Course Title: Global Health (WSU Core)

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Course Number: PPH2000

Course Description: Global health involves social, political, cultural, economic and environmental considerations that affect the health of communities and individuals around the world. The goal of global health is to promote population health, safety and well-being, as well as eliminating health and social disparities worldwide. This course will investigate the commonalities and differences of global health issues around the world and how these are diverse, but interconnected. Integrated writing course. Distance Education.

Course Meeting Times: Fall and Spring terms. It is expected to have three different sections with 35 students each, 105 students total per semester the course is offered.

Course Materials: No textbook will be used. Only scientific papers and website content related to global health. Students will also use online tools related to learning, such as Wikispaces and YouTube.

Evaluation: Evaluation will happen weekly through the following:
- Quizzes related to video-taped lectures
- Writing in discussion boards, self-reflections, and peer reviews
- Group exercises
- Group projects
- Participation (as monitored by wikispaces, collaborative tool)
Course Learning Outcomes

* represents intensive writing learning objectives
** represents multicultural competence learning objectives

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Propose health as a human right.
- Summarize the interconnectedness and many different aspects of global health**.
- Explain how different global environments produce different health needs, problems, and solutions.
- Review the significance of social determinants of health, both “upstream” and “downstream factors”.
- Demonstrate how the global burden of disease varies based on changing economies/societies.
- Understand the value of developing “frugal technologies” for low-resource settings**.
- Recognize that bidirectional cooperation and learning is essential to global health.
- Summarize why solutions to global health challenges have to be adapted to local contexts**.
- Discuss how globalization is both the problem and solution to global health.
- Illustrate what works and does not work in global health efforts.
- Develop interpersonal, presentation, writing, and critical thinking skills*
- Shows competency in standard edited American English*
- Exercise critical appraisal of resources on the Internet*
- Experience the importance of collaboration, reflection, and team learning for the practice of global health**
- Become more prepared to act as global health citizens**

Major Topic Organization

A- Principles of Global Health (1-7)
B- Global Burden of Disease (8-13)
C- Global Health Challenges (14-15)
PRINCIPLES OF GLOBAL HEALTH

Module 1: Learning Global Health Online

This module starts by describing course policies, syllabus, how to use online resources and tools (wikis, video), written student introductions (web page), and the “Is distance learning for you?” questionnaire.

Module 2: Globalization and Health

This module defines the concepts of globalization and health, provides examples of global health efforts, and indicates that globalization is both a problem and solution for global health.

Module 3: Cooperation in Global Health

This module introduces the importance of cooperation in global health and identify the key actors and organizations for global health. This sets up the stage for students to begin working in small groups which will occur weekly. Peer review and self-reflection will also happen weekly.

Module 4: Development and Health Transitions

Topics covered are the relation between health and development and demographic and epidemiologic transitions.

Module 5: Social Determinants of Health

This module introduces concepts related to social determinants of health and how social, economic, political, legal and material factors affect health and cause disease

Module 6: Measures of Health and Disease in Populations

Define the concepts of morbidity, mortality, disability and risk factors. Introduce the most widely used health indicators: life expectancy, infant mortality and DALYs. Describe the significance of the global burden of disease study and illustrate the morbidity, mortality and risk factors in relation to the global burden of disease.

Module 7: Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development

Introduce the notions of MDGs and post-2015 Goals for Sustainable Development.
GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE

Modules 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13: Global Burden of Disease

Small group projects where students collaborate through wikis exploring one of the following themes: environmental health, child’s health, women’s health, nutrition, communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, injuries and violence, natural disasters and complex humanitarian emergencies.

GLOBAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

Modules 14, 15: Global Health Challenges

Presentation of the “draft” project, peer review, peer group feedback, presentation of final project (video or podcast), and general synthesis of the small group projects.