Curriculum Objectives Discussion

Rationale

- Many times, the US health care system distributes services inefficiently and unevenly across populations
- This course will introduce basic issues that underlie minority health and health disparities and allow students to focus on priority areas for improving quality and achieving more equitable health care in the future.

Description of Curriculum

This will be an 8-week, 1 credit elective. Small group discussion format. Students will read 2-3 articles a week in addition to the textbook. Readings will be posted on ANGEL. Students will be required to attend one health disparities activity in the local community identified by faculty or have an activity of their choosing pre-approved by faculty. Students will prepare a brief 2-page paper for the activity. Students will be required to lead one class discussion. Students will submit a 2-page reflection paper on one article for 4 weeks. This does not include the activity paper. The final assignment will be a 3-5 page critical review/reflecton of an article focused on a priority area. List will be provided or have another option approved by faculty.

Priority Areas

- Population Health
- Palliative and End-of-Life Care
- Patient Safety
- Patient and Family Engagement
- Care Coordination
- Overuse
- Access
- Health System Infrastructure

Discussion

This course will expand students’ understanding of health disparities by providing a critical analysis of historical, political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental conditions that have produced health inequities for racial and ethnic minorities in the U.S.