

**Department of Maternal and Child Health, School of Public Health  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

**MCH 712 PROGRAM ASSESSMENT IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH  
(Overview)**

MCH 712 provides an opportunity to develop skills used in assessing maternal and child health programs and delivering recommendations to state and community-sector programs.

**COURSE PLAN**

MCH 712 requires the completion of several major activities.

1. Developing an assessment team (group resumes, peer assessments)
2. Preparing individual written assignments (previous team experiences, critical analysis of team theory).
3. Conducting site visits (literature review about the problem being addressed)
4. Presenting a team poster, oral and a written report.
5. Assessing the cultural and linguistic competence of an organization.
6. Learning about one's own individual preferences and team implications

**COMPETENCIES\* (abbreviated)**

By the end of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the following competencies in 4 cross-cutting domains.

Communication and Informatics

- Effective written and oral health communication skills.
- Use of information technology in core public health functions.
- Collective information sharing, discussion and problem solving.<sup>1</sup>

Diversity & Cultural Competency

- Awareness of and sensitivity to the varied perspectives, norms and values of others.

Leadership

- Basic team building, negotiation, and conflict management skills.
- A climate of trust, transparency, mutual cooperation, continuous learning, and openness.
- Productive organizational, time-management and administrative skills.
- Knowledge of individual strengths and mechanisms for continued personal development.

Professionalism & Ethics

- Skill in reviewing, integrating, and applying ethical principles.

Within the context of this course, students will demonstrate these competencies in the ability to:

1. Assess programs, including the process of working out a mutual contractual relationship with a public health program.
2. Apply appropriate analytical conceptualization, data use, and statistical methods.
3. Assess the extent to which target programs achieve their objectives.
4. Communicate effectively, both in writing and orally, the results of the assessment and recommendations, including a useful product for the community-sector program.
5. Build interdisciplinary teams through the effective use of small group processes.
6. Prepare an IRB application.
7. Assess an organization's cultural competence in the context of the assessment process.

\*(adapted from ASPH Ed Comm Master's Degree in Public Health Core Competency Development Project version 2.3 – 10/04-8/06).