

COURSE GUIDE

HEM 642 GLOBAL INITIATIVES ON HIV/AIDS

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TABLE OF CONTENT	PAGE
Introduction	1
The Course	1
Course Aim	
Course Objectives	
Working through the Course	
Course Material	
Study Units	4
Reading List	
Assessment	
Summary	9

Introduction

This handbook tells you in concise terms what to expect as you wade through the course material, and also provides information about the course including details on course aims, objectives, assessments and reading lists.

This course guide also gives you a total insight to the issue of HIV/AIDS in almost all its ramifications. The course material as a package on its own will help you to have a better understanding of HIV/ AIDS in both its social and scientific contexts and in greater details too, as there are no conventional books for now to consult except journals, news letters, news paper articles, posters and others of such. Please keep this course guide properly as you will be referring to it from time-totime because it will serve as a good reference material for you. This course also serves as a good foundation for the acquisition of skills in HIV/AIDS control. Discussions are on the relationship between poverty and HIV/AIDS, prevention program and treatment will further throw light on the reason why the epidemic has been on the increase, turning into a pandemic particularly due to the high cost of procuring Antiretroviral drugs which is way beyond the reach of the common people, while funds available from donor agencies appear insufficient to cater adequately for drugs procurement and for research activities.

The Course

This course is titled global Initiatives on HIV/AIDS. AIDS essentially is the advanced form or stage of HIV, which is viral infection. Since its emergence in the 80's, it has become very devastating in impact, becoming a dreaded pandemic. The world bodies including the United Nations (UN) has been concerned and has been working in partnership with other international agencies such as WHO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNDCP, FAO etc. so as to find a lasting solution to the problem.

This course is therefore very basic to most health-related training programmes for obvious reasons which include the fact that;

- 1. AIDS knows no cure yet and operates by weakening the body's immune system.
- 2. HIV spreads through unprotected sex, (intercourse without condom) transfusions of unscreened blood, contaminated needles, (most frequently for injecting drugs) and from an infected woman to her child during pregnancy, childbirth or breast-feeding.

3. HIV is a slow-acting virus. The majority of infected individuals looks healthy and feels well for many years after infection; they may not even suspect that they harbour the virus, though they can transmit to others. It is estimated that 90% of all HIV-infected people worldwide do not know they have the virus. A laboratory blood or saliva test is only certain way to determine whether an individual is HIV positive.

4. Once people have an established HIV infection, they are infected for life and will probably succumb to serious opportunistic infections caused by the weakening of their immune system. Treatment with antiretroviral drugs can slow the progression of HIV infection but these expensive medications are not available to most people in the developing world, who often lack access to drugs that combat opportunistic infections. In individuals who do not get antiretroviral therapy, the time between infection with HIV and the development of serious illnesses that define AIDS is about eight years, and most patients do not survive much more than two years after the onset of AIDS.

The course proper includes the full meaning of HIV/AIDS, its biology, epidemiology and pathogenesis; cause and methods of spreading; global initiatives on HIV/AIDS and forms of initiatives; the relationship between poverty and HIV/AIDS; treatment, prevention and control programmes; demographic incidence and prevalence, social and scientific research efforts as well as sources of funds and forms of foreign assistance.

Course Aims

The ambitious aim of this course is to impart HIV/AIDS knowledge into learners, to make them competent individuals in HIV/AIDS control and prevention activities anywhere in the world.

Course Objectives

This course is set to achieve the following objectives in addition to the aforementioned aims:

- 1. To enable the student, to successfully operate in a health setting that engages in the care of HIV/AIDS activities.
- 2. To assist you to have a good understanding and appreciation of the dreaded disease, HIV/AIDS, and work effectively on any aspect of it in a professional manner.
- 3. To enhance the development of skills in case load and client management in the student.

4. To know what HIV and AIDS stand for and the basic difference between the two.

- 5. To understand the effects of virus on the body, how it is contracted and it's spread as well as what measures should be taken to prevent and control it.
- 6. To appreciate the relationship between poverty and HIV/AIDS.
- 7. To identify sources of funds, forms of foreign assistance, donor governments, other funding streams such as the global fund, UN and the World Bank.
- 8. To have insight to social and scientific research efforts on HIV/AIDS

Working through the Course

It is opined that you will make conscious effort to read through this Course Guide and the study materials as many times as possible, spending quality time on each occasion. You are obviously required to spend as much time as possible to thoroughly read the course materials, not mere wading through as you need a good understanding of the basic principles of the course so as to be able to properly master the subject matter. We therefore encourage you to take good care of your study materials and read them as often as possible.

