

Jon DeShazo

Brief Statement of Teaching and Public Service Interests

Teaching

My graduate school funding was exclusively research based, however my interest in teaching still shined through. I taught one graduate level colloquium course in Public Health Informatics that consisted of invited speakers supplemented with lessons. From 2007-2009, I also actively served on the UW Faculty Council on Educational Technology where I worked closely with lecturers and university executives. In addition, I developed a new undergraduate level course, entitled "Decision-Making in Healthcare" which I submitted for consideration by the University of Washington Interdisciplinary Program.

My teaching philosophy bridges perspectives and values across information systems and public health, and therefore values technology within the context of which it is used for practical purposes. Along these lines I emphatically promote user and context-centered methods such as formative research, user-centered design, and in situ evaluation. My preferred teaching methods for most subjects consist of problem based learning with a high degree of student participation, supplemented with didactic instruction. Depending on the course and student level, I balance recitation style evaluation with project style and complex applied problems. My goal is, above all, for students to learn overarching problem-solving and information-finding skills they can use in other subjects as well as after graduation.

My ability to communicate clearly and effectively can also be demonstrated by a number of invited presentations I have given both locally and nationally. I was recognized by receiving the "Top Paper Presentation" award at the 2007 Public Health Informatics Institute annual trainee meeting. My background and experience has sufficiently prepared me to teach a number of undergraduate and graduate level courses across the spectrum of Health Informatics and information systems. Including but not limited to: Introductory Information systems, knowledge representation, text classification and shallow natural language processing, databases and data modeling, decision support, medical decision making, public health surveillance, and health services topics.

Public Service

Public health / health services is an information intense field and is growing more so as we move forward. Consequently, an informatics perspective of the field allows for effective public service across multiple areas. From a domain perspective, my interests are in infectious and chronic disease surveillance, management and prevention. To this end I aim use innovative information systems to positively affect three fronts: 1)Consumer health information and education, 2)public health practitioner tools and information sources for surveillance and decision-making, and 3)information technology which translates proven effective research into public health practice.