GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES

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GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Issues related to health are among the most important challenges facing societies, both domestically and globally. Finding solutions to health-related problems requires multidisciplinary comprehension of all dimensions of health, including biological and social determinants, economics and politics of health care systems and health care delivery, and ways in which health is understood by individuals, societies, and cultures.

The Global Health Studies program facilitates global health education for undergraduates at Yale, offering interdisciplinary courses that bring together the natural sciences, social sciences, and the humanities. Students choose a major in another department or program and expand their education with courses offered by Global Health Studies.

Students desiring greater depth in the field are encouraged to apply to be a Global Health Scholar. Global Health Scholars are usually selected in the fall of their sophomore year although, in exceptional cases, juniors may also be accepted. Scholars complete an interdisciplinary course of study that includes four required and two elective courses and fieldwork (e.g., internships with NGOs, or field-based research either with faculty or independently with faculty guidance). In the summer after the junior year, Scholars conduct their own independent global health fieldwork, for which they receive support in the form of course work, designated funding, and mentorship from an assigned global health faculty adviser. During their senior year, Scholars are expected to incorporate their global health fieldwork and classroom experiences into their senior requirement and to develop a publication-worthy written product.

To assist students in connecting classroom knowledge and skills with practical work in global health, the Global Health Studies program supports fellowships such as the Global Health Field Experience Award, the Yale-Collaborative Action Project (Y-CAP), and the Yale College Fellowships for Research in Global Health Studies.

Qualified students may take graduate courses at the School of Public Health, subject to restrictions on graduate and professional school enrollment described in the Academic Regulations. Further information about these courses and other graduate offerings can be found in the School of Public Health bulletin. For information about the five-year B.A.–B.S./M.P.H. degree program offered jointly with the School of Public Health, see Public Health.

Global Health Studies Courses

* HLTH 155a / E&EB 106a / MCDB 106a, Biology of Malaria, Lyme, and Other Vector-Borne Diseases  Alexia Belperron
  Introduction to the biology of pathogen transmission from one organism to another by insects; special focus on malaria, dengue, and Lyme disease. Biology of the pathogens including modes of transmission, establishment of infection, and immune responses; the challenges associated with vector control, prevention, development of vaccines, and treatments. Intended for non-science majors; preference to freshmen and sophomores. Prerequisite: high school biology.  SC

HLTH 170a / AMST 247a / FILM 244a / HIST 147a / HSHM 202a, Media and Medicine in Modern America  John Warner and Gretchen Berland
  Relationships between medicine, health, and the media in the United States from 1870 to the present. The changing role of the media in shaping conceptions of the body, creating new diseases, influencing health and health policy, crafting the image of the medical profession, informing expectations of medicine and constructions of citizenship, and the medicalization of American life.  HU

HLTH 280b / ER&M 214b / HIST 146b / HSHM 212b, Historical Perspectives on Global Health  Joanna Radin
  The broader historical context of contemporary practices, policies, and values associated with the concept of global health. Historical formations around ideas about disease, colonialism, race, gender, science, diplomacy, security, economy, and humanitarianism; ways in which these formations have shaped and been shaped by attempts to negotiate problems of health and well-being that transcend geopolitical borders.  HU

* HLTH 480b / E&EB 460b, Studies in Evolutionary Medicine I  Stephen Stearns
  Principles of evolutionary biology applied to issues in medical research and practice. Lactose and alcohol tolerance; the "hygiene hypothesis"; genetic variation in drug response and pathogen resistance; spontaneous abortions, immune genes, and mate choice; the evolution of aging; the ecology and evolution of disease; the emergence of new diseases. Students develop proposals for research to be conducted during the summer. Admission by competitive application; forms are available on the Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Web site.  SC
* HLTH 490a, Global Health Research Colloquium  Staff
This course is designed for Yale College seniors or graduate students who are synthesizing data from global health fieldwork and preparing manuscripts that are suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal. Enrollment is limited to 18, and preference will be given to Global Health Fellows. The course meets weekly, but the format of individual course sessions changes as described in detail in the syllabus. Students will receive one-on-one instruction and mentorship from one of the course professors, participate in peer-review in small work groups, give a research-in-progress presentation, and develop a manuscript suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Priority will be given to Global Health Fellows. Students must have completed global health fieldwork.  RP

Related Courses

* AFST 401a, Research Methods in African Studies  Veronica Waweru
Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research methodologies in African studies, with emphasis on field methods and archival research in the social sciences and humanities. Research methodologies are compared by studying recent works in African studies.

