

Minimester Course Description – Women: The Changing Face of HIV/AIDS

CRN #24537

SOWK 699 (01) – 1 credit

Course offered Saturday, January 10 and Sunday, January 11th, 2009

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. – School of Social Work Auditorium

Community service component dates to be announced.

This year's group of Maternal and Child Health Leadership Scholars in the School of Social Work will focus its attention on HIV/AIDS and its impact on women. This perspective is illustrated in Baltimore City with an increasing disparity among minority women affected by the disease. In 2005, Baltimore city declared a state of emergency with regard to the rates of HIV/AIDS. The recent resurgence of HIV in the news as well as recent advances pharmacotherapy affecting the lifespan and reproductive options for HIV-infected women make this topic relevant to all UMB students. Relevant service organizations in Baltimore will lend their knowledge and expertise to this learning and community service experience.

This interdisciplinary course seeks to illuminate the many facets of HIV/AIDS as they affect women throughout the United States. It has two components: a two-day classroom session and a related service project to be completed later on in the spring semester. Through lectures and panels comprised of UMB faculty and community service providers, students will receive information including: an overview of the epidemic, gender-related issues such as health disparities and advances in reproductive possibilities, pharmaceutical and policy issues, as well as available services in Baltimore. The course will highlight the importance of national advocacy days, such as the Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and the Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Small interdisciplinary student groups will carry out related community service projects.