

GENERAL AND PATHOGENIC MICROBIOLOGY, BIOL3210 Section 2 COMMUNITY ENGAGED LEARNING OPTION

Students enrolled in the COMMUNITY ENGAGED LEARNING (CEL) section of Biol3210 will work with a community partner in a professional healthcare setting. Students will assist the community partner in carrying out their mission to communicate and educate patients and the lay public about infectious diseases and medical conditions. The CEL component of the course is optional and completely voluntary and does not affect your overall grade for BIOL 3210.

The CEL activities students will have the option to participate in are:

1. Assist Dr. Deanna Kepka and the HPV Vaccination Coalition with community outreach programs in underserved minority communities that have historically higher rates of cervical cancer. This opportunity will focus on communicating with members of our community about the HPV-cervical cancer connection and how vaccines can help reduce cervical cancer rates.
2. Work with the Maliheh Free Clinic Resource Department or Patient Assistance Program (PAP). The Resource Department focuses on communicating and interacting with patients to connect them with medical resources that the Maliheh doesn't provide, and works to assist people in qualifying for financial aid for medications, especially for the uninsured and those who fall through the Medicaid "gap". Biol3210 students will also help answer patient questions and provide reliable health information to these underserved communities.
3. The third CEL partner is the Utah Aids Foundation (UAF). The UAF mission is to raise awareness about the disease and reduce infection rates. Students will directly help with these goals by working with the Foundation's HIV Test Site and/or with their Speaker's Bureau, which brings HIV awareness to public middle and high schools throughout the Salt Lake Valley.

In addition to working with one of the above community partners, CEL students will:

1. Communicate with the CEL coordinator twice a month by email or in person to reflect on successes, shortcomings, observations, etc as well as to get questions answered.
2. Participate in 2 out of class group reflection discussions with other CEL classmates and the CEL coordinator.
3. Submit a final reflection assignment, one of these three options: a) compose an essay b) write a blog or, c) make a 5-min video reflecting on your CEL work. This final reflection activity should describe your CEL work, your observations of the students/people you worked with, your joys and challenges with the work, as well as how it connected with the course material, your overall education and your career aspirations.

All CEL activities will be arranged, coordinated and monitored by the CEL supervisor.

- CEL activities will average ~1-2 hours per week, and will be scheduled on a flexible basis with your community partner.
- Completion of all above requirements will earn you a CEL attribute on your transcript.

Questions? Interested? Contact Amy Sibul, the CEL coordinator for the Biology Department right away. The deadline for switching into the CEL section is September 2nd!

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