**Rutgers University at Camden**

**IPSD 676 – International Public Service and Development**

**Fall 2012**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

**Course Description**

The IPSD Internship Course is designed as a culminating experience in the MPA program. Its purpose is to guide, integrate and assess the lessons of the overseas field placement through a system of advising, e-discussions and written reports that require students to document and assess their experiences. All IPSD students are required to take this nine-credit course.

**Objectives**

There are four objectives for this course:

Provide regular advising to interns, by a MPA faculty member, for the duration of the international field experience;

Provide structured opportunities for interns to learn from one another by communicating regularly, collectively evaluating their various field experiences and giving guidance to one another;

Developing interns’ capacity to effectively apply program management tools in ‘real life’ situations during the overseas experience;

Develop interns’ analytical proficiency through the analysis of a specific project, program or policy relevant to their particular international experience.

**Prerequisites**

Students are to register for the course when they are taking or have completed the final (spring) semester of coursework *and* have received an overseas assignment. Students should only register for this course in the summer they are bound for overseas. Course registration should be deferred if overseas assignment is shelved for a year or more.

**Course Requirements and Organization**

The IPSD Internship Course will be listed for registration each year during the summer. Although the course is listed as a summer course, it will last the duration of the student’s overseas assignment. Registration for this course is only conducted in the fall semester. All assignments (which are described below) will be due two months before the intended date of graduation. You have the option of either submitting your reports on a periodic basis or turning them in all at once.

Students will be required to complete, and submit **via email**, the following assignments. I will have access to email on a normal basis. Also, please send any questions and thoughts about your placement experiences and reports anytime via email.

**Reports**

All students are required to complete **6** reports as described below:

Report 1 Description of country, site and assignment.

Report 2 Needs Assessment including stakeholder analysis and project identification. Students are expected to use participatory strategies and to discuss the outcome of such efforts.

Report 3 Feasibility Assessment includes SWOT analysis, projections on project beneficiaries, indicators, etc.

Report 4 Program/Project Design I includes project objectives framework, evaluation of design options, description of the selected project and the community’s role in the selection process

Report 5 Program/Project Design II includes monitoring and evaluation plans as well as implementation strategy, problems and how they are resolved

Report 6 Final Program/Project Evaluation, includes Lessons Learned

**Breakdown for Grading**

Final grades for this course will be based on the following:

6 Reports 100%

Letter grade distribution will be based on standard percentages (e.g., 90-100 = A; 80-90 = B; 70-80 = C, etc).