

## **PLCY 565: GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY**

Benjamin Mason Meier, JD, LLM, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Global Health Policy  
Department of Public Policy  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
204 Abernethy Hall, CB #3435  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3435  
919-962-0542  
bmeier@unc.edu  
<http://www.unc.edu/~meierb/>

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

- Brown, T. M., Cueto, M., & Fee, E. (2005). The World Health Organization and the transition from 'international' to 'global' public health. *American Journal of Public Health, 96*(1), 62.
- Fried, L. et al. (2010). Global health is public health. *Lancet, 375*, 535-537.
- Birn, A. E. (2009). The stages of international (global) health: Histories of success or successes of history? *Global Public Health, 4*(1), 50-68.

##### Optional Readings

- Garrett, L. (2007). The challenge of global health. *Foreign Affairs, 86*(1), 14-38.
- Cohen J. (2006). The new world of global health. *Science, 311*(5758), 162-167.

#### **Session 2-Global Health Policy Architecture: National Foreign Assistance, International Organizations, Nongovernmental Organizations, and Transnational Corporations**

##### Required Readings

- Ruger, J. P. (2005). The changing role of the World Bank in global health. *American Journal of Public Health, 95*(1), 60-70.
- Fidler, D. (2007). Architecture amidst anarchy: Global health's quest for governance. *Global Health Governance, 1*(1).
- Szlezák, N.A., Bloom, B.R., Jamison, D.T., et al (2010). The global health system: Actors, norms, and expectations in transition. *PLoS Med., 7*(1).
- Dodd, R., Lane, C. (2010). Improving the long-term sustainability of health aid: are Global Health Partnerships leading the way. *Health Policy & Planning, 25*, 363-371.

### 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.
- Drager, N. & Fidler, D. P. (2007) Foreign policy, trade and health: At the cutting edge of global health diplomacy. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 85(3).
- Okie, S. (2006) Global health – The Gates-Buffet effect. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 355, 1084-88.
- Kickbusch, I. (2002). Influence and opportunity: Reflections on the U.S. role in global public health. *Health Affairs*, 21(6), 131-141.
- Committee on the U.S. Commitment to Global Health (2009). *The U.S. Commitment to Global Health: Recommendations for the Public and Private Sectors*. Washington: Institute of Medicine.

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

#### Required Readings

- Stiglitz, J. (2002). Chapter One: The promise of global institutions. *Globalization and its Discontents* (3-22). London: Penguin Books.
- Lee, K. Buse, K. & Fustukian, S. (Eds.). (2002). *Health policy in a globalizing world*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Huynen, M. MTE., Martens, P., Hilderink, H. BM. (2005). The health impacts of globalisation: a conceptual framework. *Globalization and Health*, 1(14), 1-12.
- Labonté, R., Mohindra, K. & Schrecker, T. (2011). The growing impact of globalization for health and public health practice. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 32, 263-83.
- Yach, D. & Bettcher, D. (1998). The globalization of public health, II: The convergence of self-interest and altruism. *Am J Public Health*, 88, 738 - 744.

#### Optional Readings

- Felice, W. F. (1999) The viability of the United Nations approach to economic and social human rights in a globalized economy. *International Affairs*, 75(3), 563-598.
- Lee, K. (2003) *Globalization and health: An introduction* (pp. 185-215). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Taylor, A. L. (2004). Governing the Globalization of Public Health. *J.L. Med. & Ethics*, 32(3), 500-508.
- Gershman, J. & Alec Irwin, A. (2000). Getting a Grip on the Global Economy. In J. V. Millen, J. Y. Kim, & A. Irwin (Eds.), *Dying for growth: Global inequality and the health of the poor*. Monroe, Me: Common Courage Press.

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

#### Required Readings

- Beauchamp, D. E. (2003). Public Health as Social Justice. In R. Hofrichter (Ed.) *Health and social justice* (pp. 267-270).
- Harmer, A. (2011). Understanding change in global health policy: Ideas, discourse and networks. *Global Public Health*, 6(7), 703-718.

- Gruskin, S., Mills, E. J., & Tarantola, D. (2007). History, principles, and practice of health and human rights. *The Lancet*, 370, 449-455.
- Beaglehole, R., Bonita, R., Horton, R., Adams, O., & McKee, M. (2004). Public health in the new era: Improving health through collective action. *The Lancet* 363(9426), 2084-2086.

#### Optional Readings

- Dwyer, J., (2005). Global health and justice. *Bioethics*, 19, 460-475.
- Pogge, T. W., (2005). Human rights and global health. *Metaphilosophy*, 36(1), 182-209.
- Benatar, S. R., (2005). Moral imagination: The missing component in global health. *Public Library of Science: Medicine*, 2, 1207-1210.

