

HSC 4933: Global Epidemiology of Pregnancy and Birth

Public Health Policy Brief Assignment

Due Date:

This assignment is due on **Tuesday, July 22, 2014 by 11:00 PM EDT.**

General Instructions:

Write a 2-page policy brief (not including references) to the government official responsible for health in the country you selected for the country profile assignment (e.g., Minister of Health in Tanzania). You should select a specific health agency that you are representing in writing your policy brief (e.g., UNICEF, Save the Children, etc.). Your policy brief should be focused on a specific reproductive health issue in your selected country. In your brief you should ask the public health official (or department) to take a specific action or support a specific national policy/program.

Information Sources:

Information for this project should come from reliable, valid scientific sources (peer-reviewed publications (see www.pubmed.gov) or scientific websites). Students **should not** use information from news websites, Wikipedia, blogs, newsletters, etc., but can consult official national and international government or non-government organization websites. For example: The World Health Organization, the World Bank, Amnesty International, the Red Cross, Demographic and Health Survey Program, the United Nations, UNICEF, Save the Children, U.S. Department of State, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, Pan-American Health Organization, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UNESCO, etc.

Referencing:

All sources must be properly cited and formatted according to the American Medical Association Style (AMA style) within the brief (in-text citing) and a full reference list included at the end of the document. Guidelines for the AMA style of reference are available on the assignment page in Canvas. You can also consult other online sources if you need additional information about this reference style. All statistics should include the year for which the information is being reported.

Format:

The document should have 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1" margins, single spaced and a cover page. The cover page should include: title of the brief, course title, due date and country selected.

Grading:

The brief will be graded as listed below.

Required Elements:

The following information should be included in your policy brief:

- Identify a specific reproductive health problem in the country you selected for the country profile
- Support the problem you have selected with scientific data/evidence from reputable organizations (see above).
- Identify a recommended action for the government official to take

Examples and Guidelines for Public Health Policy Brief

Go to the Johns Hopkins University, Women's and Children's Health Policy Center website for tutorials, examples, exercises and guidance on writing public health policy briefs.

http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/womens-and-childrens-health-policy-center/de/policy_brief/index.html