

Graduate Certificate in Global Health of Women, Adolescents, and Child Health

Faculty Advisor Information

This sheet provides a brief overview of the Global WACH Certificate Program and the responsibilities of a capstone project faculty advisor.

Overview

The Graduate Certificate in Global Health of Women, Adolescents and Children (Global WACH) is designed to give graduates a broad range of skills required by professionals working with women, adolescents, and children in resource-limited settings. Our goal is to encourage a multidisciplinary approach that views these three populations as interconnected. Coursework selected introduces students to major health issues and methods of prevention related to improving the health and well-being of women, adolescents, and children and an overview of challenges that are specific to working in developing countries. The curriculum is designed to give students a base of knowledge and skills from which they can draw when faced with the variety of obstacles that can arise when working in this field.

Curriculum

- Required courses ensure that all students in the Global WACH certificate program receive a comprehensive overview of global health of women, adolescents, and children and current issues in global health.
- Electives were selected to provide students with additional training on more specific health topics affecting women, adolescents, and children. The breadth of courses was selected from different departments and schools across the UW and is intended to allow graduate students with less health training, such as students in the School of Law or Evans School, to enter the certificate program and help them identify topics in their major that are related to women, adolescent, and child health. Our hope is that students will have a richer, more interdisciplinary educational experience by including graduate students from various fields.
- Capstone projects should be designed to give students a better understanding of a Global WACH problem, build on concepts learned in the classroom, and provide an opportunity for students to critically think about a problem or gain hands-on experience in Global WACH. Projects should address a topic relevant to at least 2 of the 3 groups (women, adolescents, children). A wide variety of types of project will be allowed to support the interdisciplinary composition of students in the certificate program. Capstone projects may focus on research, laboratory methods, intervention implementation, service, policy, or evaluation. Involvement with ongoing or developing projects may include assisting with literature reviews, development of study instruments, data analysis, or field site preparation. Students will present their capstone projects at an annual meeting organized by Global WACH for faculty and students each year. A selected number of students may be asked to present their capstone in brief 10-minute oral presentations during this conference.

Faculty Advisor Responsibilities

Faculty advisors should oversee the planning and progress of the capstone project and attend the capstone presentations. Your guidance is an important aspect of the certificate program and in helping us to assess the impact of our students. We hope that these capstone projects not only provide the students with opportunities to gain experience but also that they produce information and tools for use in improving the lives of women, adolescents, and children. Specific responsibilities include:

- Assisting with planning of project
- Providing feedback on proposed project
- Being available via email or phone for problem solving if needed
- Reviewing/co-grading (with thesis/dissertation advisor if applicable)
- Completion of the faculty advisor evaluation