

## Syllabus, Capstone Workshop

**Full Course Title:** Planned Parenthood Federation of America (International): Mapping and Assessment of Youth's Access to Sexuality Education, Information and Reproductive Health Services in Africa

**Course Title for Registration System:** PPFA: Sexual/Repro Rights, African Youth

**Course Number:** SIPAU9000.018

**Faculty Advisor:** Betsy Apple

**Columbia Email Address:** ba2146@columbia.edu

**Meeting Date/s Times:** Wednesday, 6.10-8.00 PM

**Location:** INTERNATIONAL 901

**Office Hours:** TBD

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Overview:**

*Brief description of client:*

**Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA)** – is a national not-for-profit organization with its main offices in New York City and Washington, DC. PPFA is the leading advocate for reproductive health care in the United States today. It provides support for the health, education, and advocacy missions of its 83 affiliates nationwide, which operate more than 800 health centers in almost every state. Each year, Planned Parenthood affiliate health centers provide health care including routine gynecological exams, breast and cervical cancer screenings, contraceptive services, abortion care, sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment, and HIV testing and education to three million women, men, and adolescents.

**The Planned Parenthood Federation of America – International Program**, for 40 years, has been working overseas to ensure that women, men, and young people in some of the world's most neglected areas have access to the health care they need to control their bodies and their futures. By partnering with local advocates, medical service providers, and youth leaders and helping to build sustainable networks and organizations, we find innovative ways to deliver critical services and fight for more inclusive laws and policies.

*Summary of project:*

In countries where PPFA works— where young people are among the least likely in the world to have access to accurate sexual health information and high-quality, youth friendly sexual and reproductive health services— efforts to meet young people's needs are governed by a number of national policies, strategies and agreements. These include national AIDS strategies, family planning frameworks, and

adolescent health policies. Often written to meet international standards based in human rights, some of these documents offer strong support for necessary interventions, at least on paper. These documents also are formulated to meet requirements of international/multilateral and bilateral funders, such as the World Bank, the Global Fund and USAID.

While international actors and donor nations have increased coordination, a number of intersecting and parallel policies, strategies, agreements with donor nations, other government decrees, goals, targets and promises of resources may or may not be adequate to meet the needs of young. Mapping the resulting policy web would inform efforts of advocates in country and their international allies to hold their governments accountable and catalyze the best possible policy framework for achieving sexual and reproductive health and rights for young people in that country.

***Deliverables to client:***

In this project, the team will:

- Research and analyze the policy framework for young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights for two selected countries, in the context of two specific sub-areas (to be determined), such as access to information or access to HIV/AIDS testing, prevention, treatment services
- In addition to comparing content and identifying alignment, contradictions, gaps and points of accountability, the team will map the agencies and officials responsible for implementation and examine resources allocations for realizing goals and targets.
- In-field interviews with decision makers, stakeholders and implementers would reveal actual implementation barriers, challenges and impact.

The resulting analytic tools and narrative report would serve as a prototype for similar strategic documentation in other countries, especially for use by local advocacy partners

**Special skills/knowledge needed by team members:**

Participating students must be comfortable working on behalf of an organization that advocates for the full range of sexual and reproductive rights and health services. The ideal student will be familiar with either human rights or sexual and reproductive rights international instruments (e.g. CEDAW, Cairo Programme, Beijing) and mechanisms. Experience researching and analyzing national or international policies is helpful, as is familiarity with implementation of human rights or sexual and reproductive rights policies in developing countries.

**Initial meeting(s) with your student team in late November or early December, if applicable:**

Once the team is selected, the Faculty Advisor will contact students to identify a date for a meeting in early December.

**Dates for meetings with client, if already scheduled:**

We will meet with the client in January, but that meeting is not yet scheduled.

**Field component:**

This project will involve travel to two countries, the sexual and reproductive rights policies of which we will research. The three countries under consideration are Kenya, Ethiopia, and Nigeria. Based on an assessment of logistical and security considerations closer to the commencement of the project, we will

look at policies of (and include travel to) two out of those three countries. Planned Parenthood Federation of America will provide logistical assistance and contacts for the research missions.

Please note: Students who participate in a capstone workshop that involves international travel will be charged a course fee of \$250 at the outset of the capstone project which will be included in their student bill.

Additionally, travel is contingent upon the conditions within the country during the expected dates of travel. If the faculty advisor and administration determine that the conditions within the country could put students in physical danger, then the travel will not occur and students will be refunded the \$250 course fee.

**Student selection:** [All eligible students may apply for up to five workshops through a special online application process in October. Assignment of students will be coordinated by the Office of Academic Affairs, and relevant faculty will be consulted about team membership for their workshop(s).]

**Grading (students receive an individual grade):**

Grades for the workshop will be based on the following criteria:

Quality of participation in class, Peer review (20%)

Feedback from the client (20%)

Overall professionalism, including timeliness, ability to work with team, etc. (30%)

Quality of team's final report and briefing (30%)

**Readings:**

The Faculty Advisor will post background readings in December (which, if students have already read, they will not be required to read again). There may be additional general readings posted throughout the semester, as needed, in addition to the extensive reading students will undertake as part of the research component.

**\*Academic Integrity Statement\*:** [The statement below *must* appear on all syllabi.]:

The School of International & Public Affairs does not tolerate cheating and/or plagiarism in any form. Those students who violate the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct will be subject to the Dean's Disciplinary Procedures. Cut and paste the following link into your browser to view the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct online.

[http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources\\_services/student\\_affairs/academic\\_policies/deans\\_discipline\\_policy.html](http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/deans_discipline_policy.html)

Please familiarize yourself with the proper methods of citation and attribution. The School provides some useful resources online; we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with these various styles before conducting your research:

[http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources\\_services/student\\_affairs/academic\\_policies/code\\_of\\_conduct.html](http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/code_of_conduct.html)

Violations of the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct should be reported to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.