



INSTITUTE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
MEDICINE

## INMED Professional Certificate Course in International Public Health Syllabus

### Course Directors:

Nicholas Comninellis, MD, MPH, DIMPH: [nicholas@inmed.us](mailto:nicholas@inmed.us), 816-520-6900  
Micah Flint, MPH, RN, DINPH [micah@inmed.us](mailto:micah@inmed.us), 816-444-6400  
Paul Larson, MD, DTM&H: [larsonpr@upmc.edu](mailto:larsonpr@upmc.edu)

### Learning Support:

Leda Rivera: [leda@inmed.us](mailto:leda@inmed.us), 816-444-6400

### Competency Objectives:

At the completion of the INMED Professional Certificate Course in International Public Health learners will be able to demonstrate using case-studies and simulation:

- Application of epidemiology for public health
- Measurement of health and disease
- Use of epidemiologic research methods
- Application of biostatistical interpretation
- Identification of disease causation
- Skill in community-wide health promotion and death/disability prevention
- Culturally appropriate healthcare
- Proficiency in disaster mitigation and response
- Design and implementation of team-lead healthcare interventions
- Transfer of healthcare skills to other personnel

### Certificate Course Description:

This Professional Certificate Course is a hybrid experience, combining 10 weeks online, plus 2 days virtual-classroom for workshops, skill stations, and final exams. The Course particularly addresses the following subjects:

- Epidemiology and Public Health
- Measurement of Health and Disease
- Epidemiologic Research Methods
- Biostatistical Interpretation
- Causation in Epidemiology
- International Public Health
- Cross-Cultural Skills
- Disaster Management
- International Health Leadership
- Healthcare Education

Provided Text:

INMED International Medicine & Public Health

Author: Nicholas Comninellis, MD, MPH

Publisher: Institute for International Medicine, 2012

400 pages

Computing Requirements: Each learner must have access to a personal computer capable of wireless Internet access for the online assignments, in-class sessions, and for participation in the final examinations.

Weekly Assignments:

*Epidemiology Week One: Introduction to Epidemiology*

Content:

Lesson 1 What Is Epidemiology

Lesson 2 Epidemiology and Public Health

Lesson 3 Achievements in Epidemiology

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, on Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Introduction to Epidemiology content and Post-Test for this subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Introduction to Epidemiology Exercise

*Epidemiology Week Two: Measuring Health and Disease*

Content:

Lesson 1 Defining Health and Disease

Lesson 2 Using Available Information

Lesson 3 Morbidity and Disability

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, on Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Measuring Health and Disease content and Post-Test for this subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Measuring Health and Disease Exercise

### *Epidemiology Week Three: Epidemiological Studies*

Content:

Lesson 1 Observational Epidemiology

Lesson 2 Experimental Epidemiology

Lesson 3 Potential Errors in Epidemiological Studies

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, on Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Types of Epidemiological Studies content, and complete the Post-Test for this subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Types of Epidemiological Studies Exercise

### *Epidemiology Week Four: Basic Biostatistics Concepts*

Content:

Lesson 1 Displaying Statistical Information

Lesson 2 Summary Numbers

Lesson 3 Statistical Inference

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, on Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Biostatistics Concepts and Tools content and complete the Post-Test for this subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Biostatistics Concepts and Tools Exercise

### *Epidemiology Week Five: Causation in Epidemiology*

Content:

Lesson 1 The Concept of Cause

Lesson 2 Establishing the Cause of a Disease

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, on Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Causation in Epidemiology content, and complete the Post-Test for this subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Causation in Epidemiology Exercise

*Public Health Week One: International Public Health*

Content:

Lesson One: Introduction to International Public Health

Lesson Two: Health and Social Context

Lesson Three: Strategy for Health

Lesson Four: Effective Health Promotion

Lesson Five: Effective Disease and Injury Intervention

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, on Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED International Public Health content and complete the Post-Test for this Subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Personal Health Risk Assessment Exercise

*Public Health Week Two: Disaster Management*

Content:

