OVERALL EDUCATIONAL GOAL OF ELECTIVE
Promote understanding of public health and of the interface of medicine and public health through participation in didactic or research courses in the public health curriculum

OBJECTIVES
I. Patient care – N/A

II. Medical knowledge
   A. Learn and reinforce knowledge and applications of methods used in research design and employed in clinical trials, observational studies, and meta analysis
   B. Improve the ability to read, understand, and critique clinical literature
   C. Improve the ability to formulate a search strategy regarding clinical questions
   D. Understand and appreciate the important link between clinical care and public health

III. Practice-based learning and improvement – N/A

III. Interpersonal and communication skill
   A. Learn to organize and write a clinical or literature-based research paper

IV. Professionalism
   A. Develop tools of self-assessment and importance of continuing reflection and self-education
   B. Understand the responsibility of a clinician regarding the public’s health
   C. Understand the implication of clinical decisions on the public’s health
   D. Understand the various origins of health disparities from a clinical and public health perspective

V. Systems-based Practice
   A. Learn the value of health outcomes research in helping to identify systematic deficiencies in clinical practice through data analysis
   B. Understand the importance of using such knowledge gained from outcomes research to improve medical and public health practice

OVER
**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**  
Students register for regular public health courses and/or field work. In general, two weeks of third or fourth year elective credit is allowed for each three credit public health course. Up to eight weeks of fourth year elective credit may be allowed for public health field work. Alternatively, some of these activities may be accomplished by an independent study project done with a faculty advisor. It is important for the student to discuss such activities with the elective advisor before a class starts for planning and scheduling purposes.

**METHOD OF STUDENT EVALUATION**  
Varies by course: usually papers, class participation, and exams

**ARE THERE ANY PREREQUISITES FOR THIS ELECTIVE?**  
No

**IS THIS ELECTIVE AVAILABLE TO THIRD YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS AS WELL?**  
Yes

*Note: This elective is designed mainly for MD/MPH students. Other students may participate after discussion with the MD-MPH advisor.*