Teaching Assistantship Announcement – PH129, Health Care for All

Three Teaching Assistantship positions are available for the Fall 2019 semester to support the undergraduate course PUBHLTH 129: Health Care for All: Myths and Realities. The course meets the General Education requirement for Social and Behavioral Science and also carries the Diversity (DU) designation. This course has an enrollment of 180+ students and four graduate and 6-7 undergraduate course assistants. A topical description of the course can be found on the other side of this announcement.

Teaching assistants will be primarily responsible for grading written exams and papers; assisting in lectures as appropriate; helping to facilitate discussion in the lecture, and having regularly scheduled office hours. **Proficiency in both written and verbal English is required.** The time commitment is 10 hours per week. The course is scheduled for Tues-Thurs 4:00-5:15PM. TAs must be available to attend the lectures during that time period.

All interested students are encouraged to apply. Please remove and complete the attached form and return it to Gloria Seaman. This application and related materials are also posted on the Schools’ website. If you complete the application on the web, you may email it to gjseaman@schoolumass.umass.edu.
ABOUT THE COURSE:
This course is designed to give college students practical information about the U.S. health care system while also allowing exploration of individual personal and political values. We will spend the semester examining how well the health care system meets the needs of the many diverse groups in the U.S. today, and considering some possible alternatives. For many students, this course provides a valuable introduction to a possible career interest, since the health care sector is the largest single industry in the U.S. Topics included are noted below.

* How Do We Each Define Health and Illness?
We will examine how our cultural heritage determines how we define health and illness and how we behave when we are sick, including the type of health care provider we choose.

* Description of Health Care Delivery System: People, Places And Activities.
This module describes the current health care delivery system, with a special emphasis on the role of the physician in the system.

* Financing The System: Where Does The Money Go?
This will provide you with specific information about how doctors are paid, how hospitals are paid and how health insurance works. We will also talk about whether having more money should buy you more health care, and about how personal values and ethics play an important role here.

* How do we Decide How Good Our Health Care System Is?
Health professionals use health status indices to evaluate our health care delivery system. We will look at these, with particular attention to the health status of African-Americans.

* Taking Care of The Elderly and The Poor.
We have two important health programs (Medicare and Medicaid) that provide services to two groups in our society who are often unable to buy enough health care for themselves. We will analyze how well these programs meet the special needs of the elderly and the poor.

* How Do Other Countries Arrange Health Care?
This final module analyzes how other countries organize health care services. We will specifically focus on Great Britain, Canada and Germany. This will conclude with a discussion about possible alternatives for the US health care system.
Application for T.A. Position For PH 129

NAME: ______________________________

TELEPHONE: _______________ EMAIL ______________________________

Academic Concentration CHE HPM BIO EPI EH

1. Please describe any previous teaching and/or T.A. experience you have had:
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

2. Please list coursework and grades received during your time here as a graduate student.

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3. What was your undergraduate major?

4. What courses do you anticipate taking during the Fall semester?

5. Please attach a copy of your resume with this application.

6. An important part of this job is your writing ability. Please include a one-page letter indicating why you should be selected for one of these T.A. positions.