Globalization and Health

CH184 Fall 2015
Instructor: Cora.Roelofs@tufts.edu
Wednesdays 1:30-4pm
274 Boston Ave. Room 206

Course Description

Globalization and Health (formerly "Public Health in the Global Economy") is an advanced global health class examining the social, economic and political determinants of health as defined by the World Health Organization. Global economic phenomena such as trade, debt, investment, financial crises, migration, resource exploitation, and development projects have profound impact on global health and countries' abilities to meet the basic human needs of their populations. Countries experiencing rapid economic transitions such as China and Mexico, are also experiencing profound transitions in health related to changes in nutrition and the environment. We will investigate the health consequences of recent patterns of global economic development and examine strategies for integrating health into development such as social standards, Health in All Policies, corporate responsibility, global governance for health, sustainable development and cleaner production. Topics will include global supply chains, resource exploitation, manufacturing, domestic work, pharmaceuticals, and food and agriculture. We will look at a range of impacts on human health such as accidents, chemical exposures, pollution, stress and chronic disease, as well as broader health phenomena implicated by climate change, financial crises, transnational agreements, economic transition, urbanization and transnational migration. The role of governments, non-governmental organizations, international trade groups, global corporations and social movements in promoting or compromising the social, political, and economic determinants of health will also be highlighted.

Learning Objectives

1. Recognize and define social, political and economic determinants of health
2. Understand global inequities in health and their social determinants
3. Understand global health and global economic terms
4. Compare development, equity, and governance between several high, middle and low income countries and understand how these factors affect population health
5. Gauge the health impacts of economic growth and development
6. Understand the impact on health of
   1. global trade agreements and global economic institution
   2. access to and control of land and water resources
   3. the “Nutritional Transition” and global proliferation of tobacco and narcotics and factors promoting and mitigating them
   4. the relationship between economic activity and environmental threats to health
   5. the global supply chain including environmental and occupational health impacts of industries such as clothing and electronics
   6. drivers and health consequences of internal and international migration and labor policies
   7. private and public sector corruption and lack of democratic participation
   8. climate change
   9. economic determinants of mental health and the role of corporations in influencing cultural norms related to health
7. Work in groups to organize compelling and succinct presentations on class topics
8. Utilize a Health in All Policies framework to understand governmental role in promoting public health in the face of global economic pressures
Operating Procedures: In short: please come to class, come on time, stay til the end and let me know if you can’t; be respectful of your peers in groups and in class; do not use computers or other devices in class; eat before class if possible or during the break; let me know if you are having a problem with the class and observe the Tufts University policies on academic integrity.

Assignments and Grading (Further Details on Trunk under Assignments)

Class Presentation on Topics: With your partner/s, present the topic readings/watchings and the topic. 20 points
Take Home Midterm Exam: This will allow you to demonstrate that are getting the fundamental concepts of the course. 20 points
Class Participation: Attend every class, come on time, demonstrate you’ve done the readings, and add to the discussion. 10 points
Term Paper: Social Determinants of Health/Health in All Policies 2024 for the country of your choice. Proposal and Annotated Bibliography 10 points; Draft:10 points, Presentation 10 points; Final Paper 20 points.

Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9</td>
<td>Introduction: Social, Political and Economic Determinants of Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/16</td>
<td>Global Economy, Development, Social Determinants, and Inequality</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/23</td>
<td>Trade Agreements, Financial Crises, Austerity, and Development Funding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/30</td>
<td>Land and Water</td>
<td>Proposal and Annotated Bibliography Due 10/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/7</td>
<td>Nutrition Transition</td>
<td>Students present topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/14</td>
<td>Migration, Women, and Labor</td>
<td>Speaker: Natalicia Tracy, Brazilian Immigrant Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/21</td>
<td>Resource Extraction</td>
<td>Students present topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/28</td>
<td>Tobacco, Alcohol and Illegal Drugs</td>
<td>RefWorks Workshop at Tisch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/4</td>
<td>Global Supply Chain</td>
<td>Students present topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/10</td>
<td>Environmental Impact</td>
<td>Speaker: Morgan Currier, United Students Against Sweatshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Midterm Exam Due 11/12 5pm</td>
<td>CR in Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/18</td>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE ON TUESDAY, NO CLASS 11/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/25</td>
<td>No Class: Thanksgiving Break</td>
<td>Students present topics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/2</td>
<td>Climate Change and Summary</td>
<td>Paper Drafts Due 12/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/9</td>
<td>Student Presentations</td>
<td>Papers Due 12/21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Required Class Preparation

9/9 Introduction: Development, Social Determinants of Health, Inequality and the Global Economy

The key question for this course is: If the health of individuals and populations is determined by social conditions (more than biological phenomena), what determines those social conditions?