The study materials are highly simplified, readable, explicit and self-explanatory. It is also well illustrated with definitions, descriptions and examples, making it comprehensive. We will however encourage you to try as much as possible to attend tutorial sessions where you will have the opportunity of interpersonal relationships with both instructors and peers

We wish to also encourage you to learn to make regular contact and interact well with your mates so that you have the opportunity to exchange ideas, share knowledge and rub minds together, possibly through e-mails, text messages, phoning and physical contacts.

Course Material

You will be provided with the following materials:

- (i) Course Guide
- (ii) Study units

Of course, in addition to the aforementioned course materials, you will also be given a list of recommended resources such as Newspapers, magazines, journals, research reports, website and other resources for latest development and information on the subject matter.

However, these materials are not imposed on you as they are optional but you are enjoined to check them out as additional sources of emphasis.

Study Units

The following are the study units contained in the course:

Module 1

Unit 1 Unit 2	HIV/AIDS Diagnosis And Clinical Symptoms I HIV/AIDS Diagnosis And Clinical Symptoms II
Unit 3	HIV/AIDS Diagnosis And Clinical Symptoms Ill
Unit 4	Modes / Routes Of HIV Transmission
Unit 5	Demographic Incidence And Prevalence Of
Module	2
Unit 1	The Relationship Between Poverty and HIV/AIDS
Unit 2	HIV/AIDS Global Initiatives I
Unit 3	HIV/AIDS Global Initiatives II
Unit 4	Sources of Funds and HIV/AIDS Financing
Unit 5	Development Assistance for HIV/AIDS Capacity Building In Nigeria.
Module 3	
Unit 1	Research and HIV/AIDS
Unit 2	Quests for an HIV Vaccine
Unit 3	Aids: The Impact of Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases
Unit 4	Prevention, Treatment and Control of the HIV/AIDS Scourge I
Unit 5	Prevention, Treatment and Control of HIV/AIDS Scourge
Module 4	•
Unit 1	The Right mix of Treatment and Prevention
Unit 2	Drug Resistances in HIV/AIDS Treatment Prevention
Unit 3	AIDS Blood Transfusions
Unit 4	HIV and breastfeeding 1
UniT 5	HIV and Breast Feeding II

Module 5

Unit 1 Integrating AIDS Control into Family Planning (FP)
Services
Unit 2 Changing High Risk Behaviour through Peer Education
Unit 3 HIV and Prostitution
Unit 4 General Information about Deadly AIDS

Reading List

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Web Site: www.google.co.uk

Assessment

There are components of assessment for this course. They are as indicated below

- (1) Tutor marked Assessment (TMA)
- (2) End of course examination

(1) Tutor marked Assessment (TMA)

The TMA is the continuous assessment component of the course and it accounts for 40% of the total score. You will have 4 TMAs to answer, 3 of which will be done prior to the end of course examination without which you might not be allowed to sit for the end of term examination.

The TMAs will be given to you by your course facilitator which you will return at the stipulated deadline.

(2) End of course examination

This is the examination that concludes the list of assignments for this course and it constitutes 60% of the whole course. You will definitely be informed of the due date(s) for the examination(s).

Summary

This course intends to provide you with basic knowledge about HIV/AIDS locally, nationally and globally, so that at the end of this course you will be handy with enough information, latest ideas and general awareness about HIV/AIDS in term of:

- What HIV and AIDS are generally
- Biology, pathogeneses and epidemiology of HIV/AIDS
- Aetiology (Origin) of the disease
- Signs and symptoms plus diagnosis
- How HIV can be contacted
- How HIV will not be spread
- Demographic incidence and prevalence of HIV
- Global initiatives on HIV/AIDS and forms of initiatives
- Relationship between HIV/AIDS and poverty and sources of funds
- Treatment, prevention and control programs
- HIV/AIDS research effort e.t.c.

I wish you the very best in this course.

Please enjoy the course. Good luck!