* ANTH 451b / WGSS 451b, Intersectionality and Women’s Health  Marcia Inhorn
The intersections of race, class, gender, and other axes of “difference” and their effects on women’s health, primarily in the contemporary United States. Recent feminist approaches to intersectionality and multiplicity of oppressions theory. Ways in which anthropologists studying women’s health issues have contributed to social and feminist theory at the intersections of race, class, and gender.  SO

Anthropology: Sociocultural

* ANTH 455b / WGSS 459b, Masculinity and Men’s Health  Marcia Inhorn
Ethnographic approaches to masculinity and men’s health around the globe. Issues of ethnographic research design and methodology; interdisciplinary theories of masculinity; contributions of men’s health studies from Western and non-Western sites to social theory, ethnographic scholarship, and health policy.  SO  RP

Anthropology: Sociocultural

ECON 170a, Health Economics and Public Policy  Howard Forman
Application of economic principles to the study of the U.S. health care system. Emphasis on basic principles about the structure of the U.S. system, current problems, proposed solutions, and the context of health policy making and politics. After introductory microeconomics.  SO

* ECON 405a, Economics of Health and Health Care  Staff
Economic principles and empirical methods applied to issues in health economics. Discussion of policies to address market failures in health care markets. Consumer behavior in medical markets, valuing medical improvements, and evaluating health insurance reform. Prerequisites: intermediate microeconomics and econometrics.  SO

* ECON 461b, Economics, Addiction, and Public Policy  Jody Sindelar
Smoking, alcoholism, illicit drugs, and obesity studied from economic and policy perspectives. Focus on causes of and solutions to problems. After introductory microeconomics.  SO

EVST 255a / F&ES 255a / PLSC 255a, Environmental Politics and Law  John Wargo
Exploration of the politics, policy, and law associated with attempts to manage environmental quality and natural resources. Themes of democracy, liberty, power, property, equality, causation, and risk. Case histories include air quality, water quality and quantity, pesticides and toxic substances, land use, agriculture and food, parks and protected areas, and energy.  SO

* EVST 261a / F&ES 261a / G&G 261a, Minerals and Human Health  Ruth Blake
Study of the interrelationships between Earth materials and processes and personal and public health. The transposition from the environment of the chemical elements essential for life. After one year of college-level chemistry or with permission of instructor; G&G 110 recommended.  SC

HSHM 215b / HIST 140b, Public Health in America, 1793 to the Present  Naomi Rogers
A survey of public health in America from the yellow fever epidemic of 1793 to AIDS and breast cancer activism at the end of the past century. Focusing on medicine and the state, topics include quarantines, failures and successes of medical and social welfare, the experiences of healers and patients, and organized medicine and its critics.  HU

* MCDB 050a, Immunology and Microbes  Paula Kavathas
Introduction to the immune system and its interaction with specific microbes. Attention both to microbes that cause illness, such as influenza, HIV, and HPV, and to microbes that live in harmony with humans, collectively called the microbiome. Readings include novels and historical works on diseases such as polio and AIDS. Enrollment limited to freshmen. Preregistration required; see under Freshman Seminar Program.  SC  RP

MCDB 290b, Microbiology  Christine Jacobs-Wagner and Stavroula Hatzios
Cell structure of bacteria, bacterial genetics, microbial evolution and diversity, bacterial development, microbial interaction, chemotaxis and motility, gene regulation, microbial genomics and proteomics, CRISPR, metabolism, infectious diseases, mechanisms of pathogenesis, host defense systems, viruses, gut microbiota in health and disease. Prerequisites: BIOL 101, 102, and 103, or equivalent performance on the corresponding biological sciences placement examinations; or one term of biochemistry, or cell biology, or genetics; or with permission of instructor.  SC
* PSYC 355a / EDST 355a, Clinical Psychology in the Community  Kristi Lockhart
Mental disorders as they are treated within a community setting. Students participate in a fieldwork placement, working either one-on-one or in groups with the psychiatrically disabled. Seminar meetings focus on such topics as the nature of severe mental disorders, the effects of deinstitutionalization, counseling skills, and social policy issues related to mental health. Prerequisite: PSYC 180 or permission of instructor.
Psychology: Social Science