

A Service learning activity: 600 students working together

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Université de Montréal Faculté de pharmacie 12 juin 2013


Agenda

- Background
- Program Presentation
 - Mission
 - Program Description
 - Program Architecture
- Service Learning Module
 - Objectives
 - Project Description
 - Sequence of Events
 - Assessment
- Results
- Conclusion

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Background

- 2000 – Program update requested
- 2003 – Initiation of program development
- 2007 – Implementation of the program
- 2011 – First graduates



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Mission

- Train future pharmacists to :
 - Put patients at the center of their concerns
 - Become front-line health care professionals
 - Work in interdisciplinarity
 - Work towards the development and recognition of our profession

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Program Characteristics

- Competency-based
- Active learning/guided learning
- Integrated courses

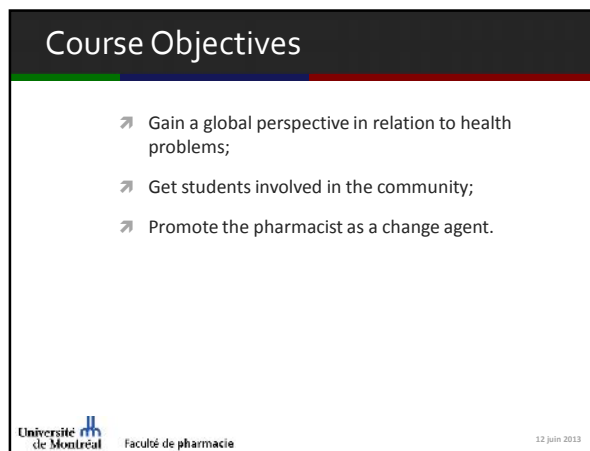
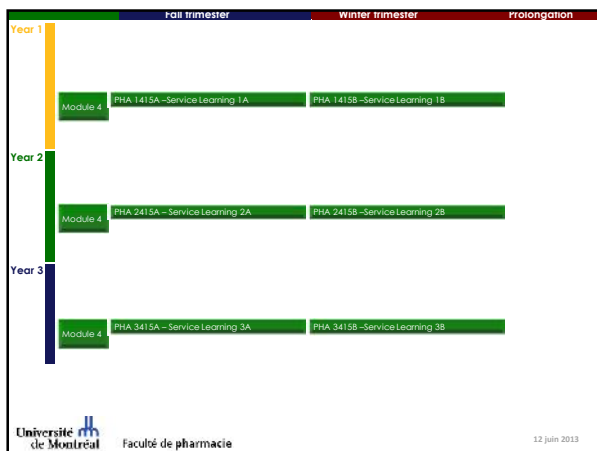
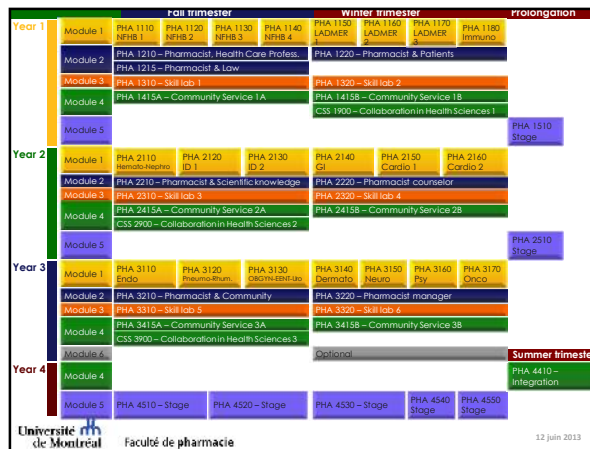
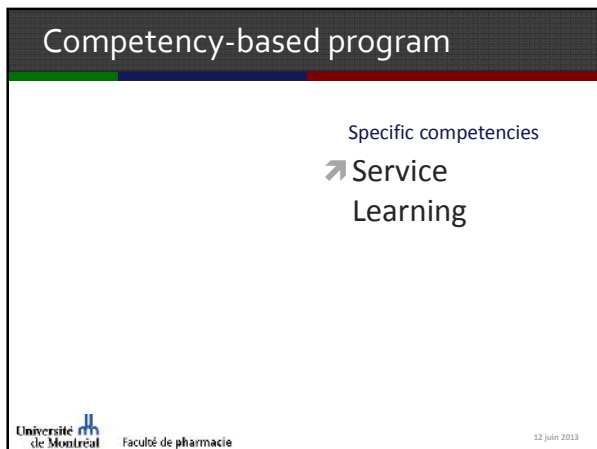
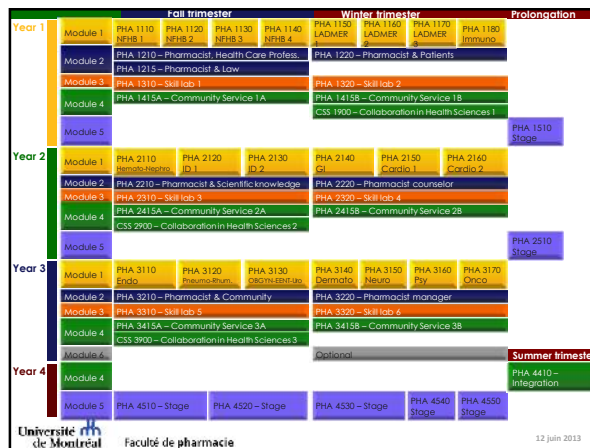
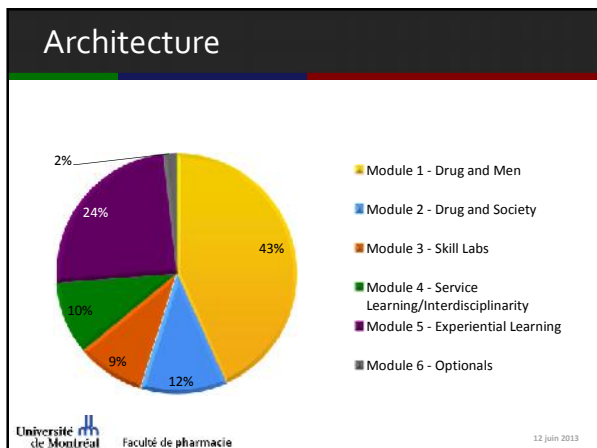


