Global Inequalities and Health  
SOC 463  
Spring 2012  
Tuesday 12:00-1:50pm

Instructor: Margaret Everett, PhD  
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Office hours: Thurs 12:00-2:00pm, and by appointment

Course Description

This course examines international health in social, political and economic perspective. How is the distribution of health and disease shaped by such forces as globalization, transnationalism and migration? We will consider inequalities within and between countries and regions. Infectious pandemics and chronic diseases (the so-called 'diseases of development'), as well as global public health responses will be addressed.

Course Materials

The following books are required and are available at the PSU Bookstore.


Additional readings will be available in PDF on D2L. The location of each reading is clearly marked on the syllabus each week, but students should plan ahead in order to make sure that they have the readings in time to prepare for class.

Hybrid Course

This is a “hybrid” course, meaning that instruction is made up of both weekly face-to-face classroom time and online activities. To access d2l, go to the d2l.pdx.edu. To login, enter your odin ID and your odin password. If you do not have an odin account, or are not
sure what your odin ID or password is, go to https://www.account.pdx.edu/ or contact the Information Technology Help Desk at help@pdx.edu or 725-HELP.

Course materials are organized online in learning modules. To find learning modules, look for the “Course Contents” tab at the top of the course homepage. Learning modules are organized by week, and each week’s learning module will include complete instructions on what you need to do before and after class that week, topics for the week, reading materials for the week, and other information. While the syllabus provides an overview of the class, the learning modules will contain the most up-to-date information and instructions for each week. Please be sure to check the “Weekly Summary” at the top of each learning module at the beginning of each week.

Disability Services

If you have a disability and need an accommodation, please meet with the instructor outside of class so that we can make the necessary arrangements. PSU students requesting accommodations should first contact the Disability Resource Center. For more information on the Disability Resource Center and what resources are available at PSU, see http://www.pdx.edu/uasc/drc.html.

Assignments and Grading

Reading Quizzes (30% of total grade)
Students will complete brief reading quizzes on d2l throughout the term as indicated on the syllabus. Quizzes will cover readings and other online materials and will help students prepare for class discussions. Quizzes should be completed no later than 8pm on Monday each week so that the instructor can review student reflections on the reading before class. The lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Online Discussion (20% of total grade)
Following class each week, I will post some questions on the discussion board. These questions will follow up on our in class discussion and look ahead to the next week’s topic. Students will be asked to reply to at least one of my questions and to reply to at least one of their peer’s comments. Participation in online discussion will be graded as a participation grade. Questions will be posted each week by 9am on Wednesday. Students should respond to the instructor by Friday at 8pm, and respond to a peer comment by Monday at 8pm.

Take-home Essays (50% of total grade)
Students will complete two take-home essays (25% of final grade each). Writing prompts will be given about one week before the essays are due.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to describe the “social determinants of disease”, that is, the ways social, political, economic and cultural factors influence health and illness in an international context.
Students will understand some of the critical links between development and health.

Students will be able to identify and critically evaluate social science contributions to the study of international health inequalities.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1: Introduction: Global Health and the Social Sciences**
Class meets: Tuesday, April 3
Quiz: NO quiz this week

**Week 2: Global Inequalities and Health**
Class meets: Tuesday, April 10
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, April 9
Reading: *Paul Farmer Reader*: Chapter 16, pages 328-349, and Chapter 24, page 528-544.

**Week 3: Health and Development**
Class meets: Tuesday, April 17
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, April 16
Reading: Packard, *The Making of a Tropical Disease*, Introduction through Chapter 5 (pages 1-149)

**Week 4: Health and Development – Infectious Disease (Malaria)**
Class meets: Tuesday, April 24
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, April 23
Reading: Packard, *The Making of a Tropical Disease*, Chapter 6 through Conclusion (pages 150-252)

**Week 5: Health and Development – Infectious Disease (TB)**
Class meets: Tuesday, May 1
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, April 31

*First take-home essay instructions distributed in class May 1.*

**Week 6: Health and Development – Chronic Disease and the Nutrition Transition**
Class meets: Tuesday, May 8
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, May 7
Reading: Yach and Beaglehole, “Globalization of Risks for Chronic Diseases Demands Global Solutions” (PDF available on D2L)
First take home essay due in the D2L dropbox no later than Wednesday, May 9 at 8pm.

Week 7: Gender, Health and Development
Class meets: Tuesday, May 15
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, May 14
Reading:
Paul Farmer Reader, Chapter 15, pages 298-327.

Week 8: Transnational Migration and Health
Class meets: Tuesday, May 22
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, May 21
Reading:
Holmes, “An Ethnographic Study of the Social Context of Migrant Health in the United States.” (PDF available on D2L)

Week 9: Health and Human Rights
Class meets: Tuesday, May 29
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, May 28
Reading:
Paul Farmer Reader, Chapter 21, pages 435-470.

Week 10: Solutions and Policies
Class meets: Tuesday, June 5
Quiz: due online no later than 8pm Monday, June 4
Reading:
Hilts, Rx for Survival, Chapters 1, 6 and 7

Final Take Home Essay due in the Dropbox no later than Tuesday, June 12 at 8pm.