



## Syllabus

### Learning through the Last Mile:

Public Health in Rural Uganda

July 2020

**Course Description:** This course will examine the general tenets of public health and explore key contextualized topics. Utilizing UVP's Healthy Villages model as demonstrated through Reproductive Health, WASH, Malaria, and HIV programming, participants will then apply what they have learned to identify which public health tenets apply to the week's knowledge area and critique UVP's existing programming to make it more effective. In addition, participants will be presented with real examples of last mile public health challenges and will work with other participants in a cross-cultural capacity to practice creative problem solving and collaboration.

**Learning Objectives:** As a result of this course, participants will...

- Understand UVP's grassroots health promotion strategies and programs and why it is important
- Practically apply knowledge to real public health challenges
- Understand the barriers to reaching the "last mile" with education and services
- Use theory of change models, logistical framework, SWOT analyses and brainstorming to evaluate and improve UVP's existing programs
- Better understand the real life challenges (and rewards!) that working in a cross-cultural environment can pose and ways to embrace this

#### Structure of Course:

Each week consists of one module, beginning on Monday and going through Sunday. Each module will have the following elements

- **Resources for your review.** This might include journal articles, podcasts, and videos, among others. We will do our best to make all resources available for download for later consumption (i.e. not requiring streaming of data), but that may not be the case for every resource. Resources will be available for the entire course from the beginning to allow you to plan your time as necessary. It is recommended that you review the resources prior to the weekly webinar and discussion.
- **Weekly webinar and discussion.** Each week on Thursday at 12 pm ET (9 am PT, 7 pm EAT), you will meet virtually with the module facilitator and review the "lecture", which builds on the resources provided earlier in the module and then begin a discussion on the topic for the week with participants. You are encouraged to actively participate in this discussion to make it engaging and a more robust experience. The webinar meeting will be recorded and posted to the week's module resources for any participants who are not able to attend, however, we strongly encourage you to attend the weekly webinars to get the most from the course. The deck for the webinar will be posted prior to the meeting and available for download.

- **Electronic discussion.** To continue the conversation and allow other participants to contribute to the discussion if they were not able to attend, the discussion topic will be posted in the module resources. Even if you were able to attend the webinar, you are encouraged to post in the discussion forum to provide your valuable insight. The discussion forum will be opened prior to the webinar and close on the last day of the module (Sunday).
- **Assignment.** Building on the resources and discussion, the weekly assignment will require you to synthesize the information from the module. Assignments will be posted at the beginning of the module and are due by the last day of the module.

**Accountability & Expectations (aka Grading):**

- In order to get the most out of this course, we encourage your full weekly participation. Assignments and tasks will be due each week on the Google Classroom Platform (e.g. Module assignments due Sundays at 11:59pm ET/6:59am EAT Monday). Deadlines will be communicated for each task and assignment.
- During the weekly webinar, you are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion. Your insight and contribution is valuable, even if you do not have extensive experience or knowledge in the topic areas.

**Required Materials:**

- Access to a Smart Device (Phone, laptop, tablet, etc)
- Wifi or MBs/GBs

**Course Schedule:**

Module	Brief Description
Week 1: Introduction and Foundations	Explores the role of culture and the importance of cultural understanding in working in international development.
Week 2: Global Public Health Concepts	What is the difference between equality and equity? This module helps to define these two important concepts and how they create barriers in health access.
Week 3: UVP's Healthy Villages Program	A deep dive into UVP's Healthy Villages model to understand how it is implemented and the theories behind the structure.
Week 4: Reproductive Health	Looking at how UVP implements programming in the Last Mile, we explore how culture and health interact and critique various approaches used to address gaps in reproductive health care access.
Week 5: HIV and Malaria	Where knowledge is high, behaviors do not necessarily follow. What can be done at the grassroots level to take existing knowledge and turn it into positive behavior change?
Week 6: WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene)	Diarrhea is one of the biggest threats to children under five. How can access to water and an understanding of hygiene and sanitation impact rural communities?