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

#### Required Readings

- Maciocco, G., & Stefanini, A. (2007) From Alma Ata to the global fund: The history of international health policy; prepared by the Italian Global Health Watch. *Social Medicine*, 7(4), 479.
- Fidler, D. P. (2001). The Globalization of Public Health: The First 100 Years of International Health Diplomacy. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 79(9), 842-849.
- Kickbusch, I., Silberschmidt, G., & Buss, P. (2007). Global health diplomacy: The need for new perspectives, strategic approaches and skills in global health. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 85(3), 230.
- Lee, K. & Smith, R. (2011). What is 'Global Health Diplomacy'? A conceptual review. *Global Health Governance*, V(I).

#### Optional Readings

- Bartsch, S., Wolfgang, H., & Kohlmorgen, L. Interfaces: A Concept for the Analysis of Global Health Governance; in: Global Health Governance and the Fight against HIV/AIDS; Wolfgang Hein, Sonja Bartsch, Lars Kohlmorgen (eds.); Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan
- Gostin, L. O. (2007). A proposal for a framework convention on global health. *Journal of International Economic Law*, 10(4), 989-1008.
- Chan, L. H., Lee, P. K. & Chan, G. (2009). China engages global health governance: Processes and dilemmas. *Global Public Health*, 4(1), 1-30.
- Litsios, S. (2002). The long and difficult road to Alma-Ata: A personal reflection. *International Journal of Health Services*, 32(4), 709-732.

## **Unit 2: Global Health Governance**

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

#### **\* First Position Paper Due**

#### Required Readings

- Lee, K., & Fidler, D.P. (2007). Avian and pandemic influenza: Progress and problems with global health governance. *Global Public Health*, 2(3), 215-234.

- Siddiqi, J. (1995). *World health and world politics: The World Health Organization and the UN system*. London: Hurst and Co.
- Fidler, D. P. & Gostin, L. O. (2006). The new international health regulations: An historic development for international law and public health. *The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*, 34(1), 85-94.
- Ricci, J. (2009). Global health governance and the state: Premature Claims of a post-international framework. *Global Health Governance*. III(I).

#### Optional Readings

- Garrett, L. (2000). *Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Taylor, A. L. (1997). Controlling the Global Spread of Infectious Diseases: Toward a Reinforced Role for the International Health Regulations. *Houston Law Review*, 33, 1327-1360.
- Muraskin, W. (1998). *The politics of international health: The children's vaccine initiative and the struggle to develop vaccines for the third world*. Albany: State Univ. of New York Press.

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

#### Required Readings

- Collin, J., Lee, K., & Bissell, K. (2002). The framework convention on tobacco control: The politics of global health governance. *Third World Quarterly*, 23(2), 265-282.
- Yach, D., Hawkes, C., Gould, L., & Hofman, K. J. (2004). The global burden of chronic disease. *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, 291(21), 2616-2618.
- Swinburn, B.A. et al. (2011). The global obesity pandemic: Shaped by global drivers and local environments. *Lancet*, 378, 804-814.
- Magnusson, R.S. (2009). Rethinking global health challenges: Towards a 'global compact' for reducing the burden of chronic disease. *Public Health*, 123, 265-274.
- Sridhar, D., Morrison, J.S., & Piot, P. (2011). Expectations for the United Nations high-level meeting on noncommunicable diseases. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 89, 471-471.

#### Optional Readings

- Yach, D. & Bettcher, D. (2000). Globalisation of tobacco industry influence and new global responses. *Tobacco Control*, 9, 206-216.
- Aginam, O. (2005). *Global health governance: International law and public health in a divided world*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.
- Negri, S. (2009). Food safety and global health: An international law perspective. *Global Health Governance*, 3(1).
- Beaglehole, R., & Yach, D. (2003). Globalisation and the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases: The neglected chronic diseases of adults. *Lancet*, 362, 903-908.
- Satcher, D. (2004). Food safety: A growing global health problem. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 283(14), 1817.

## **Session 8-Health Promotion: Breastfeeding, Water and Nutrition**

### Required Readings

- Sikkink, K. (1986). Codes of conduct for transnational corporations: The case of the WHO/UNICEF code. *International Organization*, 40(4), 815-840.
- Caballero, B. (2005). A nutrition paradox — Underweight and obesity in developing countries. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 352(15), 1514-1516.
- Bartram, J. et al. (2005). Focusing on improved water and sanitation for health. *Lancet*, 365, 810-812.
- Lee, E. (2005). The World Health Organization's Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity, and Health: Turning strategy into action. *Food & Drug Law Journal*, 60, 569-601.
- Yach, D. (2011). Nutritional change is not a simple answer to non-communicable diseases. *BMJ*. 343.

