Course Goals

This course is designed to explore and develop the principles of curriculum design, implementation, and evaluation. Students will learn the six step method of curriculum development including: general needs assessment, individual learner assessment, development of goals and objectives, educational strategies for different objectives, needs and barriers to course implementation, evaluation, and feedback. Assessment of knowledge, skills, and attitudes will be included. A discussion of both formative and summative assessment will also be covered. At the end of the course students will have developed a curriculum in an area of their choosing.

Objectives of the Course:

1. Understand the 6 step method for curriculum design
2. Review methods for curricular needs assessment
3. Understand how to develop goals and objectives
4. Review the different educational strategies and the theory underlying their choice for a specific educational objective
5. Learn to identify the needs and barriers for successful curriculum implementation
6. Learn the principles curriculum evaluation

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<td>Discuss 6 step curriculum process</td>
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<td>Understand curriculum models</td>
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<td>Implementation: Needs and Barriers</td>
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<td>Session 7 and 8: Curricular Evaluation</td>
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Requirements:

1. Attendance at all class sessions
2. Completion of assigned reading
3. Completion of homework assignments
4. Develop (through weekly assignments) a plan for a curriculum using the 6 step process
5. Present a curriculum design, plan for implementation, and evaluation strategy to the group

Outline of Class Structure: With the exception of Session 1, all sessions will begin with a review/discussion of class homework and then the introduction of a new topic. Application homework from the introduced topic will be assigned and then discussed at the next session.

Homework should be written, and each student is asked to bring a enough copies for distribution to the class for discussion.

DETAILS OF CLASS SESSIONS

Session 1: Introduction

Reading for Today: Curriculum Development for Medical Education
   Chapter 1: Overview: A Six Step Approach to Curriculum
   Chapter 2: General Needs Assessment

Objectives: At the end of the session, learners will be able to:

1) Understand different models for curriculum development
2) Identify the 6 step curricular process
3) Review concepts of the General Needs Assessment (Step 1)

Class Activities

Overview of curriculum design including differentiation of subject centered, integrated, and competency based curriculums. Introduction of the 6 step plan for curriculum design. Definition and exploration of general needs assessment

Homework:

1) Identify a curricular need; perform a general needs assessment.
2) Perform both a job and a task analysis for the curricular issue that you have identified
Session 2: Targeted Needs Assessment

Homework Review: General Needs Assessment

Reading for today: Curriculum Development for Medical Education
Chapter 3: Targeted Needs Assessment

Objectives: At the end of the session, learners will be able to:

1) Demonstrate an understanding of what a targeted needs assessment is and why it is important in developing curricula
2) Demonstrate an understanding of the concept “targeted learners”
3) Demonstrate a familiarity with the methods of obtaining information necessary to perform a quality needs assessment.

Homework: Develop a strategy for doing an individual needs assessment for your proposed curricular project.

1) Identify your targeted learners for your planned curriculum.
2) To the extent of your current knowledge, describe your targeted learners and their environment in terms of existing proficiencies, current performance, attitudes, previous and already planned training, enabling and reinforcing factors and barriers in the learners’ environment, familiarity and preferences regarding different learning methods and resources for training.
3) What information about your learners and their environment is unknown to you? Prioritize your information needs.
4) Identify one or more methods by which you could obtain the most important information. For each method, identify the resources (time, personnel, supplies, space) required to collect the necessary data.
5) Identify individuals upon whom you could pilot your needs assessment instrument.

Session 3: Goals and Objectives

Homework Review: Targeted Needs Assessment

Reading for today: Curriculum Development for Medical Education
Chapter 4: Goals and Objectives
Objectives: At the end of the sessions, learners will:

1) Be able to articulate the difference between a goal and an objective by writing goals and objectives for your curriculum project
2) Understand the components necessary to include in a well written objective by writing objectives for your curriculum project

Homework: Develop goals and objectives for curriculum project. For the curriculum you are planning, take one objective from each domain (knowledge, skills, attitudes). Please:

1) Identify the overarching goals of your curriculum
2) Write three objectives emphasizing: who will do how much of what by when?

Session 4: Educational Strategies and Implementation

Homework Review: Goals and Objectives

Reading: Curriculum Development for Medical Education
Chapter 4: Educational Strategies
Chapter 5: Implementation

Objectives: At the end of the session, learners will be able to:

1) Be able to list various educational strategies
2) Be able to match each educational strategy to the appropriate objective
3) Understand the pros and cons of each educational strategy
4) Be able to identify resources needed for successful curriculum innovation
5) List the potential barriers to implementing a curriculum
6) Be able to list the stakeholders for a curriculum innovation

Homework:

Develop appropriate educational strategies

1. Chose educational methods to achieve each of your educational objectives.
2. Demonstrate that each educational method is appropriate for the domain of its objective.
3. Choose an additional method for each objective that will reinforce the achievement of the objective.
4. Identify the resources you will need to implement your educational methods. Are your methods feasible?
5. Have you identified any methods that are learner centered or promote self-directed learning? Why or why not?
Develop appropriate implementation strategies for your planned curriculum

1. What resources are required for the curriculum you envision in terms of personnel, time and facilities? Are patients involved? What are the internal costs of the curriculum? Is there a need for external funding? Are your curricular plans feasible in terms of the required resources?
2. How will you generate support for your curriculum within your institution? Who are your stakeholders? Where will resistance come from?
3. What sort of administration, in terms of administrative structure, communications, and operations will be necessary to implement and maintain the curriculum?
4. What barriers do you anticipate and how will you overcome them?

Session 5 and 6: Curricular Evaluation

Homework review: Strategies and Implementation

Reading for today: Curriculum Development for Medical Education
Chapter 6: Evaluation

Objectives: at the end of the session, learners will:

1) Be able to define the different designs for education innovations
2) Be able to articulate the benefits and pitfalls of each design
3) Be able to list the various issues that pose a challenge for identifying if a particular curricular intervention has actually made an educational difference

Homework: Students will develop a proposal for evaluation of their curriculum (due July 31). For your evaluation proposal:

1) Identify the study design you have chosen to use and justify
2) List the potential challenges in your evaluation scheme

Session 7 and 8: Review of Evaluation Proposals

Entire session will be devoted to the review of curriculum evaluation proposals.