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Competency-based program

Generic competencies	Specific competencies
➤ Professionalism	➤ Pharmaceutical care
➤ Communication	➤ Service learning
➤ Team work and interdisciplinarity	➤ Practice and operations management
➤ Scientific reasoning and critical thinking	
➤ Independent learning	
➤ Leadership	

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Setting

- Two-trimester courses
- Taken by the 200-student cohorts of the first three years of our PharmD program
- Teams of 12 students from all 3 cohorts
- Goal: to create, develop and implement a project that have to:
 - generate a social or community impact
 - be deployed in the community
 - respect 1 of 2 imposed themes
- Teams identify and collaborate with external resources needed to complete their project.
- Three mentors and 2 faculties guide students in their projects.

Project Description

- Targeted competencies:
 - Service learning
 - Professionalism
 - Leadership
- Projects of service learning or public health:
 - 2011-12: Obesity or Stress
 - 2012-13: Reproductive and sexual health or Aging
 - 2013-14: Handicap or Mental Health

Assessment

- 10 deliverables (September to April)
 - Team contract
 - Specific problem to be addressed
 - Description of issues
 - Description of the project
 - Scientific content (video, web page, tools...)
 - Abstract (for Poster session)
 - Project implementation
 - Final report
 - Diary
 - Poster session
- 360° evaluation
 - Student participation and generic competencies



Year-End Symposium

Student Results

- Fifty projects developed and implemented
- Types of projects :
 - development of websites
 - videos or tools for pharmacists
 - direct interventions with targeted audiences
 - organization of awareness campaigns
 - government representations
 - etc.



Challenges and Unanticipated Learnings

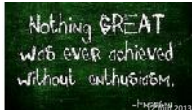
- Interacting with the community
- Listening to the needs of the community
- Dealing with constraints and limits
 - Finding partners willing to collaborate
 - Accepting the unavailability of stakeholders
- « Reality check » - Learning about real life

→ PROUDNESS!!



Course outcomes

- Very positive reception from students' community partners
- Excellent visibility for the profession
- Enthusiasm from most students
- Guests were impressed by the scope and relevance of the projects (University President, National Public Health Director, President of the Quebec Order of Pharmacists...)



Conclusion

- 1st year – Fall 2011/Winter 2012
 - Students were anxious and tried to convince us that the course was not pertinent
- 2nd year – Fall 2012/Winter 2013
 - Students gained confidence and most of them appreciated the course
- 3rd year – Fall 2013/Winter 2014
 - 2-cohort projects
 - 3rd year students – project evaluations

