Overview and Objectives:

Course Description: This course is organized around themes central to the conceptualization and implementation of community-engaged research (CEnR), including community-based participatory research and practice (CBPRP). The goal of this course is to:

- Familiarize students with CEnR and CBPRP ethics, principles and methods;
- Show examples of community-engaged research and practice in our local Pittsburgh community;
- Encourage students to become conversant in seminal CEnR and CBPRP literature.

Discussion, interactive learning exercises, and examples of current research and community partnerships will be used to provide an understanding of these types of research methods and the associated strengths and limitations.

Responsibilities:

- Completion of the assigned readings prior to each class is expected to be done prior to class.
- All assignments with a due date are to be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. No assignments will be accepted via email.
- Attendance and participation in class are required.
- Evaluation criteria for this module will be based on completion of a homework assignment, a final paper and class participation.

Course Requirements:

- Homework assignment 15%
- Final paper 35%
- Class participation and attendance 50%

Attendance Policy:

- Students are expected to attend each class. If you are unable to attend, please contact the course instructor(s) immediately.

Course Grading Scale:

- For the computation of the final course grade as well as for the course assignments, the following grading scale will be used:

  90 – 100 = A...
  86 – 89 = B+
  80 – 85 = B
  76 – 79 = C+
  70 – 75 = C
  60 – 65 = D
  66 – 69 = D+
  < 60 = F
Required Readings(s):

- Each week a separate set of journal articles and book chapters will be assigned that are the primary sources of evidence to support the session’s topic.
- The following texts are recommended:


Website resources:

- www.ccph.org

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

If you have any disability for which you may require accommodation, you are encouraged to notify both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union (Voice or TTD 412-648-7890) as early as possible in the term.

Academic Integrity Statement:

All students are expected to adhere to the school’s standards of academic honesty. Any work submitted by a student for evaluation must represent his/her own intellectual contribution and efforts. The Graduate School of Public Health’s policy on academic integrity, approved by EPCC on 10/14/08, which is based on the University policy, is available online in the Pitt Public Health Academic Handbook (www.publichealth.pitt.edu/home/academics/academic-requirements). The policy includes obligations for faculty and students, procedures for adjudicating violations, and other critical information. Please take the time to read this policy.

Students committing acts of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration on assignments, cheating on exams, misrepresentation of data, and facilitating dishonesty by others, will receive sanctions appropriate to the violation(s) committed. Sanctions include, but are not limited to, reduction of a grade for an assignment or a course, failure of a course, and dismissal from the school.

All student violations of academic integrity must be documented by the appropriate faculty member; this documentation will be kept in a confidential student file maintained by the Office of Student Affairs. If a sanction for a violation is agreed upon by the student and instructor, the record of this agreement will be expunged from the student file upon the student’s graduation. If the case is referred
to the Pitt Public Health Academic Integrity Hearing Board, a record will remain in the student’s permanent file.
Course Schedule

Session 1: Introduction to Community Based Participatory Research - CBPR

At the conclusion of this lecture, the student will be able to:
- Describe history, principles and process considerations associated with community engagement in research and community-based participatory research (CBPR)
- Illustrate critical elements of the CBPR process and principles
- Critique existing research along a continuum of community engagement in research

Required Reading(s):
Community-Based Participatory Research book Chapter 1: Principles of community-based participatory research


Homework:
Assignment due Session 2
See page 9 of the syllabus for more information
Session 2: Coalition Building and Theory

At the conclusion of this lecture, the student will be able to:
- Provide examples of CBPR projects
- Identify key steps for using CBPR
- Understand application of principles of community engagement and partnered research

Required Reading(s):
Community-Based Participatory Research book Chapter 4: CBPR Step by Step
Community-Based Participatory Research book Chapter 2: Defining the community and power relationships


De las Nueces D, Hacker K, DiGirolamo A, Hicks LS. A systematic review of community-based participatory research to enhance clinical trials in racial and ethnic minority groups. Health Serv Res. 2012 Jun;47(3 Pt 2):1363-86.

Homework:
Assignment due today
Session 3: Illustrative Examples of Community-Engaged Partnerships

**At the conclusion of this lecture, the student will be able to:**

- Describe and apply principles of community engagement and CBPR to examine academic and community priorities
- Illustrate examples, community population considerations associated with cultivating new research partnerships
- Describe dynamics of power sharing and decision making across academic and community stakeholder involvement in research

**Required Reading(s):**
Community-Based Participatory Research book Chapter 6: Ethical Considerations in CBPR


**Recommended Reading:**

**Homework:**
Begin to think about final paper due Session 5
See page 9 of the syllabus for more information
At the conclusion of this lecture, the student will be able to:

- Describe and conceptualize how to cultivate and apply methods of community engagement and CBPR

Required Reading(s):
Community-Based Participatory Research book Chapter 3: Methods for CBPR


Homework:
Final paper due next week in Session 5
Session 5: CBPR Resources & Future Directions

At the conclusion of this lecture, the student will be able to:
- Identify the CBPR resources available in Pittsburgh and nationally
- Identify tangible ways to use resources and network with CBPR professionals

Required Reading(s):
Community-Based Participatory Research book Chapter 7: Conclusions

Homework:
Final paper due today
Assignments

Homework Assignment:

Write a 2 page, double-spaced paper that addresses how a Community-Engaged/CBPRP approach might be applied in your own research. What are the benefits? What are the limitations? Be sure to also include discussion about community partners you might include, why, and in what capacity? Also include the strengths that each partner brings to the table as well as any associated limitations/things to consider.

Final Paper:

Choose one of the following (or consult with course instructors) and write a five page, double spaced final paper.
Options:

1. Practice Experience: Students engaged in a CBPRP project (current or in the past) should use the concepts, readings and discussions from class to critically evaluate the project. The paper should include a brief description of the project goals, activities and partners.


[Papers should be double spaced, 11 point font, 1 inch margins – Parsimony is valued.]