

INJURIES ARE NOT ACCIDENTS...and they are preventable!
PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN ENLIGHTENING SEMESTER



Spring Semester 2016

PubH 6120 / PubH 3120

Injury Prevention in the Workplace, Community and Home

2 credits

Faculty: Susan Goodwin Gerberich, PhD, MSPH and guest faculty

Time: Mondays 1:25 – 3:20 pm

Location: 1250 Mayo Memorial Building

Course Description:

Injury Epidemiology: Analyses of major injury problems affecting the public in the workplace, community, and home using the epidemiologic model and conceptual framework; emphasis on strategies/program development for prevention and control. For students involved in the field of Occupational Health and Safety, this course also provides a foundation essential to the development of programs for occupational injury prevention and control. ***Open to upper level undergraduate and all graduate students.***

Objectives:

At the completion of this course (PubH 6-120), the student will be able to:

1. identify major injury problems in the workplace, community, and home;
2. analyze variables (exposures) related to injury problems using the epidemiologic model;
3. develop strategies for prevention and control of selected injury problems, utilizing a comprehensive framework.

Background:

Whether intentional or unintentional, **injury is a neglected public health problem that has led to more deaths among Americans between the ages of one and 34 than all diseases combined and is the leading cause of death to from birth to age 44. Injuries account for the loss of more working years than all forms of heart disease and cancer combined.** Injury, including homicide and suicide, is the leading cause of years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 75. Of the approximately 180,000 Americans who die of injuries each year, two-thirds are classified as unintentional and one-third as intentional.

Occupational injuries account for at least five-percent of all deaths from unintentional injuries and 18 percent of all disabling injuries; these injuries result in more than 120 million lost workdays each year. There is evidence that children and adolescents experience occupational injuries disproportionately. While there are federal provisions for child labor protection that generally apply to those under the age of 16 years, 14 and 15 year-olds can be employed in many retail and service jobs; in the agricultural work environment, children are exposed at all ages whether, or not, they are engaged in work activities.

Women and minority workers are also at high risk in certain occupations. Violence in the work environment is of particular concern. Homicide is a major cause of occupational death for both male and female workers; non-fatal assaults and non-physical violence (threats, harassment, verbal abuse, bullying) account for a minimum of two million events each year that result in unfortunate consequences.

We look forward to your participation!