### Optional Readings

- Chopra, M., Galbraith, S., & Darnton-Hill, I. (2002). A global response to a global problem: The epidemic of overnutrition. *Bull World Health Organ*, 80(12), 952-958.
- Bartram, J. (2008). Flowing away: water and health opportunities. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 86, 2-3.
- Meier, B.M. & Labbok, M. (2010). From the bottle to the grave: Realizing a human right to breastfeeding through global health policy, *Case Western Reserve Law Review*. 60(4), 1073-1142.

## **Session 9-Health Protection: TNCs and Corporate Compacts**

### Required Readings

- Hilton, I. (2000). A bitter pill for the world's poor. *The Guardian*, 5 Jan 2000.
- Friedman, M. (1970). The social responsibility of business is to increase its profits. *New York Times*, 13 Sept 1970.
- Gilmore, A.B. et al. (2011). Public health, corporations and the New Responsibility Deal: promoting partnerships with vectors of disease?, *Journal of Public Health*, 33(1), 2-4.
- Lincoln, P. et al. (2011). Conflicts of interest and the UN high-level meeting on non-communicable diseases, *Lancet* 378: e6.
- Gruskin, S., Raad, Z. (2010), Are Drug Companies Living Up to Their Human Rights Responsibilities? Moving Toward Assessment, *PLoS Medicine* (2010).

### Optional Readings

- Taylor, A. L. (2000). International law and health, two approaches: The World Health Organization's tobacco initiative and international drug controls, *Am. Soc'y Int'l L. Proc.*, 94, 193.
- Starrels, J.M. (1985). *The World Health Organization: Resisting Third World Ideological Pressures*. Washington: Heritage Foundation.
- Hsieh, N. (2004). The obligations of transnational corporations: Rawlsian justice and the duty of assistance. *Business Ethics Quarterly*.

## **Unit 3: Economic Institutions & Health Policy**

### **Session 10-Economic Development Policy for Public Health**

#### **\* Second Position Paper Due**

##### Required Readings

- Sen, Amartya. (1999) Chapter 1: The perspective of freedom. *Development as Freedom*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.
- Waitzkin, H. (2003). Report of the WHO Commission on Macroeconomics and Health: a summary and critique. *Lancet*, 361, 523-526.
- Kawachi, I. & Wamala, S. (2006). Poverty and inequality in a globalizing world. In I. Kawachi, & S. Wamala (Eds.), *Globalization and Health* (pp. 3-15). New York: Oxford University Press.
- Nayar, K. R., Razum, O. (2006) Millennium development goals and health: Another selective development? *International Studies*, 43(3), 317-322.

##### Optional Readings

- Jha, P., Mills, A., Hanson, K., Kumaranayake, L., Conteh, L., Kurowski, C., et al. (2002). Improving the health of the global poor. *Science*, 295(5562), 2036-2039.
- Ruger, J. P. (2006). Ethics and governance of global health inequalities. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 60, 998-1002.
- World Health Organization. (2001). *Executive summary of the report, Macroeconomics and health: Investing in health for economic development* (pp. 1-20). Cambridge, MA: Sachs.

### **Session 11-Global Economic Policy and National Health Systems**

##### Required Readings

- Coburn, D. (2001). Income inequality, social cohesion and the health status of populations: The role of neo-liberalism, *Social Science & Medicine*, 51, 135-146.
- Mohindra, K. S. (2007). Healthy public policy in poor countries: Tackling macroeconomic policies. *Health Promotion International*, 22(2), 163-169.
- The World Health Organization. (2008). *The World Health Report 2008- Primary Health Care (Now more than ever)*. Available at <http://www.who.int/whr/2008/en/index.html>

##### Optional Readings

- Macfarlane, S., Racelis, M., & Muli-Musiime, F. (2000). Public health in developing countries, *The Lancet*, 356, 841-846.
- Braveman, P., & Gruskin, S. (2003). Poverty, equity, human rights and health. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 81(7), 539-545.
- Chen, L. C., & Berlinguer, G. (2001) In T. Evans, M. Whitehead, F. Diderichsen, A. Bhuiya, & M. Wirth (Eds.), *Challenging inequities in health: From ethics to action*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Schoepf, B. G., Schoepf, C., & Millen, J. V. (2000). Theoretical therapies, remote remedies: SAPs and the political ecology of poverty and health in Africa. In J. Y. Kim, J. V. Millen, J. Gershman, & A. Irwin (Eds.), *Dying for growth: Global inequality and the health of the poor* (pp. 91-125).



## **Session 12-Trade Regimes & International Frameworks for Intellectual Property**

### Required Readings

- Lee, K., Sridhar, D., & Patel, M. (2009). Bridging the divide: Global governance of trade and health. *The Lancet*, 373(9661), 416-422.
- Schaffer, E.R., Waitzkin, H., Brenner, J., & Jasso-Aguilar, R. (2005). Global trade and public health. *American Journal of Public Health*, 95(1), 23-34.
- Dal, B., Sunderland, L., Drager, N. (2009). Forging the trade link in global health governance. In A.F. Cooper & J.J. Kirton (Eds.), *Innovation in Global Health Governance*. 245-356.

