

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL HEALTH**

Tues & Thurs 11:35-12:25

Room: WLH 201

**Instructor** Joanna Radin  
[joanna.radin@yale.edu](mailto:joanna.radin@yale.edu)

**Office Hours** Tuesday 2:30-4:00 P21 Saybrook College

**Teaching Fellows** Catherine Mas Marco Ramos  
[catherine.mas@yale.edu](mailto:catherine.mas@yale.edu) [marco.ramos@yale.edu](mailto:marco.ramos@yale.edu)

Laurel Waycott  
[laurel.waycott@yale.edu](mailto:laurel.waycott@yale.edu)

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century “global health” has become recognized as an influential framework for orienting action among a huge range of groups including public health workers, activists, philanthropists, economists, political leaders, and students. How did this come to pass?

This survey class is intended to introduce you to the historical circumstances that have contributed to the contemporary landscape of global health. We will travel through several centuries to examine how ideas about disease, colonialism, race, gender, science, diplomacy, security, economy and humanitarianism have shaped and been shaped by attempts to negotiate problems of health that transcend geopolitical borders.

**Course Requirements for HSHM 212**

Attendance at lectures and sections is mandatory. Lectures will not duplicate readings.

Midterm exam	20% in class, <b>Mar 3</b>
Three Essays (5 pages each)	45% due in section

You will be randomly assigned a present-day country in the first discussion section. In a series of three papers, you will investigate the health history of this country. Each paper will draw upon course concepts to an aspect of health in a specific place. The papers need not be cumulative in focus.

The **first paper** (10%) will focus on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. During this time your country may have gone from being a kingdom, set of communities or tribes, to a colony. Drawing on course concepts and your independent research, describe a health practice or problem. **Due: March 10/11**

The **second paper** (15%) will focus on the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This may have been a time during which colonization ended and nation-hood was established. In this paper you may continue to trace the health practice or problem you identified in the first paper or focus on a new practice or problem. **Due: April 7/8**

The **third paper** (20%) will use course concepts to demonstrate how a historical perspective can be used to interpret a contemporary health problem or practice in your country. **Due, May 3**

Final exam	25% <b>May 6</b>
Participation	10%

Participation includes attendance at all lectures and discussion sections. You must notify your TF if you will miss section. Excellent participation involves active listening in lecture and demonstrating your engagement with course readings and concepts in section. Participation also involves thoughtful consideration of the contributions of your fellow classmates.

### **Required Texts**

There are no required texts. All readings will be made available on the Classes V2 site.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students who cheat on any of the course assignments will be given an F for the class and the matter will be referred to Yale's Executive Committee (See [Yale's Academic Honesty Policy](#)). A full discussion of using sources and avoiding plagiarism is on the [Writing Center Website](#).

I. WELCOME TO THE COURSE

---

**What is “Global” & “Historical” about the History of Global Health?**

Jan 19 Introduction to the Course  
 Jan 21 Two Views of Global Health: Humanitarianism & Biosecurity

Secondary Sources

Johanna Crane. “Unequal Partners: AIDS, Academia, and the Rise of Global Health” *Behemoth*. (2010). 10(3): 78-96.

David Quammen. “Pale Horse” in *Spillover: Animal Infections and the Next Human Pandemic*. NY: Norton. (2012): 11-50.

**Why and How Do We Care About Global Health?**

Jan 26 Migration: Why People Move  
 Jan 28 Emotion: How People Care

Secondary Sources

Charles Rosenberg. “Introduction. Framing disease: illness, society, and history” C.E. Rosenberg, Janet Golden (Eds.), *Framing disease: Studies in cultural history*, Rutgers University Press (1992), pp. xiii-xxvi

Sabina Akire and Lincoln Chen. "Global health and moral values." *The Lancet* 364.9439 (2004): 1069-1074.

II. COLONIAL ENCOUNTERS

---

**How did health figure in the colonizing projects of 19<sup>th</sup> century Europe?**

Feb 2 Colonies, Campaigns, and Capitalism in the Early Industrial Age  
 Feb 4 Religion, Anthropology, and the Civilizing Process

Secondary Sources

MM Heaton. “Contingencies of Colonial Psychiatry: Migration, Mental Illness and the Repatriation of Nigerian ‘Lunatics’” *Social History of Medicine* (2014), 27(1): 41-63.

David Livingstone, “Tropical Climate and Moral Hygiene: the Anatomy of a Victorian Debate”, *British Journal of the History of Science*, (1999) 32: 93-110.

Nicholas Dirks, “The Policing of Tradition: Colonialism and Anthropology in Southern India,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* (1997) 39: 189-212.

Primary Source

Rudyard Kipling, "The White Man's Burden" *McClure's* 1899.

**\*\*First Discussion Sections Meet; Countries Assigned\*\***

**What strategies were developed to know and regulate health and hygiene in the industrial era?**

Feb 9 Contagion and Quarantine  
 Feb 11 Statistics and Social Medicine

Secondary Sources

George Boyer. "The Historical Background of the Communist Manifesto" *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*. Vol 12, No 4 (1998): 151-174.

Valeska Huber. "The Unification of the Globe by Disease? The International Sanitary Conferences on Cholera, 1851-1894." *The Historical Journal* 49, no. 2 (2006): 454-76.

Theodore M. Porter, "Medical Quantification: Science, Regulation, and the State" in Jorland, Opinel, and Weisz (eds) *Body Counts: Medical Quantification in Historical and Sociological Perspectives*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, (2002): 394-401.

Primary Source

*Report to the International Sanitary Conference of a Commission from that Body, to Which Were Referred the Questions Relative to the Origin, Endemicity, Transmissibility and Propagation of Asiatic Cholera*. Boston: Mudge & