Critical Issues in Global Health  
PUBH 711 – FALL 2017

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Learning Objectives:
- To explore contemporary issues, problems, and controversies in global health through an interdisciplinary perspective  
- To understand the roles and agendas of major players in global health  
- To understand key global health problems, their distribution, and prevention strategies  
- To examine social, economic, political, and environmental factors that affect public health outcomes  
- To understand the complexities inherent in implementing health programs on a global scale

American School of Public Health (ASPH) Global Health Competencies

This course builds competencies in the following three domains identified by ASPH as abilities required by Master’s level students in Global Health Programs:

- **Domain 4: Health Equity and Social Justice**, defined as the framework for the analysis of strategies to address health disparities across socially, demographically, or geographically defined populations.
- **Domain 6: Socio-Cultural and Political Awareness**, defined as the conceptual basis with which to work effectively within diverse cultural settings and across local, regional, national, and international political landscapes.
- **Domain 7: Strategic Analysis**, defined as the ability to use systems thinking to analyze a diverse range of complex and interrelated factors shaping health trends to formulate programs at the local, national, and international levels.

Course Structure:  
The course is organized into nine content modules, each spanning one (1) – three (3) week(s)
Readings: NO TEXT BOOK PURCHASE IS NEEDED FOR THIS COURSE

Unless otherwise indicated, all course readings and materials will be available on the course Sakai site (https://sakai.unc.edu/portal). You need a valid UNC Onyen and password in order to log in to this site.

Note: Some of these readings may be replaced by more recent or relevant readings during the course of the semester.

Join the Global Health Community:

Subscribe to Devex for daily news digest. https://www.devex.com/
“Devex is the media platform for the global development community... A social enterprise, we connect and inform 700,000+ global development professionals through news, business intelligence, and funding & career opportunities.”

UNC is a founding member of the TGHC and there are events, newsletters and job postings from member organizations through their email listserv. There are a number of networking opportunities available throughout the year. UNC is a member of the CUGH. You do not need to join as an individual if you have a UNC email address.

The annual GHTC conference will take place on September 28, 2017 in Raleigh, NC.

Source of infectious diseases and policy update. We recommend subscribing to the daily newsletter for global health updates.

Global Health Learning Center online courses: https://globalhealthlearning.org/

Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH): http://cugh.org/
UNC is a member of the CUGH. You do not need to join as an individual if you have a UNC email address.

Evaluation: Combination of individual work, group projects and discussion, and final exam.

Grading: Students will be graded on the H, P, L scale.
Breakdown of grade scale is posted on Sakai under “Course Information”
Module 1: August 22 – August 27, 2017

Introduction to Global Health

INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2017

KEY TOPICS:
- Definitions of global health
- Global to local/local to global
- Trends in global health

VIDEO LECTURE:
- Global Health 101: The Kaiser Family Foundation

REQUIRED READINGS:

OPTIONAL READINGS:
INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2017

KEY TOPICS:
- Global burden of disease project overview
- Global burden of disease tools
- Global transitions in health
- Global disparities in health
- Data visualization

VIDEO LECTURES:
- The Global Burden of Disease Study: What Does it Mean for NIH and Global Health Research?
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Exce4gy7aOk
  Playing Time: 9 min 08 sec
- Video of Chris Murray on the Use of the GBD Tools
  Playing Time: 1 hr 32 min 20 sec

REQUIRED READINGS:

OPTIONAL READINGS:
- IHME. Rethinking Development and Health. Findings from the Global Burden of Disease Study (2016).
Synchronous Session with Professor and Chair Devi Sridhar, University of Edinburg (1 Hour) | To be Announced

**KEY TOPICS:**
- Key entities active in the global health landscape
- Sustainable development goals (SDGs)
- Global health funding mechanisms
- Effectiveness of international aid
- Setting global health priorities

**VIDEO LECTURES:**
- Video of Sustainable Development Goals Explained, 2015
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkAv9L1_r1M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkAv9L1_r1M)
  Playing Time: 4 min and 13 sec
- Video of Laurie Garrett’s lecture, Columbia University, September 2011.
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S3EByJ5uWAs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S3EByJ5uWAs)
  Playing Time: 1 hr 21 min 46 sec
- **Optional:** Video from TED Talk: Andrew Mwende: Let’s Take a New Look at Africa Aid, 2007
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfobLjsj230](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfobLjsj230)
  Playing Time: 19 min and 04 sec

**REQUIRED READINGS:**
  [http://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.1002363](http://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.1002363)

**OPTIONAL READINGS:**
GROUP ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

KEY TOPICS:
- Overview of health systems
- Components of a health system
- Financing models of health care
- Service delivery models
- Human resources for health
- Health information systems
- Health system reform

VIDEO LECTURES:
- Janet Hatcher Roberts on Health Systems Strengthening
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AAx7cT5j2I
  Playing Time: 11 min 57 sec
- Strengthening Human Resources for Health in Ivory Coast
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OzvlpFPx-hU&feature=relmfu
  Playing Time: 4 min 37 sec
- **Optional**: YouTube Video: Registering community members for National Health Insurance in Ghana
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JvRK5p2jMFo
  Playing Time: 4 min 15 sec
- **Optional**: YouTube Video: Efficient service delivery at Aravind Eye Clinics in India
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3cJnNPua7Ag
  Playing Time: 6 min 07 sec

REQUIRED READINGS:
  http://www.who.int/healthsystems/publications/hss_key/en/
OPTIONAL READINGS:


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MODULE 5: September 25 – October 8, 2017
Changing Economies, Changing Behaviors –
The Paradox of Nutrition

