

SYLLABUS

HCA 685.01
International Health Policies
Spring 1995
Division: Mercer University
Masters of Science in
Health Care Policy
and Administration

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I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: Basic Sciences Degree.

Texts: 1. Basch Paul F. Textbook of International Health, Oxford University Press, 1990.
2. World Bank. World Development Report 1993, Oxford University Press, 1993.

Cases: One per student; to be analyzed individually and discussed in class.

Project: To be developed as a group.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The objective of this course is to identify the major factors of influence on the global distribution in health, and to demonstrate the concepts underlying the current international public health policies. Emphasis will be on the context of illness, the environmental and biological setting of health, infant and maternal mortality, development and health, primary health care, economic and policy aspects, comparison of health care systems, international health organizations, current epidemics, and international health research including ethics.

III. CLASS OBJECTIVES:

1. Describe the concepts and historical developments of International Health and their relevance to the current perceptions on global health.
2. Describe the definitions and techniques used in International Health assessments, including those based on epidemiology.
3. Identify the priorities in International Health

including population control, nutrition, universal immunization, disease eradication, diarrheal and acute respiratory disease control, water supply and sanitation, and explain the targets as set by International Health organizations based on patterns of morbidity and mortality.

4. Explain the economic factors that influence the global distribution of wealth and health, including the effects of industrialization and urbanization on the societal structure and the environment.
5. Discuss implementation and financial sustainability of international health care programs.
6. Explain the political factors that influence the global distribution of health, access to health care, and health education, including those related to program organization, management and evaluation.
7. Discuss some of the conflicts between indigenous and western health perceptions in planning international health programs, and propose possible solutions.
8. Explain the Primary Health Care model and its relevance for western and developing societies including the concern for 'good health at low cost'.
9. Describe the impact of some of the current pandemics (polio, cholera, malaria, AIDS) on the structure of the society in various countries and discuss the adequacy of the present health policies in this regard.
10. Discuss gender differences in health distribution in industrialized and agricultural societies and the determinants of child survival.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

- A. Instructions for research projects/papers assigned
 1. Individual assignment

Students will be expected to review current literature related to International Health to support participation and discussion in class. Students will be required to choose one article to review, analyze, write up and hand in as a report for grading. These will also be prepared for oral presentation in class. This will be an individual assignment.

2. Group assignment

Students, four to six to a group, will be expected to prepare a group project based on a topic provided in a special list (see below), or any other international health-related topic, in consultation with the teacher. The above-mentioned individual article review could be incorporated into this group project. The project will be presented on the last day of the course. The quality of the project paper should be such that it would lend itself to journal publication. The sequence of authorship will depend on the degree of input by the individual student. Grading will be based on the groups' efforts and the ultimate quality of the paper, and will apply to all participants to the project equally.

The group's term-paper is to be written in term-paper format, (typed, double-spaced) and submitted the day of the presentation, together with the diskette.

B. Grading

Grades will be determined from several activities during the quarter. The distribution and weight of each is as follows:

Article review/Presentation	=	10%
Midterm	=	25%
Final	=	25%
Group Project	=	30%
Class Participation	=	10%

V. COURSE OUTLINE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPICS</u>	<u>CHAPTERS</u>
04/01/95	<u>Outline Article Reviews</u>	
	<u>Outline Group Projects</u>	
	<u>Self-formulated course objectives</u>	
	Introduction to and History of International Public Health	1
	Concepts of Illness and Health	2,3,4

04/08/95	Guest Lecture (Dr Hans O Lobel, Chief Malaria Surveillance, Division of Parasitic Diseases, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) on 'International Malaria Control'.	
	<u>Group Project Draft</u>	
	<u>Article presentation I</u>	
	International Health Priorities	5,6,7
04/15/95	No class (Easter Weekend)	
04/22/95	<u>Article presentation II</u>	
	Health Economics and Policy	8,9
04/29/95	<u>Group Project Progress</u>	
	<u>Article presentation III</u>	
	Health Care Systems, National and International	10,11
	Review Exam	
05/06/95	<u>Midterm Exam</u>	
05/13/95	<u>Article presentation IV</u>	
	Epidemic diseases	12
	International Health Planning	13
X 05/20/95	Guest Lecture (Dr Arthur Manoharan, Visiting Professor, Clark Atlanta University) on 'International Health Research and Ethics'	
	International Health and Ethics	Appendix
05/27/95	Research and Development	14
	Review Exam Material	

06/03/94

Group project presentations

X 06/10/95

Final Exam

VI. Topics for group projects

1. The Media and international health policy decisions. P
2. Households and health
3. Violence against women as a health issue
4. Donor coordination in the health sector: avenues for possible solutions in developing countries. R/P
5. Primary Health Care: the first decades. R
6. Urbanization, industrialization and health in developing countries: new policy perspectives. P
7. Mental illness in developing countries: magnitude and health policy implications. R/P
8. International health research and plagiarism
9. The eradication of diseases: smallpox, example or exception ? R/P
10. The World Bank and the World Health Organization: allies or antagonists ?
- (). Own choice, upon Professor's approval.