Environmental Health for Developing Communities
Civil and Environmental Engineering Department - Spring 2005

“Public health is not a concrete intellectual discipline, but a field of social activity. It includes applications of chemistry and bacteriology, of engineering and statistics, of physiology and pathology and epidemiology, and in some measure of sociology, and it builds upon these basic sciences a comprehensive program of community service.”
[Winslow (1923). The Evolution and Significance of the Modern Public Health Campaign, p. 28]

Instructors: Jim Ruttenber, Ph.D., M.D., CU Health Sciences Center and Environmental Studies Program; and Diana Shannon, CU Denver, College of Architecture and Planning
Course No.: CVEN 5834-003 (Special Topics)/ENVS 5100-002
Days/Time: Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:00 – 4:30 pm

This course will provide students in engineering and environmental studies with a basic understanding of environmental health issues, methods, and practices through an emphasis on their application in developing communities worldwide. The course will emphasize sustainable approaches for improving public health and the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration between practitioners of public health, the environmental sciences, and engineering. Topic areas that will be covered include: an international overview of public health and environmental health practice; common toxic agents and environmental diseases in developing communities; health effects of air and water pollution; environmental emergency and disaster response; practical methods of epidemiologic analysis; and sustainable engineering for healthy communities.

This service level course is open to graduate students and senior undergraduates of all disciplines who have taken introductory courses in biology and the environmental sciences. The course will be organized around lectures and discussions, with field trips and group projects.