



INSTITUTE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
MEDICINE

## INMED Professional Qualification Course in Helping Mothers Survive (HMS) Syllabus

### Course Faculty:

Nicholas Comninellis, MD, MPH, DIMPH:  
[nicholas@inmed.us](mailto:nicholas@inmed.us), 816-520-6900

### Learning Support:

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

### Overview:

The Helping Mothers Survive (HMS) Master Trainer Course is designed to improve the results of pregnancy and delivery by equipping healthcare professionals and learners the most essential, evidence-based skills in pre-natal and obstetric care. HMS skills are especially applicable for low-resource and cross-cultural healthcare settings. HMS is an educational experience created by [Jhpiego](#).

Participants will receive access to the INMED Maternal-Newborn Health Short Self-Paced Course, one day of supervised hands-on skill development, and upon satisfactory participation and skill demonstration, the INMED Professional Qualification in Helping Mothers Survive. Please note that accommodations and meals are not included.

### Competency Objectives:

At the completion of the INMED Professional Qualification Course in Helping Mothers Survive learners will be able to demonstrate:

- Proficiency in essential care for labor and birth
- Management of bleeding after birth
- Management of pre-eclampsia and eclampsia
- Management of threatened preterm birth
- Management of prolonged labor

**Timeframes:**

This Professional Qualification Course is a hybrid experience that combines an online learning experience followed by a one-day, in-classroom workshop to master hands-on skills and assess achievements.

**Academic Credit:**

Completion of this course requirements earns one credit hour of academic credit.

**Admission Requirements:**

- Enrolled in a current health science degree program, including public health and health administration (or)
- Current healthcare professional, educator or administrator

**Computing Requirements:**

The following are the minimum computing requirements for participating this course. Students must have ready access to and be functionally proficient with:

- A personal computer with an up-to-date operating system and ample memory for downloads. A rectangular monitor (desktop or tablet) is preferable for course navigation.
- A web browser, preferably the most up-to-date version of Chrome, Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Applications capable of opening and editing Microsoft Word documents and of viewing PDFs
- An Internet connection, preferably high speed
- Capability of viewing YouTube and Vimeo videos

**Education Methods:**

Learners will achieve the course competency objectives through the following educational methods:

- Interactive online learning techniques
- Interactive live presentations
- Skill stations for increasing technical proficiency
- Teaching opportunities to enhance skills transfer

**Assigned Maternal-Newborn Health Lessons:**

Assignments to be completed prior to the in-person classroom workshop: Participate in the Maternal-Newborn Health Short Self-Paced Course content, Lessons 1-8, and complete the Pre-Test and Post-Test for this content.

**Learning Content:**

- Lesson 1 Surviving Motherhood
- Lesson 2 Pre and Post Natal Care
- Lesson 3 Pregnancy Complications
- Lesson 4 Pressing Women's Disability Issues
- Lesson 5 Newborn Care Overview
- Lesson 6 Healthy Newborn
- Lesson 7 Newborn Problems and Management
- Lesson 8 Maternal Newborn Future Vision

**In-Person Classroom Workshop:**

- 8:00 am Essential Care for Labor & Birth Action Plan Details & Simulation
- 9:00 am Bleeding After Birth Action Plan Details
- 10:00 am Bleeding After Birth Action Plan Simulation
- 11:00 am Threatened and Preterm Labor Action Plan and Simulation
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Pre-Eclampsia and Eclampsia Action Plan Details
- 2:00 pm Pre-Eclampsia and Eclampsia Action Plan Simulation
- 3:00 pm Prolonged and Obstructed Labor Action Plan Details
- 3:30 pm Prolonged and Obstructed Labor Action Plan Simulation
- 5:00 pm Finish

\*Schedule is subject to change

**Final Exam:**

Learners will each demonstrate their skills throughout the day under supervision of the HBB faculty, who will evaluate learners using a standardized skills checkoff list. Learners must demonstrate satisfactory attainment of all required skills.

**Explanation of Assignments:**

Participation: Learners are required to fully participate in the course content, including interactive content, pre-test, post-test, and in-person classroom hands-on activities.

Punctuality: This is a professional level course. All assignments are expected to be submitted on time.

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

Learners whose evaluation is acceptable will receive the *INMED Professional Qualification in Helping Mothers Survive*. Those learners whose evaluation is not acceptable will receive a certificate of participation and the opportunity to repeat.

Inadequate learner performance will be managed according to the *Student Probation, Suspension, Dismissal, and Readmission Policy*. This policy is located within the Student Resources tab on the INMED website.

### **Requirements for Successful Completion & Course Grade Determination:**

This course is graded pass/fail. Successful pass requires:

- Maternal-Newborn Health Post-Test  $\geq 80\%$
- Satisfactory demonstration of all required skills
- Complete course evaluation and credit claims forms at the course conclusion.

### **Remediation:**

If a learner does not 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. Learners must repeat payment of tuition in order to retake a failed course.

### **Academic Integrity:**

Honesty is a fundamental necessity of life. This is a professional-level learning experience. All students are expected to be self-motivated, to perform with excellence, and to be thoroughly honest throughout their process of learning. If any INMED faculty suspects a student has engaged in Academic Dishonesty, the INMED faculty may initiate the posted Academic Integrity Policy and Process.

### **Withdrawal and Refund Policy:**

Please refer to the posted Withdrawal and Refund Policy.

### **Course Faculty:**

Nicholas Comninellis, MD, MPH, DIMPH

Nicholas Comninellis is President and Professor of INMED, the Institute for International Medicine. He is also faculty at Research Medical Center Family Medicine Residency. Over two years Dr. Comninellis served inner-city citizens at Shanghai Charity Hospital. Over another two years, he led 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 graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) School of Medicine and 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 faculty advisor for UMKC Cru. 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.