GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES

Program director, Global Health Studies: Kristina Talbert-Slagle (kristina.talbert-slagle@yale.edu)

GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Rene Almeling (Sociology), Gretchen Berland (Medicine), Leslie Curry (Public Health), Jane Edwards (Yale College Dean’s Office), Kaveh Khoshnood (Public Health), Catherine Panter-Brick (Anthropology), Joanna Radin (History of Medicine), Mark Saltzman (Biomedical Engineering), Michael Skonieczny (Public Health), Stephen Stearns (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), Kristina Talbert-Slagle (Public Health), John Wargo (Forestry & Environmental Studies), Marney White (Public Health)

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 235a, Evolution and Medicine  Stephen Stearns
  Introduction to the ways in which evolutionary science informs medical research and clinical practice. Diseases of civilization and their relation to humans’ evolutionary past; the evolution of human defense mechanisms; antibiotic resistance and virulence in pathogens; cancer as an evolutionary process. Students view course lectures on line; class time focuses on discussion of lecture topics and research papers. Prerequisite: BIOL 101–104.  wr, sc

* HLTH 370b / E&RM 360b / HSHM 432b / SOCY 390b / WGSS 390b, Politics of Reproduction  Rene Almeling
  Reproduction as a process that is simultaneously biologic and social, involving male and female bodies, family formation, and powerful social institutions such as medicine, law, and the marketplace. Sociological research on reproductive topics such as pregnancy, birth, abortion, contraception, infertility, reproductive technology, and aging. Core sociological concepts used to examine how the politics of reproduction are shaped by the intersecting inequalities of gender, race, class, and sexuality.  wr, so
Related Courses

* ANTH 386a / GLBL 393a, Humanitarian Interventions: Ethics, Politics, and Health  Catherine Panter-Brick
Analysis of humanitarian interventions from a variety of social science disciplinary perspectives. Issues related to policy, legal protection, health care, morality, and governance in relation to the moral imperative to save lives in conditions of extreme adversity. Promotion of dialogue between social scientists and humanitarian practitioners.  WR, SO

* ANTH 45b / WGSS 45b, Masculinity and Men's Health  Staff
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

* BENG 405b / EVST 415b, Biotechnology and the Developing World  Anjelica Gonzalez
Study of technological advances that have global health applications. Ways in which biotechnology has enhanced quality of life in the developing world. The challenges of implementing relevant technologies in resource-limited environments, including technical, practical, social, and ethical aspects. Prerequisite: MCDB 120, or BIOL 101 and 102.

ECON 170b, 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 325a or b, Economics of Developing Countries: Focus on South Asia  Staff
This class addresses the economics of poverty and development with a particular focus on South Asia. Why do some countries appear to belong to radically different economic systems? What historical legacies have contributed to poverty in South Asia? And what work is currently being done to address persistent underdevelopment and poverty in the region? Prerequisites: ECON 115 or equivalent; ECON 121; ECON 131.  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

ENVE 441a, Biological Processes in Environmental Engineering  Jordan Peccia
Fundamental aspects of microbiology and biochemistry, including stoichiometry, kinetics, and energetics of biochemical reactions, microbial growth, and microbial ecology, as they pertain to biological processes for the transformation of environmental contaminants; principles for analysis and design of aerobic and anaerobic processes, including suspended- and attached-growth systems, for treatment of conventional and hazardous pollutants in municipal and industrial wastewaters and in groundwater. Prerequisites: CHEM 161, 165, or 163, 167 (or CHEM 112, 113, or 114, 115, or 118); MCDB 290 or equivalent; or with permission of instructor.  SC

EVST 255b / F&ES 255b / PLSC 215b, 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

* GLBL 306a / AFST 306a, Social Enterprise in Developing Economies II  Robert Hopkins
Summer research developed into a case-study project on a topic related to the use of social enterprise in regional economic development. Prerequisite: GLBL 305

* MCDB 050a, Immunology and Microbes  Staff
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 first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year 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.