

# MEC153

## The Doctor and the Environment

### Brief description

The service learning objective is to inform service providers on the utilisation of health care services by the community and the satisfaction with the services. Students receive an introductory lecture on community development and community entry. They are briefed on the rationale and importance of community-based education. They further receive lectures on communication skills, trans-cultural issues, normal and dysfunctional families, stereotyping and stigmatisation, inter-collegial and interpersonal relations.

### Community partners

- MUCPP Community Health Centre
- Poli Heide Clinic
- National Hospital Clinic

### Service sector partners

Department of Health

### Outcomes for students

Students are addressed by community members on the needs and services available in the community. Students witness consultations between health care professionals and patients and have to identify cultural, ethical and communication issues that could influence the consultation. Students are further taken on a guided tour of the clinics to identify PHC services rendered at the sites. They then write a report on the visit and information gathered from the questionnaires as well as a reflective journal on the visit.

### Service learning component

During the mapping tour students are exposed to the different health care facilities in the referral system in Mangaung and Bloemfontein and briefed on the existing services, institutions and infrastructure of Mangaung. During the clinic visits students complete questionnaires with community members at the MUCPP Community Health Centre, as well as the Poli Heide and National Hospital clinics. The questionnaires address the health status of the patients, the health service seeking behaviour and the socio-demographic profile.

### Impact on community

There is no direct impact on the community through this project. The community is given a platform to discuss their health care related problems and challenges. This information assists first-year medical students to become conscious of the health care problems and challenges in South Africa and to prepare and motivate them to deliver a better service to the community as future doctors.



HEALTH SCIENCES  
GESONDHEIDSWETENSAPPE

UFS·UV

School of Medicine

Department  
Family Medicine

Study year of students  
First year

Credits: 12

Module offered during  
First semester

### Lecturers

Dr Theuns Kellerman  
Ms Xenia Oliphant



T 051 401 3307 kellermante@ufs.ac.za www.ufs.ac.za

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
FREE STATE  
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE  
VRYSTAAT  
YUNIVESITHI YA  
FREISTATA

