HPS 605 Community Based Participatory Action Research to Decrease Health Disparities

Catalog Description: This is a graduate level course that examines Community-Based Participatory Action Research (CBPAR) as a research paradigm to understand and address health disparities at the community level. Through class discussions and assignments, students will become familiar with the paradigm shift, developing methodology and ethical challenges posed by CBPAR. (3 units)

Course Topics:
- Principles and Models of Community-Based Participatory Research
- Theories and Methodologies
- Power and Privilege
- Equitable Partnerships and Process
- Readiness and CBPR
- Research Design
- Collaborative Analysis and Interpretation
- Community Review/Ethical Considerations
- Community Engaged Scholarship, Dissemination and Action
- Evaluation of Community-based Participatory Research
- Funding Streams and Systems of Rewards

Course Objectives: During this course, students will:
- Describe theoretical perspectives and historical processes that have shaped the development and evolution of CBPR2.
- Identify both the strengths and limitations of using CBPR to address health disparities.
- Apply theoretical principles in the application of a CBPR approach in research design.
- Critique CBPR peer review journal articles to assess fidelity to CBPR principles and potential for contribution to the field.
- Apply CBPR principles in the development of a research proposal designed to investigate and address health disparities.

Learning Outcomes (Competencies Obtained): Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify individual, organizational and community concerns, assets, resources and deficits for social and behavioral science interventions
2. Identify critical stakeholders for the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, policies and interventions
3. Use the basic concepts and skills involved in culturally appropriate community engagement and empowerment with diverse communities
4. Identify the causes of social and behavioral factors that affect health of individuals and populations
5. Apply evidence-based approaches in the development and evaluation of social and behavioral science interventions
6. Apply ethical principles to public health program planning, implementation and evaluation
7. Describe the roles of, history, power, privilege and structural inequality in producing health disparities
8. Explain how professional ethics and practices relate to equity and accountability in diverse community settings
9. Explain why cultural competence alone cannot address health disparity
10. Describe the attributes of leadership in public health
11. Describe alternative strategies for collaboration and partnership among organizations, focused on public health goals
12. Articulate an achievable mission, set of core values, and vision
13. Identify unintended consequences produced by changes made to a public health system
14. Explain how the contexts of gender, race, poverty, history, migration, and culture are important in the design of interventions within public health systems
15. Analyze inter-relationships among systems that influence the quality of life of people in their communities