Field Study in Public & Environmental Health in Kenya
Summer Program 2009
Collaborating Partners

- NAU, College of Health & Human Services
- The School for Field Studies (SFS)
- Boston University & other U.S. universities
- Moi University, Schools of Public Health & Medicine (Kenya)
- Ministry of Health, Kenya
SFS Mission

Create an educational experience that teaches

• Field research skills
• Cooperative work with
  – local communities
  – community-based environmental and health organizations
  – government agencies
• Cultural awareness and respect
• Empowerment of local communities
2009 Course Topics & Activities

• Orientation to Kenya
  – Comprehensive aspects of life in Kenya, specifically of the Maasai
  – Cultural practices, traditional beliefs, herbal medicines
  – Field exercises and discussions: Environmental issues and human health; health care services
  – Review of Summer 2007 health survey results
2009 Course Topics & Activities

• Critique and implementation of a community survey
  – Extension of 2007 findings: Focus on one community
  – Training on survey techniques
  – Field-based data collection, analysis, and write-up
2009 Course Topics & Activities

• Implementation of low-cost domestic hygiene intervention
  – Community education: Water & sanitation, hygienic practices
  – At least one mobile clinic
2008 Course Topics & Activities

• Final presentations to community partners, including members of group ranches and Ministry of Health
  – Summary of findings
  – Recommendations for next steps
Eligibility & Prerequisites

HEALTH SCIENCES

• 6 credit hours

• GPA minimum: 2.75 (undergrad), 3.0 (grad)

• Pre-requisites: HS 333 or equivalent or by permission of program advisors

• Open to all health-related majors

• HS 499 / 599 (graded)
  HS 408C (pass-fail)

NURSING

• 6 credit hours

• GPA minimum: 2.75 (undergrad), 3.0 (grad)

• Graduate or RN-BSN prerequisite: Admission to respective programs

• Pre-licensure student prerequisite: NUR 211

• NUR 499 / 599 (graded)
  NUR 408 / 608 (pass-fail)
Program Highlights

- July 7 – August 8, 2008
- SFS Kilimanjaro Bush Camp, Kimana, Kenya
- $5,400 fee*, plus tuition & airfare (*under discussion)
- Financial aid, scholarships
Out Of Africa
My Kenya field study experience
Summer 2007
Ashley Bedwell
Welcome to your new home!!
Bird's

- Comp. and Relief
- Sight Height
- Million $s
- Immigration Rates (B-574)
Community Service Days
Clinics/Hospitals
Data Collection – In The Field
For the nutrition section of the survey we took age, sex, height, weight, MUAC, first food/fluid, and morbidity information on the whole sample size – 955 children!!
Data Analysis
What We Found

67.1% of the families in our survey drink from an unprotected water source
75.3% use no form of water treatment
Only 25% use a latrine
32.5% of the children were either moderately or severely malnourished.
18.7% of the families surveyed preferred using a traditional healer.
Current Child Health Status

- 60.2% of children reported illnesses within 2 weeks previous to data collection (n=955)
- 37.4% fever/malaria
- 35.4% cough/RTI
94.4% of the children in our survey were delivered at home.
Asante sana!
(Thank you very much)

Questions?

www.fieldstudies.org