Lesson One: Introduction to Disaster Management

Lesson Two: Disaster Mitigation

Lesson Three: Disaster Preparedness

Lesson Four: Disaster Response

Lesson Five: Disaster Recovery

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Disaster Medicine Management content and complete the Post-Test for this Subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Complete the Person Disaster Preparedness Exercise

*Public Health Week Three: Cross-Cultural Skills*

Content:

Lesson One: Relevance of Cultures

Lesson Two: Basic Cross-cultural Competency

Lesson Three: Healthcare Cross-cultural Competency  
Lesson Four: International Cross-cultural Competency

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Cross-Cultural Competency content and complete the Post-Test for this Subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Selected Cross-Cultural Health Cases Studies

*Public Health Week Four: Health Leadership*

Content:

Lesson One: Introduction to International Health Leadership

Lesson Two: Strategy for Health

Lesson Three: Major International Health Initiatives

Lesson Four: How to Lead A Health System

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED International Health Leadership content and complete the Post-Test for this Subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Selected International Health Leadership Cases Studies

*Public Health Week Five: Healthcare Education*

Content:

Lesson One: Skill Transfer and Empowerment

Lesson Two: Effective Learning

Lesson Three: Effective Teaching

Lesson Four: Feedback and Evaluation

Lesson Five: Instructional Design

Assignments to be completed by 11:55 pm, Sunday:

- Participate in the INMED Healthcare Education content and complete the Post-Test for this Subject
- Read Assigned Articles
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Complete the Competency Objectives Composition Exercise

*Virtual-Classroom Section*

## Day 1

8:00-8:15	Introductions
8:15-9:00	From Rescue to Resilience Discussion
9:10-9:40	Oral Rehydration Formulation Exercise
9:40-9:50	Group Photo
10:00-11:00	Cross-Cultural Skills Session
11:10-11:40	International Public Health Exam Review
11:40-12:40	Lunch
12:40-1:40	Disaster Management Skills Stations
1:50- 3:00	Community Health Survey Exercise
3:10-3:50	Launching Your International Healthcare Career Discussion
4:00-5:00	International Public Health Final Exam

Note: Learners will also be invited to participate in the medicine and nursing virtual classroom activities that are offered the day prior to these international public health activities.

### Explanation of Assignments:

The following section describes course assignments, performance expectations, and Professional Certificate Course evaluation.

**Due Dates:** All assignments are due on Sunday at 11:55 pm of the week they are assigned.

**Punctuality:** This is a professional level course. All assignments are expected to be submitted on time. Any learner who becomes more than two weeks behind in submitting any assignment is subject to dismissal from the course. If dismissal occurs, the learner will be granted one opportunity to re-enroll in an upcoming course at no additional tuition payment.

**Professionalism Requirement:** This is a learning experience for professionals. Assignments are expected to be completed with excellence.

**Content Participation:** Learners are required to fully participate in the course content, including pre-tests, interactive questions, and post-tests.

**Assigned Articles:** Each week, two journal articles are assigned for learners to critically review, including one posted question on the subject of each article.

**Discussion Board Participation:** Learners are required to post one response to each of these questions, and respond to at least one fellow classmate's responses, stating with what they agree or disagree with about the response and why. A post that simply agrees with something someone else said without

further explanation is not satisfactory and will be counted as if there were no post.

**Exercises:** Each week learners will complete an assigned exercise that requires application of the information studied. The completed exercise will then be submitted to the instructor.

**Participation in the in-classroom activities:** These discussion sessions and hands-on skill workshops develop and test competencies that cannot be readily acquired in an online learning environment. Full participation is required.

**Learner Evaluation:**

Assessment of learner's performance will be based upon:

- Participation in all Certificate Course activities, including online learning, submission of all assignments, and in-classroom section activities.
- Achievement of 80% or greater on all Post-Tests and Final Exams
- Complete the Discussion Board Individual Assignments
- Successful demonstration of all required skills
- Completion of the Certificate evaluation and credit claims form.

**Final Exams:** The final exams consist of two components, International Clinical Health and International Public Health. Each exam is composed of 60 multiple-choice questions. An excellent review for these exams is thorough mastery of the Certificate Course content.

