

Semester: II

Core Course

9. Course Code & Title: MPC 52 05 & Health Policy and Systems Research

Credits: 3

Course description:

The Health Policy and Systems Research (HPSR) constitutes four major elements of public health importance. They are: Health Systems, Health Systems Strengthening, Health Policy and Health Policy Analysis. The teaching and learning activities are planned focusing on these four areas:

Course objectives:

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to

1. Illustrate the four components of HPSR; Health Systems, Health Systems Strengthening, Health Policy and Health Policy Analysis.
2. Understand the meaning and implications of Health Policy and Systems Research in Global Health.
3. Describe the health system frameworks and approaches to health system strengthening.
4. Compare and critically evaluate health systems in India, other developing and developed countries.
5. Understand health policy making, analysis and actors involved in the process.
6. Identify the gaps and opportunities in health policies and systems in India.
7. Consolidate the learnings under the umbrella of HPSR and conduct successful research in future to facilitate evidence based policy making in health sector.

| Day | Topic | Teaching/ learning activity | Readings |
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| 1 | <p>Introduction to Health Policy and Systems Research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition, evolution, components and implications of HPSR | Lecture and discussion | <p>Gilson L. Health policy and systems research: a methodology reader. WHO; 2012. ISBN 978 92 4 150313 6.</p> <p>WHO. What is Health Policy and Systems research and why does it matter? Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research; 2007.</p> <p>WHO. Options for action. Strategy on Health Policy and Systems Research. Geneva: WHO, 2012. ISBN: 978 92 4 150441 6.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Introduction to health systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions, evolution and functions and types of health systems | Lecture and discussion | <p>WHO. Monitoring the building blocks of health system: a handbook of indicators and their measurement strategies; 2010. ISBN: 978 92 4 156405 2.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Health system frameworks: WHO building blocks of health systems and their linkage. (i) service delivery, (ii) health workforce, (iii) health information systems, (iv) access to essential medicines, (v) financing, and (vi) leadership/governance</p> | Lecture and discussion | <p>Balabanova D, McKee M, Mills A (eds). ‘Good health at low cost’25 years on. What makes a successful health system? London: London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; 2011.</p> |

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| 4 | Health system governance: Micro (Individual interactions), meso (organizational structure and community) and macro (Policy) framework | Lecture and discussion | Gilson L. Health policy and systems research: a methodology reader. WHO; 2012. ISBN 978 92 4 150313 6. |
| 5 &6 | <p>Health system in India: SH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Levels of health care: primary, secondary and tertiary ● Public health system in India: primary health care, Indian Public Health standards. ● Private Health Care system in India: not-for-profit and profit sectors. ● Challenges and opportunities of Indian health system ● Indian health sector reforms: international agreements: Alma Ata, Health Committees and five year plans | <p>1. Lecture and Discussion</p> <p>2. Videos on health system challenges.</p> <p>3. TEDx Talk on Indian Health System</p> | <p>Health system in India: Crisis and alternatives. Towards the National Health Assembly 2. National Coordination Committee, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan; 2006.</p> <p>Gangolli LV, Duggal R, Shukla A. Review of Health care in India. Cehat, 2005. www.pdfactory.com</p> <p>International Institute of Population Studies. Health system performance assessment. World Health Survey- 2003, India. New Delhi: WHO, 2006.</p> |