Rio Declaration on the Social Determinants of Health
Adelaide Statement on Health in All Policies

9/16 Global Economy, Development, Social Determinants, and Inequality (Part One)

The Questions:

1. What do we need to know about the global economy to understand how health is determined for different people?
2. How did economic history of the past 50 years determine the economic and political “present”? What are some of the historic milestones? What institutions have been the key actors?
3. What are the dominant models and trends of development and expectations around government role in the economy? What is meant by the term “neoliberalism”?
4. How do “structural reforms” required by international financial institutions impact governments’ action on health?
5. What is the state of inequality in the world and how does inequality impact health?
6. How do global health indicators reflect changes in economic and social conditions?

The Readings:
United Nations The Millennium Development Goals Report Summary 2015 (Read the Summary and pick one goal to read the update on)

9/23 Trade Agreements, Financial Crises, Austerity, and Development Funding

The Questions:

1. How do trade agreements affect health?
2. What is a financial crisis?
3. What happened as a result of the 2006-2008 financial crises and how did it affect global health (especially in Europe)?
4. How were these financial crises related to the world food crises?
5. What is austerity and how do austerity policies impact public health?
6. How did the economic crises impact state power, especially with regard to social policies and health systems?
7. What is the role of governments during financial crises and how can governments protect health of their populations during crises?
8. What impact will future financial instability have on global public health?
9. How should governments regulate financial markets to protect health?

The Readings:

Doha WTO Ministerial 2001 Declaration on the TRIPS agreement and public health

10/2 Land and Water

The Questions:

1. What is food sovereignty?
2. What are land and water “grabs” and what is driving them? What are the consequences? What could be the benefits?
3. How does ownership of land and water resources promote or challenge health?
4. What's the Food Value Chain and how is health impacted at each point?
5. What do modern and traditional agricultural techniques contribute to health improvement? What is/was the “green revolution”? What is agroecology?
6. What do GMOs have to do with globalization and health?

The Readings:

John Vidal How food and water are driving a 21st-century African land grab The Guardian March 6, 2010
Watch: Unreported World: Haiti: The Island that Ate Itself (2009) 24 minutes

10/7 Nutrition Transition

The Questions:

1. What is the Nutrition Transition and what forces and factors promote adoption of the “Western” diet?
2. Why does the transition seem to follow economic development?
3. What is the role of urbanization and agriculture?
4. What is the role of the price of food? (What controls price?)
5. What is the relationship between health behaviors related to diet and exercise and the social and economic conditions in which they occur?
6. What are the consequences for health of the Nutrition Transition?
7. How does over-nutrition coexist with under or malnutrition?
8. How are inequalities associated with the nutrition transition?
9. What policies and programs could moderate the nutrition transition and its impacts?
10. What’s the relationship between the causes and the responses?
11. Given global trends in chronic diseases related to the nutrition transition, what are the implications for the development of health infrastructure and resources for healthcare?

**The Readings:**

**Everyone:**
Corinna Hawkes, *Uneven dietary development: linking the policies and processes of globalization with the nutrition transition, obesity and diet-related chronic diseases* Globalization and Health 2006, 2:4


**India and Pacific Islands Group**

**Overweight in the Pacific: links between foreign dependence, global food trade, and obesity in the Federated States of Micronesia**
**Nauru: An island plagued by obesity and diabetes**

**China Group**
Hon-Ming Lam, Justin Remais, Ming-Chiu Fung, Liqing Xu, Samuel Sai-Ming Sun *Food supply and food safety issues in China*, The Lancet, Volume 381, Issue 9882, 8–14 June 2013, Pages 2044-2053

**Latin America Group**

**10/14 Migration, Urbanization and Labor**

**The Questions:**
1. What are some of the main reasons why people migrate within countries? Between countries? What’s a “pull” factor vs. a “push” factor? How are these factors different for men and women?
   How is migration a social determinant of health? How does migration directly and indirectly impact health?
2. How does the migration of health personnel impact global health? What measures might safeguard against the negative effects of health personnel migration?
3. What are the trends in urbanization – moving from rural areas to urban ones?
4. What are some advantages and disadvantages of urbanization for global health?
5. What are the ways that slums impact the health of their residents?
6. What are some of the ways that work determines health around the globe?
7. What are types of labor rules and how could they help improve the health of workers?

