, DrPH

#### Course Objectives:

- To understand the philosophy and general approaches in community-based research.
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#### Location:

All sessions  
Scaife Hall, Rooms 460 A&B

**Session one:** Dr. Martha Ann Terry 1/15/09

#### Introduction to qualitative methods: The Ethnographic Approach

READINGS : Scrimshaw, S. (2006). Culture, Behavior and Health. In Merson, M.H., Black, R.E., & Mills, A.J. (Eds.), *International Public Health: Diseases, Programs, Systems and Policies* (Second Ed., pp. 43-68). Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers. Miner, H. (1956). Body Ritual Among the Nacirema. *American Anthropologist* 58, 503-507.

#### Objectives:

- Define ethnographic fieldwork and associated qualitative methods.
- Understand advantages and disadvantages of qualitative methods.
- Identify appropriate applications for the use of ethnography and associated methods.
- Review a recent publication utilizing ethnographic research methodology.

**Session two:** Dr. Michael Yonas 1/22/09

#### Introduction to community-based participatory research and ethics of community-based research

READING: <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/picrender.fcgi?artid=1281296&blobtype=pdf>

#### Objectives:

- Understand the components of CBPR and ethic issues involved in CBPR.
- Identify the challenges faced by partners of CBPR.
- Review a recent publication that illustrates the principles of CBPR.

**Session three:** Dr. Martha Ann Terry 1/29/09

#### Introduction to qualitative methods -- focus groups and key informant interviews

READING: Koffman, Morgan, Edmonds, Speck & Higginson, 2008. Cultural Meanings of Pain: A Qualitative Study of Black Caribbean and White British Patients with Advanced Cancer. *Palliative Medicine* 22: 350-359.

#### Objectives:

- Identify appropriate contexts/research questions for focus groups and key informant interviews.
- Know advantages and limitations of focus group and key informant interviews.

**Session four:** Dr. Adam Gordon 2/5/09

### **Community program evaluation**

READING: <http://www.springerlink.com/content/m7h31538649k7506/fulltext.pdf>

<http://www.implementationscience.com/content/pdf/1748-5908-1-23.pdf>

#### Objectives:

- Be able to describe and implement outcome evaluation for community based participatory research initiatives.
- Be able to describe formative evaluation and external facilitation means of outcome evaluation.
- Apply principles of community based participatory research outcome evaluation to various student-driven projects.
- Understand difficulties (and means to overcome these difficulties) in evaluation of community based participatory research.
- Evaluation of the mini-course!

**Session five:** Dr. T. Bui and guest faculty 2/12/09

### **Community epidemiology**

REVIEW: <http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/view.asp?a=175&Q=242623>

#### Objectives:

- List at least three public use data files with information about US citizens' health, health behavior, and/or health care use.
- List at least two data files with such information on a regional sample. What are the conditions of their "public use"?
- List at least two weaknesses of secondary data analyses.

**Session six:** Dr. Galen Switzer 2/19/09

### **How to approach survey design and using questionnaires in research**

#### Objectives:

- Understand how to choose the right survey method.
- Know the pitfalls in sampling, question wording, questionnaire design and survey implementation.
- Understand the general approaches to data analysis.

#### **Resources:**

- Community-based participatory research <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?artid=1281296>
- Evaluation Toolkit <http://www.wkkf.org/default.aspx?tabid=75&CID=281&NID=61&LanguageID=0>
- Qualitative interviews <http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/311/6999/251>
- Focus groups [http://www.usaid.gov/pubs/usaid\\_eval/pdf\\_docs/pnaby233.pdf](http://www.usaid.gov/pubs/usaid_eval/pdf_docs/pnaby233.pdf)
- Surveys and questionnaires <http://www.bmj.com/cgi/reprint/328/7451/1312.pdf>
- NIMH Collaborative HIV/STD Prevention Trial Group. Design and integration of ethnography within an international behavior change HIV/STD prevention trial. AIDS 2007, 21: S37-S48

