GLOBAL HEALTH STUDIES

globalhealthstudies.northwestern.edu/

Global health problems are of concern to policy makers, public health professionals, and those who work for international agencies. Solving these problems requires not only financial resources but, more important, a deep understanding of the interaction between domestic and global forces, and the cultural and political realities that affect the design and implementation of solutions in specific settings.

The interdisciplinary Program in Global Health Studies offers an adjunct major and minor designed to provide skills for dealing with complex international health issues, focusing on health disparities and inequalities. Students learn about domestic and international approaches to international crisis management, in addition to perspectives on specific health issues within the diverse United States population.

The program is designed for students from a variety of backgrounds and schools, including those interested in medicine and health sciences. It combines an international public health experience with coursework drawing on many disciplines including public health, anthropology, history, economics, engineering, political science, sociology, international relations, and psychology.

Programs of Study

- **Global Health Studies Adjunct Major** (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/global-health-studies/global-health-studies-adjunct-major)
- **Global Health Studies Minor** (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/global-health-studies/global-health-studies-minor)

**GBL_HLTH 301-0 Introduction to International Public Health (1 Unit)**

Introduces students to pressing disease and health care problems worldwide. The course identifies the main actors, institutions, practices, and forms of knowledge production characteristic of what we call "global health" today, and explores the factors that shape patterns and experiences of illness and healthcare across societies.

**GBL_HLTH 302-0 Global Bioethics (1 Unit)**

Global health is a popular field of work and study for Americans, but though entered with the best of intentions, the work is beset with ethical questions, concerns, and dilemmas. In this course, students will assess emblematic ethical challenges in global health and consider approaches to addressing them. 

**GBL_HLTH 303-0 Gender and Global Health (1 Unit)**

Overview of the interaction between sex/gender and global health. Through lectures, readings, and discussions, we examine: how sex/gender is a contributing factor in health; the social dynamics of gender and gender roles; and gender inequalities and health.

**GBL_HLTH 305-0 Global Health & Indigenous Medicine (1 Unit)**

Exploration of a variety of healing systems, their relationship to global health, and the factors underlying why people choose one over another.

**GBL_HLTH 306-0 Biomedicine and Culture (1 Unit)**

Comparative exploration of biomedical cultures in different contexts, both in the U.S. and other countries. This course covers how biomedicine intersects with technology, consumerism, politics, economics, culture, power, and place. It further investigates the possibilities and limitations of biomedicine across the globe, particularly regarding how biomedical cultures affect and are affected by patients and health care workers.
GBL_HLTH 316-SA Development Perspectives on Health in South Africa Through Community Engagement (1 Unit) Reflection on service-learning experiences at community organizations in relation to theories of international development and global health. Focus on how health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS, malnutrition, poverty, the environment, occupational health, and gender, impact development. Restricted to students in Northwestern's South Africa program. Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 320-0 Qualitative Research Methods in Global Health (1 Unit) This course emphasizes research skills acquisition in a practical manner. Topics include how to design, conduct, analyze and write up qualitative ethnographic research. The course covers research methodologies, ethics and Institutional Review Boards, and ethnographic field methods such as participant observation, qualitative interviewing, life histories, focus groups, data coding and analysis. Students acquire research skills while receiving significant feedback throughout. Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 321-0 War and Public Health (1 Unit) Comparative overview of the impact of armed conflict on public health and healthcare delivery worldwide. Historical and contemporary case studies. Specific health needs of refugees and vulnerable populations. Ethics Values Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 322-0 The Social Determinants of Health (1 Unit) Advanced introduction to socioeconomic, political, and cultural determinants of health disparities between social groups and categories. Case studies from the United States, South Africa, and Brazil. Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 323-0 Global Health from Policy to Practice (1 Unit) Examines global health and development policy, from the politics of policy-making to the impacts of policy on global health practice and local realities. This course highlights the histories and material, political, and social realities of policy and its application. The course draws on case studies of policy makers, economists, public officials, health care workers, and aid recipients. Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 324-0 Volunteerism and the Ethics of Help (1 Unit) Explores the ethics of altruism through the discourses and practices that make up volunteering, from the perspectives of volunteers, hosts, and a range of others both promoting and critiquing volunteering. What motivates people to volunteer among strangers or in unfamiliar contexts? What are the implications for volunteers, and communities and institutions where foreign volunteering takes place?. Ethics Values Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 325-0 History of Reproductive Health (1 Unit) This course concerns the history of human reproduction from multiple vantage points. Since reproduction is often about power, the course is framed around the distribution of power in matters of reproduction; as such we will pay particular attention during this class to struggles over matters of reproduction as we explore historical changes and continuities in reproduction globally since 1900. Historical Studies Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 332-SA Public Health in China (1 Unit) Examination of China's public health system. Focus on role of government, emerging environmental problems, food safety, and prevalent communicable and non-communicable diseases. Restricted to students in Northwestern's China program. Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 333-SA Traditional Chinese Medicine (1 Unit) Introduces traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) principles and methods as they relate to Chinese culture and philosophy, including TCM diagnostics and therapies. Compares and discusses integration of TCM and Western medicine. Restricted to students in Northwestern's China program. Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

GBL_HLTH 390-0 Special Topics in Global Health (1 Unit) Advanced work in areas of developing interest and special significance. Can be repeated for credit with a different topic. Offered on campus and on Northwestern programs abroad. Recent courses include Ecology of Infant Feeding, Native American Health, and Public Health and Mental Health in Serbia.

GBL_HLTH 390-SA Special Topics in Global Health (1 Unit) Advanced work in areas of developing interest and special significance. Can be repeated for credit with a different topic. Offered on campus and on Northwestern programs abroad. Recent courses include Ecology of Infant Feeding, Native American Health, and Public Health and Mental Health in Serbia.

GBL_HLTH 399-0 Independent Study (1 Unit) Advanced work under faculty supervision. May be taken twice for credit but does not count toward the core or elective requirements. Prerequisite: department consent.