GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES

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GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES MULTIDISCIPLINARY ACADEMIC PROGRAM

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. The GHS program is designed for students interested in critically and analytically engaging in global health. The program supports students in developing and balancing an appreciation for biomedical and technical issues related to diseases and their treatment and prevention, with an understanding of the historical, social, economic, and political concerns that are implicated in how health is determined and experienced in the twenty-first century. Students choose a major in another department or program and expand their education with courses offered by Global Health Studies.

Although most courses in global health are open to all undergraduates, students desiring greater depth in the field are encouraged to apply to become a Global Health Scholar, typically in the fall of their sophomore year. Global Health Scholars complete an interdisciplinary course of study that includes required and elective course work that supports students in achieving six global health competencies: Biological & Environmental Influences on Health; Health & Societies; Historical Approaches; Performance, Representation & Health; Political Economy & Governance in Health; Understanding & Interpreting Quantitative Data. Moreover, in the summer after junior year, Global Health Scholars pursue an optional experiential learning project (e.g., internships with NGOs, archival research, field-based projects with faculty, etc.), for which they can receive support in the form of designated funding and mentorship from a global health adviser. During their senior year, students enroll in a colloquium course which serves as a capstone project that meaningfully integrates the skills and knowledge acquired through the GHS program.

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 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 Academic Regulations, section K, Special Arrangements, “Courses in the Yale Graduate and Professional Schools.” 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. program offered jointly with the School of Public Health, see Public Health.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM

Prerequisite None
Number of courses 6 courses (inc senior req)
Specific course required HLTH 230
Distribution of courses 4 electives to achieve the six global health competencies as indicated
Senior requirement HLTH 490, Senior colloquium

View Courses