Global Epidemiology of Vaccines and Vaccination

EPIDEM 2163 Fall 2015



This new 2 credit course will provide students with knowledge and skills on vaccines and vaccination programs in the US/EU and in low- and middle income countries. This course will prepare students for entry-level positions in vaccine research or operations for academic, government, or private sector institutions. This course will provide a broad introduction to a wide range of vaccine related topics ranging from biological mechanisms of vaccines to vaccine financing. Within this range of topics, the course will focus heavily on the epidemiological study of vaccine efficacy, safety, effectiveness, and impact. The course is organized around four themes: 1) introduction; 2) vaccines; 3) research and development; and 3) vaccination programs. Throughout the course, students will complete a written assignment. This assignment will be a report for the Minister of Health of a country that evaluates a new vaccine for introduction in the National Immunization Program.

All graduate students at the University of Pittsburgh can register for this course after they have taken EPIDEM 2110. A basic understanding of epidemiological concepts is required to fully benefit from this course. Students that have not met this prerequisite but that are highly interested in taking this course should contact the instructor by email (wav10@pitt.edu).

The primary instructor for this course will be Dr. Wilbert van Panhuis. Dr. Van Panhuis is an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and has broad expertise in the study of vaccines, vaccine programs, and vaccine policy, particularly in the global health context.

This course will be given during the second half of the fall term, from 10/21 to 12/18 of 2015, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4.30 pm to 6.20 pm. The location will be in 530 Bellefield Professional Building, 130 N. Bellefield Avenue.