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INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017

Synchronous Session with Dr. Margaret Peggy Bentley, UNC-Chapel Hill and Stephanie Martin, Cornell University (1 Hour) | Tuesday October 3, 2017 – Time TBD

KEY TOPICS:

- Double burden of malnutrition
- Food security and under nutrition
- Maternal and child under nutrition: global patterns and trends
- Micronutrient deficiencies
- Short-term impacts of under nutrition
- Long-term impacts of under nutrition
- Nutrition transition
- Over nutrition: global patterns and trends
- Interventions to address under nutrition
- Interventions to address poor dietary habits and chronic diseases
- National and global policies: what works and what still needs to be done

VIDEO LECTURES:

- Lancet Maternal and Child Nutrition Series – Watch video 2 (Robert Black’s presentation of paper 1 (27 min 33 sec), video 3 (Robert Black Q&A – 20 min 53 sec) and video 10 (Robert Black’s Call to Action – 21 min 25 sec)
  
  http://www.thelancet.com/series/maternal-and-child-nutrition

  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8II5awaqa8&feature=related
  
  Playing Time: 1 hr 12 min

- Optional: Plumpy’nut: the miracle food that is saving lives (2010). Video clip from The Guardian.
  
  
  Playing Time: 3 min 15 sec

- Optional: Small Towns Struggle with Food Deserts (2010). Video clip from PBS News Hour.
  
  http://newshour-tc.pbs.org/newshour/video/2010/06/03/20100603_5_food.mp4
  
  Playing Time: 6 min 25 sec

REQUIRED READINGS:


### OPTIONAL READINGS:


### MODULE 6: October 9 – 29, 2017

**The Need for Complex Interventions: Infectious Diseases**

**GROUP ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE: OCTOBER 29, 2017**

“A health intervention is an act performed for, with or on behalf of a person or population whose purpose is to assess, improve, maintain, promote or modify health, functioning or health conditions.”


### KEY TOPICS:

- Perpetual challenge of emerging infectious diseases
- Complexity of prevention and treatment interventions
- Biomedical interventions
- Behavioral interventions
- Structural interventions
- Integrated interventions
- Diseases of poverty

### WEBSITE:

- Global HIV/AIDS Overview.

### VIDEO LECTURE:

  [http://www.worldaffairs.org/events/event/1629#.WSMPV2jys2w](http://www.worldaffairs.org/events/event/1629#.WSMPV2jys2w)

### PODCASTS:

- **Optional**: WHO Postcast Episodes (2017). Zika Series (Zika Epidemiology, Long-Term Management of Congenital Zika Virus Syndrome, Ethics of Zika Virus, Zika Virus Research)

### REQUIRED READINGS:


**OPTIONAL READINGS:**

INDIVIDUAL (AND PAIR) ASSIGNMENT 5 DUE: SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2017
Synchronous Session with Dr. Mark Elliott, University of Alabama (1 Hour) | November 9, 2017 at 5 pm ET

KEY TOPICS:
- Effect of water and sanitation on global health
- Water and sanitation development goals and progress
- Global water supply: issues and intervention
- Improving sanitation and hygiene: issues and intervention

REQUIRED READINGS:

TOPIC: Overview

TOPIC: Effect of Water and Sanitation on Global Health
- Prüss-Üstün A, Bos R, Gore F, Bartram J. (2008) Safer water, better health: costs, benefits and sustainability of interventions to protect and promote health. World Health Organization, Geneva. http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/43840/1/9789241596435_eng.pdf (pages 7-26) (This article may look old but it was the last time that the WHO wrote something this all-encompassing for WaSH).

TOPIC: Water and sanitation development goals and progress

TOPIC: Global water supply: issues and intervention

TOPIC: Improving sanitation and hygiene: issues and intervention
OPTIONAL READINGS:

- The SDGs for Water and Sanitation: Big Promises, Big Challenges. IRC, September 2015. [https://www.ircwash.org/blog/sdg-water-and-sanitation-big-promises-big-challenges](https://www.ircwash.org/blog/sdg-water-and-sanitation-big-promises-big-challenges) (listen to the video at the bottom of the article)

WEBSITES WITH GLOBAL (COUNTRY-LEVEL) DATA:

GROUP ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2017
Synchronous Session To be Announced

KEY TOPICS:
- Contraception and family planning
- Safe motherhood
- Elimination of unsafe abortion
- Prevention and treatment of STIs, cervical cancer and other gynecological morbidities
- Promotion of healthy sexuality (sexual health, sexuality and sexual rights)
- Sexual and reproductive rights and the SDGs
- Disparity in access to sexual and reproductive health
- Policies and social forces that prevent effective attainment of reproductive health

VIDEO LECTURES:
  Playing time: 56 min 22 sec
  Playing Time: 20 min, 23 sec
  Playing Time: 20 min 11 sec

REQUIRED READINGS:

OPTIONAL READINGS:
WEBSITES OF INTEREST:
- American Public Health Association – Reproductive and Sexual Health: https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/reproductive-and-sexual-health
- Guttmacher Institute: https://www.guttmacher.org/
- Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE): http://www.genderhealth.org/

MODULE 9: November 27 – December 10, 2017  Emerging Issues in Global Health

INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT 6 AND FINAL EXAM DUE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2017

KEY TOPICS
- Cardiovascular health
- Cancer
- Physical (in)activity
- Mental health
- Aging
- Injuries and traffic accidents
- Fake medicines
- Migrant health
- Technology (fourth revolution) and its role in global health

REQUIRED READINGS – SELECT 5 OF THE FOLLOWING:
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4455081/


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