**The Readings:**
International Labour Organisation *Domestic workers across the world: Global and regional statistics and the extent of legal protection (SUMMARY) 2013*
Couple admit to underpaying immigrant for 13 years, Boston Globe 1/9/14
Watch this Video by the Aspen Institute about *International Health Worker Migration*
Jones, *Qatar Called to Publish World Cup Worker Death Figures*, WSJ, 6/4/15

**10/21 Resource Extraction**

**The Questions**

1. What is the relationship between oil or mineral development, wealth and health?
2. What are the health effects of mining and burning coal, oil and gas?
3. What are the health effects of mining gold and other precious metals?
4. Does development of the extractive industries strengthen the ability of governments to achieve public health objectives? Do these projects reduce inequity or promote it?
5. Why is oil wealth associated with a higher prevalence rate of HIV and higher death rate from AIDS?
6. Why does the “‘the Paradox of Plenty’,” also known as “‘the resource curse’,” persist, and are current transparency initiatives sufficient to undo the curse?
7. Is mining compatible with sustainable development aimed at promoting health and slowing climate change?

**The “Readings”:**
**Everyone:**
Watch Cameroon: *Pipeline to Prosperity* and read the World Bank’s FAQs on this project.
Read the United Nations’ *Extractive Industries and Conflict* pages 6-11

**Coal Group**
Greenpeace East Asia *The True Cost of Coal* and *China coal use falls*
Watch *The Last Mountain*
Gold Group

Philippines and Indonesia: Children Mine for Gold at Great Risk to Their Health. Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting OR Lamar, The Real Price of Gold National Geographic, 2009


Watch Gold Fever or Daughter of the Lake (if you can find it) or Golden Times – Cassandra's Treasure

Fracking Group

Shonkoff, et al. Environmental Public Health Dimensions of Shale and Tight Gas Development

Watch either the anti-fracking Gasland or the pro-fracking Fracknation (Both in Tisch)

Recommended: Potential Health and Environmental Effects of Hydrofracking in the Williston Basin, Montana

10/28 Tobacco, Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

QUESTIONS TO COME

The “Readings”:


Choose a Country Economic Report (on the right – we'll discuss in class)

Bastos, Structural Violence in the Context of Drug Policy and Initiatives Aiming to Reduce Drug-Related Harm in Contemporary Brazil, Substance Use & Misuse, 2012

11/4 Global Supply Chain

QUESTIONS TO COME

The “Readings”:

Everyone: Garrett D. Brown, The Global Threats to Workers’ Health and Safety on the Job and NY Times In China, Human Costs Are Built Into an iPad

Jamaica Group

Watch Life and Debt in Jamaica: FDV8892

WHO, Jamaica at a glance

Jake Johnston The Multilateral Debt Trap in Jamaica June 2013, Center for Economic Policy Research

China and Korea Group

Watch China Blue: FDV4488 or Cotton Road?

WHO, China at a glance

Jiwon Han, Wol-san Liem and Yoomi Lee In the Belly of the Beast: Samsung Electronics Domestic Supply Chain and Workforce in South Korea, 2013
Mexico Group
Watch Maquilapolis: FDV4598
WHO, Mexico at a glance

11/10 Environmental Impacts

QUESTIONS TO COME

China Group:

Huang, Tackling China’s Environmental Health Crisis, Council on Foreign Relations, 2015
Do a bit of your own research on the Tianjin Explosions August 2015


Global Toxics and e-Waste Group
Blacksmith Institute, Top Ten Toxic Threats in 2013: Cleanup, Progress, and Ongoing Challenges, 2013. Read through p. 19 and then pick one or more “older” sites to follow up

United Nations Environment Programme, 20th Anniversary of the Basel Convention (2009) and Basel Convention (Summary)

NAFTA at 20 Group
Satija, Despite Efforts, The Rio Grande Is One Dirty Border, NPR
Grineski, Double exposure and the climate gap: changing demographics and extreme heat in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico.
Local Environment 2015

11/18 Mental Health

The Questions

1. What are some social, political, and economic determinants of mental health?
2. Does money buy happiness?
3. How is inequality related to mental health?
4. What role does culture play in defining and promoting mental health? How global is mental illness?
5. How has the pharmaceutical industry marketed mental illness and drugs globally?

The Reading:

Watters, Ethan Crazy Like Us: The Globalization of the American Psyche, 2010 Chapter 4 The Mega-Marketing of Depression in Japan (On sale at the bookstore)
11/25 No Class – Thanksgiving

12/2 Climate Change and Summary

QUESTIONS TO COME

Kjellstrom T, McMichael AJ. Climate change threats to population health and well-being: the imperative of protective solutions that will last. Glob Health Action. 2013 Apr 3;6:20816. doi: 10.3402/gha.v6i0.20816.


Recommended: Greg Martin, Alexandra Grant and Mark D’Agostino, Global health funding and economic development. Globalization and Health 2012, 8:8

Recommended: Watch Ben Falk’s TedTalk

12/9 Presentations