



Brien Holden[®]
VISION INSTITUTE

ACADEMY

Global Optometry Resources

Public Health and Community Optometry



PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY OPTOMETRY

STUDENT MANUAL

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COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE AIM

This module aims at equipping the student with knowledge and skills necessary to understand the impact of social, economic and environmental issues on the health of the patient and the community.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the module, the student should be able to use the knowledge and skills gained in the promotion and preventive measures of community optometry.

On successful completion of this course the learner should be able to:

- Differentiate between community health and public health
- Develop health education and health promotion materials and/or activities
- Classify the causes of vision impairment and blindness
- Prepare a community-based vision screening program
- Outline the priorities of the Vision 2020 program

COURSE CONTENT

The topics covered in this course include:

- Public health concepts
- Health systems
- Vision 2020: The Right to Sight
- Public health and epidemiology
- Global blindness and visual impairment
- Refractive error and low vision as public health issues
- Socio-economic implications of blindness and visual impairment
- Vision screening
- Role of civil society in blindness prevention

COURSE DELIVERY

This course is designed to be delivered over 6 months (1 semester). The total delivery time is 28 hours of lectures.

[Learning and Teaching Methods & Resources](#)

The suggested teaching methods for this course include: PowerPoint presentations, discussions, case studies.

Course resources available at the Brien Holden Vision Institute: education.brienholdenvision.org.

- Student manual: 9 manual chapter units (listed on p4)
- PowerPoint Presentations corresponding to each of the 9 units

Suggested equipment for teaching includes:

- Computer & projector
- White board

Suggested equipment for labs can be found in the practical manual.

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Written examination
- Assignments

TEXT BOOKS

Prescribed texts

- Brien Holden Vision Institute Global Optometric Curriculum Modules, Brien Holden Vision Institute, 2010
- Bodenheimer TS and Grumbach K. Understanding Health Policy. Lange Medical Books, 4th Edition, 2005.
- Johnson JG, Minassian DC and Weale R. The Epidemiology of Eye Disease. Chapman and Hall, Philadelphia, 1998.

Recommended texts

- Understanding Health Policy: Thomas S. Bodenheimer and Kevin Grumbach. Lange Medical Books, 4th Edition, 2005.
- WHO/IAPB. Global Initiative for the Elimination of Avoidable Blindness: Action Plan 2006-2011. 2007.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Community Eye Health Journal: <http://www.cehjournal.org/>

BMC Public Health: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpublichealth/>

WHO Bulletin: Bulletin of the World Health Organisation: <http://www.who.int/bulletin/en/>



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