

April 13, 2006

## **Fall 2006 Online Course Emergency Preparedness: The Public Health Perspective**

Preparedness planning has been an essential but often overlooked aspect of Public Health. Events of this decade have clarified the need for preparedness training around issues such as bioterrorism and have emphasized a new role for public health workers in community response activities. This course will serve as an introduction to the knowledge, skills and competencies needed by public health staff in being prepared for these new concerns.

Course content is delivered in a variety of formats including PowerPoint slides, assigned readings, class discussions, satellite broadcasts and critique of student papers. Course topics include:

- Public health law (quarantine and isolation);
- Incident Command System;
- Drills & exercises;
- Elements of community response;
- Infectious diseases and surveillance;
- Community mental health;
- Risk communication;
- Natural and intentional biological agents;
- Chemical and radiological concerns including industrial hazards; and
- Diseases capable of causing pandemics such as SARS and influenza.

It is strongly recommended that you have prior coursework in epidemiology and environmental health. Persons interested in taking this course [must be enrolled in the University at Albany](#). The [fees associated with taking this course](#) are approximately \$1,000 for NYS residents.

**Due to limited space, preference will be given to students at the University at Albany School of Public Health and NYS local health department personnel. NYS local health department personnel should note that this course has been approved by the NYS Department of Health for reimbursement under the Public Health Preparedness Coursework Program.**

If you have any questions or if you are interested in taking this course please contact Lindsay Benson at [lbenson@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:lbenson@uamail.albany.edu).