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| 7 &8 | <p>Health system strengthening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To achieve global goals of Health: MDGs, SDGs and other international agreements. <p>.Public Private Partnerships in Health sector:</p> | <p>1.Lecture and discussion</p> <p>2. Individual presentation MDGs and SDGs (Not included in evaluation)</p> | <p>Gilson L. Health policy and systems research: a methodology reader. WHO; 2012. ISBN 978 92 4 150313 6.</p> <p>WHO (2000) World Health Report 2000: Health systems: Improving Performance, WHO, Geneva.</p> <p>WHO (2007) Everybody's Business: Strengthening Health Systems to Improve Health Outcomes, WHO's Framework for Action, WHO, Geneva.</p> <p>Berman P, Bitran R. Health systems analysis for better health system strengthening. HNP discussion paper. World Bank; 2011.</p> <p>Reich MR (Ed). Public-private partnerships for public health. Cambridge: Harvard series on population and international health; 2002. ISBN 0-674-00865-0</p> |
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| 9 | <p>Introduction to Health Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to core concepts and definitions: policy, public and private policies, policy makers and actors, policy instruments, policy transfer, negotiation and diplomacy, power in policy- Elites theory, pluralist theory, public choice theory. | Lecture and discussion | <p>Buse K, Mays N, Walt G. Making Health Policy: Understanding Public Health. Open University Press; 2005.</p> <p>Moloughney B. the use of policy frameworks to understand public health related public policy processes: A literature review. Final report. Peel Public Health; 2012.</p> |
| 10 | <p>Health Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Definition and importance ● health policy triangle framework-context, actors process and content. ● Evidence-based policy making. | Lecture and discussion | <p>Seavey JW, Aytur SA, MGgrath RJ. Health Policy Analysis: Framework and tools for success. New York: Springer Publishing Company, 2014. ISBN: 978 0 8261 1924 7.</p> |
| 11 &12 | <p>Health Policy Making:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Policy making cycle: Agenda setting, formulation of policy, adoption, implementation and evaluation. ● Decision making: Linear/rational model, incrementalist model and Mixed scanning model ● Dichotomy between policy making and implementation ● Bottom-up and top-down implementation ● Street level bureaucracy | <p>Lecture and discussion</p> <p>Case studies on policy making and policy reforms.</p> | <p>Ghaffar A, Gilson L, Thomson G, Viergever R, Rottingen J A. Where is the policy in health policy and systems research agenda? Bull World Health Organ 2016;94:306-8.</p> |
| 13 | <p>Health policy analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Definition and relevance ● Policy triangle framework (Walt and Gilson 1994) Context analysis, content and process | <p>Lecture and discussion</p> <p>Lecture and discussion</p> | |

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| | <p>analysis and stakeholder analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic analysis: cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness | Group work: policy analysis | |
| 14 | <p>Emerging concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health in All Policies (HiAP), • Global health and governance • Health advocacy and activism | Lecture and discussion | <p>WHO. Health in All Policies (HiAP) framework for country action; 2014.</p> <p>Lee K, Kamradt-Scott A. The multiple meanings of global health governance: a call for conceptual clarity. <i>Globalization and Health</i> 2014, 10:28</p> <p>http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/content/10/1/28</p> <p>Berridge Virginia. Public health activism: lessons from history? <i>BMJ</i> 2007; 335 :1310</p> <p>Loewenson R. <i>Activism for health. The Lancet</i>, 2013;381(9884):2157.</p> |
| 15 | <p>Health Policy and Systems Research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conceptual framework • Formulating research questions, research designs in HPSR. | Assignment: develop research questions and frame objectives focusing on Health Policy and System Research approach. | Gilson L. Health policy and systems research: a methodology reader. WHO; 2012. ISBN 978 92 4 150313 6. |

Course Evaluation:

1. Continuous assessment: 40% (Presentations, report writing and internal examination)
2. End semester CBCS examination: 60%

Additional readings

1. Understanding Health Policy Process: Analysing disrupted health sectors. Module-5. (Can be downloaded from: http://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/tools/disrupted_sectors/adhsm_mod5_en.pdf.)
2. Management Sciences for Health. Health systems in action: An e-handbook for leaders and managers. Cambridge, MA: Management Sciences for Health, 2010. Available on line at <http://www.msh.org/resource-center/health-systems-in-action.cfm>
3. WHO. World report on knowledge for better health: strengthening health systems. Geneva: who, 2004. ISBN: 92 4 156281 1.
4. Jamison DT, Breman JG, Measham AR. et al (eds). Priorities in Health. Washington DC: World Bank, 2006.
5. WHO. working together for health. Geneva: World Health Organization, 2006. <http://www.who.int/whr/2006/en/>

Other Open Access Links/Videos

1. <https://academic.oup.com/heapol/article/23/5/308/617219#10319725>
2. <http://www.policyproject.com/policycircle/content.cfm?a0=4>
3. http://dl.lshtm.ac.uk/DLTesting/GHM201/sessions/ghm201_s02/GHM201_s02_040_015.html
4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4Y0TKiwNgo>