Learners whose evaluation is acceptable will receive the INMED Professional Certificate in International Public Health. Those learners whose evaluation is not acceptable will receive a certificate of participation and the opportunity to remunerate.

**Remediation**

If a learner does not successfully complete this course and achieve the required competencies, the faculty may require the learner to 1) remediate the component(s) that the learner did not satisfactorily complete, or 2) repeat the entire course within one year of the start date of the original course. The learner will be offered only one opportunity to repeat the course without requiring repeat payment of tuition.

**Academic Integrity**

This is a professional-level learning experience. All learners are expected to be self-motivated, to perform with excellence, and to be thoroughly honest

throughout their process of learning. If any INMED faculty determines that a learner has committed academic dishonesty by plagiarism, cheating or in any other manner, the faculty member has the right to 1) fail the learner for the particular assignment, project and/or exam, and/or 2) fail the learner for the entire course, and/or 3) discharge the learner from any future INMED learning experience, including degree, diploma, or certificate completion.

#### Withdrawal and Refund Policy

75 percent refunds for course registration are available before the 1st day of the course. 50 percent refunds are available through the 1st week of the course. No refunds are available after the 1st week of the course. If a course participant desires to cancel his/her enrollment, he/she has the choice to request a refund or to apply his/her payment to a future INMED Professional Certificate Course. All payments made to INMED must be in US dollars.

INMED reserves the right to cancel individual sessions or the entire course. In the event of a course cancellation, a full tuition refund will be made.

#### Core Faculty:

Nicholas Comninellis, MD, MPH, DIMPH  
President, Institute for International Medicine

Nicholas Comninellis is Dean and President of INMED, the Institute for International Medicine. He is also faculty in the Department of Medical Humanities at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. Over a two-year period Dr. Comninellis served inner city citizens at Shanghai Charity Hospital, and over another two years lead a healthcare ministry in the war-besieged nation of Angola in southern Africa. Dr. Comninellis next served for six years in the Kansas City public hospital before launching INMED in 2003. He attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, the Saint Louis University School of Public Health, and was a family medicine resident at John Peter Smith Hospital. Dr. Comninellis also earned a professional diploma in tropical medicine from the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, and became board certified in both public health and family medicine. Among his authored books are Shanghai Doctor, Where Do I Go From Here, and INMED International Medicine & Public Health. Dr. Comninellis is a classical guitarist and is faculty advisor for Cru at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He was recognized as the 2009 United Nations Association of the United States World Citizen and the 2015 University of Missouri-Kansas City Alumni of the Year.

Paul Larson, MD, MBA, DTM&H  
Saint Margaret Family Medicine Residency



Following formal training in family medicine and tropical diseases (Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine), Dr. Larson practiced for two years at Kapsowar Hospital in Kenya in association with the Africa Inland Church. Returning to the USA, he completed graduate studies in medical education and a fellowship in faculty development. Today Dr. Larson is director of Global Health Education at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's St. Margaret Family Medicine Residency. He also continues to rigorously apply his teaching skills by supervising INMED Diploma learners at the Baptist Medical Center in northern Ghana, where by personal example and by instruction he casts a vision for the next generation of globally minded healthcare leaders.

Micah Flint, MPA, RN, DINPH  
CIO, Institute for International Medicine  
Adjunct Faculty, Global Health Leadership, Park University  
Children's Mercy Hospital and Clinics Training Center Faculty

Prior to his current position as Chief Innovation Officer at the Institute for International Medicine (INMED), he served five years as INMED's Chief Executive Officer. Micah served three years as a Board Member for Samaritan's Emergency Medical Search and Rescue, an international non-governmental organization providing disaster training and response. He is also a volunteer at Baptist Medical Center in northern Ghana. Micah's Master's Degree is in Public Administration with a focus on Healthcare Leadership and Disaster Management.

*Disclosures:*

No commercial support received. No relevant financial relationships with ACCME - defined commercial interests for anyone who was in control of the content of this activity.

There is no conflict of interest for anyone (planners, faculty, authors) with the ability to control the content of this activity.