Global health policy impacts the health and well being of individuals and peoples throughout the world. Many determinants of health operate at a global level, and many national policies, social practices, and individual health behaviors are structured by global forces. Concern for the spread of infectious diseases, increasing rates of chronic diseases and the effectiveness of health systems to provide quality care are among the daunting challenges to health policy makers. With profound social, political and economic changes rapidly challenging global health, the aim of this course in Global Health Policy is to provide students with a variety of opportunities to understand the epidemiologic trends in world health, the institutions of global health governance, and the effects of globalization on global and national health policy.

This course provides an introduction to the relationship between international relations, global health policy and public health outcomes. As a survey course, it ranges broadly over theoretical approaches and concrete issues relating to the realization of public health outcomes in the context of domestic and international health policies. For public policy, public health, and law students seeking to gain an understanding of global health policy, this course will complement other health and policy courses at UNC, giving students a foundation for future studies at the intersection of public health and public policy.

The focus of this course will be on public policy approaches to global health, employing interdisciplinary methodologies to understand selected public health policies, programs, and interventions. For students who already have a basic understanding public health, this course will teach students how to apply policy analysis to a wide range of critical issues in global health determinants, interventions, and impacts. Upon completion, students will have acquired an understanding of the social, economic, cultural, legal, and political processes by which global health policy influences global health objectives.
COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

• Delineate the social, political and economic determinants of global health;
• Identify the evolving national institutions, international organizations, NGOs, private interests, and global partnerships structuring global health policy;
• Analyze the ethical, moral and legal norms that frame global health governance;
• Evaluate the processes by which global health governance and international policy impact global health indicators;
• Apply mechanisms of global health policy to address disease prevention and health promotion;
• Understand the effects, both positive and negative, of globalization on health policy at the international and national level; and
• Conceptualize the effects of social and economic policies on underlying determinants of health.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is divided into four major units at the intersection of global health and public policy:

Unit 1: Frameworks of Global Health Policy
Unit 2: Global Health Governance
Unit 3: Economic Institutions & Health Policy
Unit 4: International Efforts to Address Determinants of Health

ASSIGNMENTS

Student grades will be based on:

Three (3) Position Papers  30%
Final Exam/Paper         50%
Participation            20%

Position Papers
The position papers should provide a succinct (<500 word) analysis and/or critique of a specific aspect of the readings. The three (3) position papers will be due one (1) week after the conclusion of each respective unit. (Note: There will be no position paper due at the conclusion of the fourth unit.) The position papers should not be summaries of the readings but should instead offer thoughtful reactions to several of the readings in that unit.
Final Exam/Paper
The final research paper is a substantial piece of writing (10-12 pages) relying heavily on secondary source material (and primary sources to the degree necessary). The paper should make use of both course and outside readings and investigate an issue of global health policy that is of interest to the student.

Participation
The course is a seminar and will not rely entirely on professorial lecture. Consequently, attendance and participation are mandatory. Students should come to class having read all of the required readings, prepared to raise provocative questions for discussion.

As half of the student’s participation grade (10% of the total grade), each student will be responsible for presenting a written and oral summary of a week’s readings. Summary assignments will be selected during the first class.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Unit 1: Frameworks & Institutions of Global Health Policy

Session 1-What is Global Health? What is Global Health Policy?

Required Readings


Optional Readings


Required Readings

Optional Readings

- Koivusalo, M. & Ollila, E. (1997) Ch 2, WHO (pp. 6-22), Ch. 3, The World Bank, (pp. 23-45), Ch. 4, UNICEF (pp.46-61), UNDP (pp. 62-70), UNFPA (pp. 71-19), and, Other Actors in International Health Policies (pp. 80-93) In Making a Healthy World, Zed Books, Ltd. London.

Session 3-Globalization, Global Public Goods and Global Policy for Health

Required Readings


Optional Readings


Session 4-Normative Frameworks for Global Health Policy: Collective Action, Ethics & Individual Rights

Required Readings


Optional Readings


**Session 5-Processes: How is Global Health Policy Developed?**

**Required Readings**


**Optional Readings**


**Unit 2: Global Health Governance**

**Session 6-Infectious Disease Control: Isolation, Eradication, and the International Health Regulations**

* First Position Paper Due

**Required Readings**


Optional Readings


Session 7-Non-Communicable Disease Prevention: Tobacco, Obesity, and Food Safety

Required Readings


Optional Readings


Session 8-Health Promotion: Breastfeeding, Water and Nutrition

**Required Readings**

**Optional Readings**

Session 9-Health Protection: TNCs and Corporate Compacts

**Required Readings**

**Optional Readings**
Unit 3: Economic Institutions & Health Policy

Session 10—Economic Development Policy for Public Health
* Second Position Paper Due

Required Readings


Optional Readings


Session 11—Global Economic Policy and National Health Systems

Required Readings


Optional Readings

Session 12-Trade Regimes & International Frameworks for Intellectual Property

Required Readings

Optional Readings

Unit 4: International Efforts to Address Determinants of Health

Session 13-Environmental Health, Pollution & Climate Change

* Third Position Paper Due

Required Readings

Optional Readings

Optional Readings


Session 15-Social Determinants of Health

Required Readings


Optional Readings