



Bergen Summer Research School

> Global Development Challenges

BSRS 2013: Food as a global development challenge
17th - 29th June 2013

PhD-Research Course: Micronutrient Research for Global Health

Course theme:

The course deals with the long-term consequences of micronutrient deficiency on the health and the development of the individual and of society. Micronutrient deficiency may occur independently of any energy deficit and may therefore be 'hidden', and even be associated with overweight and obesity. Assessment issues of micronutrient research will also be part of the course.

Course leaders:

Jutta Dierkes, Department of Clinical Medicine, Section Clinical Nutrition, UiB
Grace Egeland, Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care, Section Lifestyle Epidemiology, UiB

Invited lecturer:

Shenggen Fan, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC, USA

Lecturers:

Jutta Dierkes, Department of Clinical Medicine, UiB
Grace Egeland, Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care, UiB
Karen Marie Moland, Centre for International Health (CIH), UiB
Thorkild Tylleskär, Centre for International Health (CIH), UiB
Tor Strand, Centre for International Health (CIH), UiB
Catherine Kaulfuss, Centre for International Health (CIH), UiB

Course description and objectives:

Malnutrition was for many years only perceived as energy or protein deficit in the diet. During the last 20 years, a shift was noticed from overt malnutrition to 'hidden hunger' - the unrecognized deficiency of micronutrients despite sufficient amounts of energy and macronutrients in the diet. Micronutrient deficiency, however, may have severe consequences for long term health, especially in the so called critical 1,000-day window from conception

until 2 years of age, but also during adolescence and adulthood. The course will deal with all aspects of micronutrient deficiency - epidemiology, assessment and diagnosis, treatment options and long term health outcomes.

At the end of the course, the participants will have a profound knowledge of prevalence, assessment and treatment of micronutrient deficiency and hidden hunger, they will be familiar with research designs used in nutritional assessment and treatment, and will know about public health strategies to cope with this health challenge in different economical settings.

Students:

The course is targeted to PhD students with a background in nutrition, epidemiology, food science and medicine. Students with other specialities are also welcome. It is a two weeks course with core lectures provided and students' own participation.

Course literature will be available online, and participants should be familiar with the literature prior to the course.

The course will be awarded with either 3 ECTS (active participation) or 10 ECTS (active participation plus a written essay on a topic that will be offered during the programme, has to be delivered until September 2013).