

University of Pretoria School of Health Systems and Public Health

In 1998, the University of Pretoria established the School of Health Systems and Public Health (SHSPH). The SHSPH grew out of the Department of Community Health and was tasked with preventing diseases and promoting and restoring health. The SHSPH is a university-wide, "horizontal" school: it accesses and strengthens any area relevant to the health system and public health. Its structure and functions are oriented to the following outcomes: a better health system and greater health that is more equally distributed.

Accreditation and Certification

Enterprises University of Pretoria is wholly owned by the University of Pretoria. As a public higher education institution, the University of Pretoria functions in accordance to Higher Education Act 101 of 1997. Enterprises University of Pretoria offers short courses on behalf of the University and these short courses are not credit-bearing and do not lead to formal qualifications on the National Qualifications Framework—unless stated otherwise. Delegates who successfully complete a short course and comply with the related assessment criteria (where applicable) are awarded certificates of successful completion and/or attendance by the University of Pretoria.

The MEASURE Evaluation Project

MEASURE Evaluation strengthens capacity in developing countries to gather, interpret, and use data to improve health. MEASURE Evaluation creates tools and approaches for rigorous evaluations, providing evidence to address health challenges, and strengthens health information systems so countries can make better decisions and sustain good health outcomes over time.

MEASURE Evaluation is a cooperative agreement awarded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and five partner organizations: ICF International, John Snow Inc., Management Sciences for Health, Palladium, and Tulane University.

Global Evaluation and Monitoring Network for Health (GEMNet-Health)

GEMNet-Health aims to foster organizational growth, collaboration, and south-to-south support for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of health programs globally. GEMNet-Health consists of the following member institutions: University of Pretoria (South Africa), Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia), Addis Continental Institute of Public Health (Ethiopia), Centre African d'Etudes Supérieures en Gestion (Senegal), El Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública, (Mexico), Mahidol University (Thailand), University of Ghana, Public Health Foundation of India, and Kenyatta University (Kenya). MEASURE Evaluation serves as the Secretariat for GEMNet-Health.

Cost of the Workshop

The total course fee is **US \$3400**, inclusive of the workshop tuition, accommodation, partial board (breakfast daily and lunch on days when the workshop is in session), and round-trip airport transfers. The cost for the course only (excluding accommodation) is \$2275.

No bursaries will be offered for this workshop.

Prospective applicants are advised to seek funding from their home organizations or from national or international agencies. Applicants who have requested funding should submit their complete application forms to University of Pretoria before the deadline. When funding is confirmed, the applicant should let University of Pretoria know as soon as possible.

Contact information

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International Workshop on Qualitative Methods in Evaluation of Public Health Programs

September 20–29, 2018
Pretoria, South Africa

University of Pretoria
School of Health Systems and Public Health

MEASURE Evaluation,
University of North Carolina

Global Evaluation & Monitoring Network for
Health (GEMNet-Health)



Health organizations around the globe regularly make evidence-informed decisions for effective health programming. Qualitative research methods play an important role in rigorous evaluation of programs. The strength of qualitative methods lies in their ability to provide valuable insight into complex issues, which quantitative methods may not otherwise achieve. Qualitative data sources can answer the “why” behind program successes or challenges. Additionally, qualitative data illuminate the uniquely human side of health programming and bring to light important contextual factors such as culture, gender, or societal norms. Qualitative data may be used to complement quantitative data, answer a question not accessible quantitatively, or provide a cost-effective data source when one would not otherwise be available.

Despite widespread interest in the effectiveness of health programs and common use of qualitative data in program evaluation, the quality of qualitative evaluation methods is often overlooked in practice and in existing qualitative methods short courses. Are qualitative methods really appropriate to answer the evaluation question? How do we analyze our data beyond basic summarization? How do we ensure our results are trustworthy—credible, transferable, dependable, and confirmable? And how do we communicate this trustworthiness to others who are unfamiliar with qualitative methods? Are we appropriately addressing the unique ethical concerns raised in evaluations using qualitative methods?

This intermediate level workshop is meant to address these questions and assist health professionals in using qualitative skills in sound and rigorous evaluation of their program. The sessions go beyond basic concepts to explore important considerations of qualitative methods in the context of rigorous evaluation. Through session content and participatory exercises, participants will gain skills in rigorous qualitative data collection, analysis, and use.

Workshop Objectives

This is an intermediate level course. The purpose of this course is to build on participants’

basic qualitative knowledge and advance their capacity to apply qualitative methods in evaluation of public health programs. This course contextualizes qualitative methods within rigorous evaluation, rather than offering the basics of a qualitative methods approach.

Workshop Content

This hands-on training will cover the following areas:

- Concepts, approaches, and purposes of qualitative methods in evaluation
- Developing qualitative evaluation questions
- Troubleshooting in selected common methods
- Sampling for qualitative data collection
- Developing data collection tools
- Qualitative data analysis techniques
- Fieldwork considerations
- Ethical principles for qualitative methods in evaluation
- Addressing gender throughout qualitative evaluations
- Applying qualitative norms in research/trustworthiness
- Data dissemination and use and communicating findings and trustworthiness to different audiences

The workshop consists of lectures, practical sessions, case studies and group work. Participants will form groups to prepare a proposal for qualitatively evaluating a real program. Participants are encouraged to bring their own cases of programs they are evaluating in their countries.

Eligibility

The course is designed for mid-level health professionals involved in the implementation and evaluation of public health programs. Computer literacy, experience using qualitative methods in evaluation, and at least basic knowledge of qualitative methods will be essential. Applicants should be familiar with how to conduct in-depth interviews and focus group discussions, as well as have a basic understanding of research ethics. Applicants should be proficient in English. **A laptop is desirable.**

Faculty

The course will be taught by experts from MEASURE Evaluation at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA; University of Pretoria; Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública, Mexico; and University of Ghana.

Application Procedures and Deadlines

Those who wish to take part in the workshop should send the completed application forms and other application documents as soon as possible to:

Peggy Motswatswa

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Application materials should arrive in South Africa no later than **August 20, 2018 (deadline extended)**. Only complete applications will be reviewed.

Workshop information and application forms can be obtained at:

www.measureevaluation.org/measure/training