

Global Entrepreneurship Lab: Global Health Delivery MIT Sloan School of Management

Anjali Sastry £ 15.389 C £ 12 units £ Graduate £ Fall '09 and IAP '10

A new version of *Global Entrepreneurship Lab*, MIT Sloan's flagship international project-based class, tackles the challenges of delivering health care in resource-poor settings in Africa. Student teams apply professional management skills, tools, and approaches to pressing real-world problems, working on the ground with local partners to create practical and effective improvements.

Why global health delivery? Too often, health care fails to reach the neediest. Fragmented and under-developed systems for delivering health care in resource-poor settings may be to blame; information management, logistics, process design, business development, and workforce management can be inappropriate. Effective approaches are often poorly disseminated. As a result, too few benefit from others' experience and practical knowledge. The practical challenges

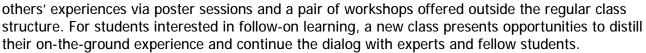
that constrain healthcare delivery are at the center of this new class.



What's the course like? Starting with a broad introduction to global health delivery and Africa, students learn of the specific challenges our partner clinics, NGOs, or other organizations face. Tailored lectures, lively interactions with experts, and case discussions continue as student team quickly begin

work on their specific projects, collaborating on an initial customized research study and drawing up careful plans for their work on the ground. Students travel to Africa in January for their intensive 3- to 4-week team project internship at host sites, living and working with their collaborators. Their work culminates in a presentation to senior management.

Back at MIT, students complete their reports and learn from their own and



How will we learn what we need to know? This innovative class is enabled by our partnership with the Global Health Delivery Project, a group of leading experts working to transform health care delivery in developing countries by creating and sharing knowledge and experience of effective health care programs and systems in resource-poor settings worldwide. The collaboration gives students access to expertise, resources, teaching materials, field experience and networks. We also draw on tools and approaches from across MIT, partnering with other faculty as needed. Students' own skills and experience are key resources, too.

What about the projects? Each project is proposed by a partner host organization looking to solve a practical, operational problem relating to its development, growth, or improvement of the enterprise. Likely focal areas include process improvement, developing new markets or products,

improving hospital or clinic efficiency, and broadening the reach of a program.

Can I take the class? MIT MBA students apply via Sloanbid. We save some spaces for other MIT graduate students and keep a waitlist. Students commit to taking the course for both Fall and IAP and to the early Spring workshops.

G-Lab: Global Health Delivery is a unique opportunity to connect classroom learning with tractable, intellectually stimulating, and professionally relevant real-world projects.