



GCH 543 Global Health: Trends and Policies

Fall 2009

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Department of Global and Community Health
College of Health and Human Services

Syllabus

Global Health: Trends and Policies
GCH 543-002
Fall 2009

Time: Tu 4:30 – 7:10 PM
Location: Innovation Hall 133
Credit: 3 hours

Instructor: Curtiss Swezy, DrPH
Email: cswezy@cox.net
Student Advising: e-mail or by
appointment
Teaching Assistant: Ms. Ghada Khan
E-mail: gkhan2@gmu.edu

Catalog Description: A general survey course covering the health challenges in the world today; their various social, economic and epidemiological causes; the role and likely success of information and technology transfer, primary health care, social awareness and interventions in alleviating the problems. Lecture and discussion.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will:

- Understand global health issues, trends and policies.
- Assess forces, such as population growth, food supply, disease, war and political activities that have shaped the world at the beginning of the 21st Century and their impact on global health.
- Develop an understanding of recent initiatives in global health.
- Assess and analyze global health initiatives and their outcomes.
- Compare and contrast health trends and policies between the affluent west and developing countries.
- Identify and analyze the crucial determinates of global health development.
- Identify factors that affect the health status/health practice and health service in a country.

Teaching Strategies – Seminar Discussions. Faculty and guest speakers will introduce topics concerning global health trends and policies. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss the issues, raise questions and engage in a dialogue with the presenters. Peer and team learning will be emphasized, drawing upon the very rich background of the students enrolled in the class.

Required Textbook:

Essentials of Global Health (1st ed) by Skolnik, Richard. Jones and Bartlett Publishers (2007).

Grading:

Grades will be based upon three deliverables – a Term Paper, a Student Panel presentation, and seven Annotated Bibliographies. In addition, participation will be 15% of the course grade; this puts a premium on attending every

class, particularly since the course only meets once a week. Specific voluntary contributions will be documented in a journal. The dates for the deliverables will be discussed and set on the first day of class.

Paper	30%
Panel	30%
Annotated bibliographies	20%
Participation	15%
A+/A	93 -- 100
A-	90 -- 92
B+	86 -- 89
B	80 -- 85
B-	75 -- 79

Deliverables

- Annotated Bibliographies – Students will be responsible for writing up seven (7) annotated bibliographies on topics covered in the course. These reviews will be shared with everyone and serve as a basis for discussion in class. They should come from professional journals, Web sites, and professional texts and reports. Generally, articles in the popular press are discouraged.
- Term Paper – Students are required to complete a written assignment on Global Health of more than seven pages in length. The paper may be tailored to an individual's discipline or interest.
- Student Panels – The students will lead the class in panel presentations using Microsoft PowerPoint on an aspect of international health. This may reflect material covered in the class or be a completely new addition to the classes knowledge base. Suggested topics could include, but are not limited to:
 - ✦ *HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases*
 - ✦ *Emerging and Reemerging Diseases*
 - ✦ *Personal Responsibility and Health Behaviors*
 - ✦ *Nutrition, Food Supply and Hunger*
 - ✦ *Health and the Environment*
 - ✦ *Violence and Health*
 - ✦ *Population Changes and it's Impact*

- ✧ *Mental Illness and Disability*
- ✧ *Female Circumcision*
- ✧ *Child Trafficking*

* Journal Entries – From classroom discussions students will volunteer to undertake specific assignments to identify bibliographic sources, data, and/or AV clips that will enhance the topics covered. These data points will be shared with the rest of the class. For the purposes of record keeping, students will submit a one-sentence journal entry to document these contributions.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see Debbie Wyne and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 703- 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the DRC.

Class Schedule

09/1	Introductions, syllabus and course overview.
09/08	History and Evolution of Global Health
09/15	Selected topics
09/22	Selected topics
09/29	Selected topics
10/06	Selected topics
10/13	Guest Lecturer: Dr. Richard Skolnik

NOTE: This will be a combined class with the Monday section.

10/20	Selected topics
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Term Papers Due

10/27	Selected topics
11/03	Selected topics
11/10	Selected topics
11/17	Selected topics

Last day for submitting Annotated Bibliographies

11/24	Student Panels
12/1	Student Panels
12/08	Summary and Review