### Optional Readings

- Forman, L. (2007). Trade rules, intellectual property, and the right to health. *Ethics and International Affairs*, 21(3), 337-357.
- Ranson, M. K., Beaglehole, R., Correa, C. M., Mirza, Z., Buse, K., & Drager, N. (2002). The public health implications of multilateral trade agreements. In K. Lee, K. Buse, & S. Fustukian (Eds.), *Health Policy in a Globalising World*. 18- 40.
- MacDonald, R., & Horton, R. (2009). Trade and health: Time for the health sector to get involved. *The Lancet*, 373(9660), 273-274.
- World Trade Organization. (2003). *WTO agreements and public health – A joint study by WHO and WTO secretariat*. Available at: [http://www.wto.org/english/res\\_e/booksp\\_e/who\\_wto\\_e.pdf](http://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/who_wto_e.pdf)
- World Trade Organization. (2002). *Declaration on the TRIPS agreement and public health of 14 Nov. 2001*. Available at [http://www.wto.org/english/thewto\\_e/minist\\_e/min01\\_e/mindecl\\_trips\\_e.pdf](http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/min01_e/mindecl_trips_e.pdf)
- World Health Organization. (2006). *Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health*. Switzerland: WHO Press. Available at: <http://www.who.int/intellectualproperty/en/>

## **Unit 4: International Efforts to Address Determinants of Health**

### **Session 13-Environmental Health, Pollution & Climate Change**

#### **\* Third Position Paper Due**

### Required Readings

- Frumkin, H., Hess, J., Lubet, G., Malilay, J., & McGeehin, M. (2008). Climate change: the public health response. *American Journal of Public Health*, 98(3), 435-445.
- Campbell-Lendrum, D., Corvalán, C., & Neira, M. (2007). Global climate change: implications for international public health policy. *Bulletin of the World Health*, 85(3), 235-237.
- McMichael, A. J., Woodruff, R. E., & Hales, S. (2006). Climate change and human health: Present and future risks. *The Lancet*, 367, 859-869.
- Wiley, L.F. & Gostin, L.O. (2009). The international response to climate change: An agenda for global health. *JAMA*, 302(11), 1218-1220.

### Optional Readings

- McMichael, A. J., Friel, S., Nyong, A., & Corvalan, C. (2008). Global environmental change and health: Impacts, inequalities, and the health sector. *British Medical Journal*, 336, 191-194.
- Costello, A., Abbas, M., Allen, A., Ball, S., et al. (2009). Managing the health effects of climate change. *Lancet*, 373, 1693-1733.

## **Session 14-Reproduction and Family Planning**

### Required Readings

- Birn, A. E. (1999). Skirting the issue: Women and international health in historical perspective. *American Journal of Public Health*, 89(3), 399-407.
- Roseman, MJ, Reichenbach . (2010). International Conference on Population and Development at 15 years: Achieving sexual and reproductive health and rights for all?. *American Journal of Public Health*, 100(3): 403-406.
- Freedman, L. P., Waldman, R. J., Pinho, H., Wirth, M. E., Chowdhury, M. R., & Rosenfield, A. (2005). Task force on child health and maternal health, who's got the power? Transforming health systems for women and children. *The Lancet*, 365(9463), 997-1000.

### Optional Readings

- Patrick, H. (1999). The global and regional impact of mortality and fertility transitions, 1950-2000. *Population and Development Review*, 25(4), 681-702.
- Shiffman, J. (2007). Generating political priority for maternal mortality reduction in 5 developing countries. *American Journal of Public Health*, 97(5), 796-803.
- Mayhew, S. H. (2002). Donor dealings: The impact of international donor aid on sexual and reproductive health services. *International Family Planning Perspectives*, 28(4), 220-224.

## **Session 15-Social Determinants of Health**

### Required Readings

- Marmot, M. et al. (2008). Closing the gap in a generation: Health equity through action on the social determinants of health. *Lancet*, 372, 1661-69.
- Irwin, A., Valentine, N., Brown, C., & Loewenson, R. (2006). The commission on social determinants of health: Tackling the social roots of health, *PLoS Med*, 3(6), 106.
- Lee, K. (2010). How do we move forward on the social determinants of health: the global governance challenges. *Critical Public Health*, 5-14.

### Optional Readings

- Marmot, M. (1999). Epidemiology of socioeconomic status and health: Are determinants within countries the same as between countries? In socioeconomic status and health in industrial nations: Social, psychological and biological pathways. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, 896, 16-29.
- Kunitz, S. J. (2007). Sex, race and social role--history and the social determinants of health. *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 36(1), 3-10.
- Marmot, M. G., & Wilkinson, R. G. (Eds.). (2006). *Social determinants of health*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.