TRMD 6200 Impact Evaluation in Global Health

Professor: Joseph Keating

Credits: 3

Semester(s) offered: Fall

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the basic concepts, principles, and practices for the evaluation of public health programs and interventions. It focuses on program evaluation primarily at the national and sub-national levels, through touches on other levels, e.g. community, institution. Lectures, discussion, and assignments ill highlight evaluation strategies for malaria, HIV/AIDS, health promotion programs, disease-specific prevention and control interventions in international settings. This course is intended to 1) introduce students to impact evaluation, 2) provide a solid grounding in study designs relevant in field settings, 3) develop students' skills in designing evaluation plans, and 4) serve as a foundation for more specialized program evaluation classes (e.g. on maternal and child health, health education, and communication), as well as for courses on data analysis, sampling, epidemiology, and operations research.
Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course students should be able to:

A. Describe the role of evaluation in the design of public health programs;

B. Given a set of health program objectives and activities, formulate a conceptual framework for how the program or intervention will lead to specific health outcomes and impact;

C. Describe the elements (e.g. study populations, sample frames, data collection, outcome and impact indicators, and study design) that provide the context for evaluating public health program activities;

D. Describe the primary types of data used for evaluation at the population level;

E. Develop outcome and impact indicators, based on an understanding of program specific criteria;

F. Describe evaluation designs and their relative strengths and weaknesses;

G. Discuss the issues involved with measuring program impact; and

H. Develop an evaluation plan for a public health program or intervention.

I. Calculate point estimates for outcome and impact indicators.