



Professional Enrichment Course

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Office of Medical Education

PEC Registrar – Denise Downs d downs@pitt.edu 412-648-8749

Environmental Health

Enrollment Period:	Spring 2022
Course Dates:	January 13 th , January 20 th , February 17 th , and February 24 th from 6-8 PM
Student Max:	20
Class Year:	MS1, MS2
Course Director:	Christiane Hadi, MD Email: hadicm@upmc.edu Noedahn Copley-Woods, MD: copleywoods@upmc.edu
Student Coordinators:	Rosalie Nolen (Nolen.Rosalie@medstudent.pitt.edu), Jeyani Narayan (Narayan.Jeyani@medstudent.pitt.edu), Nathalie Chen (Chen.Nathalie@pitt.edu), Alicia Liu (Liu.Alicia@medstudent.pitt.edu), and Shree Sriram (Sriram.Ksheeraja@medstudent.pitt.edu)
Location:	Scaife Hall
Registration:	Via Amp Up – You will receive an email with enrollment info
Course Description:	The purpose of this course is to provide an introductory overview into the intersection between the environment and medicine. This course is led by Pitt Students for One Health, a multidisciplinary organization that seeks to further the One Health initiative of achieving optimal health by recognizing the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment. Each class will include a lecture and discussion of a relevant environmental health topic. By the end of this course, students will be aware of important environmental and public health issues and their impact on medicine as they proceed through their training.
Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Give medical students different perspectives about ways to think about and interact with the environment and discourse around the environment● Introduce the waste burden that medicine has the environment and how we as future health care professionals can be conscious of this and make impactful change

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Give medical students background information to facilitate an understanding of the impact of the environment on their patients' health
Pre-Requisites:	None
Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participate in all four lectures

Session One – Overview of Climate Change

This session will focus on the current state of climate change in order to contextualize the rest of the course. Students will review up to date data about climate science in order to understand the causes of climate change, the human health and planetary effects, and to get an overview of the mitigation/adaption needed to address it.

Session Two – The Circular Economy and Healthcare

This session will focus on the circular economy and how it relates to healthcare.

Session Three – The Carbon Footprint of Healthcare

This session will focus on the greenhouse gas emissions of the health care industry, focusing on the principal of “first, do no harm.” It will also include a discussion of success stories in terms of implementing environmental change within health systems as well resources that can be used by students and professionals.

Session Four – Tree-Planting as a Public Health Initiative

This session will focus on the multiple benefits of trees and scientific evidence that shows how trees are a low-cost intervention with high impact on the health of communities. These benefits range from improved respiratory, cardiovascular, and pregnancy outcomes, to improved mental health and decreased gun violence. We will understand trees as a social determinant of health.