Did You Know …?

Over a third of all American adults have below basic or basic health literacy skills and only 12% have the literacy proficiency needed to understand most of health instructions. Even people who are well-educated and good readers struggle with understanding and navigating our health care system. Health literacy means a person’s ability to read, understand, and act on health information, such as prescriptions, recommendations for health care, health insurance applications, and informed consent. Misunderstanding health information negatively impacts a person’s adherence with treatment and medical outcomes and increases risk of complications.

This interdisciplinary seminar is offered to graduate and professional students in the health sciences professions, those in the arts & sciences literacy studies specialization, and other interested students. Senior level undergraduates may register with permission of the course coordinator. The course is taught by a team of faculty from the various disciplines, and offers a great opportunity to learn about the issues and challenges of low health literacy. Topics and field experience activities covered will include:

- analyzing data for national and international literacy levels
- examining populations at risk for low literacy
- research on health literacy & measurement tools
- development of health information in plain language
- effective health communication techniques
- organizational approaches to meet the challenges of low health literacy

**When:** Tuesdays, 3:00- 5:00 PM, March 29 – June 3, 2011  
**Where:** Graves Hall Room 1175

**Course # and Faculty / Co-coordinators:**

- Allied Medicine 710 Call # 2855 Dr. Sandra Cornett (sandy.cornett@osumc.edu)
- Medicine 710 Call # 16081 Dr. Sandra Cornett (sandy.cornett@osumc.edu)
- Nursing 710 Call # 18937 Dr. Sandra Cornett (sandy.cornett@osumc.edu)
- Pharmacy 709 Call # 19483 Dr. Maria Pruchnicki (pruchnicki.1@osu.edu)
- Arts & Sciences 709 Call # 5686 Dr. Sandra Cornett (sandy.cornett@osumc.edu)

- Students from other disciplines may register under one of these faculty names. For questions contact Dr. Cornett, course coordinator, via email, or 688-3327.
- Syllabus is posted at [http://go.osu.edu/OSUHealthLiteracy](http://go.osu.edu/OSUHealthLiteracy)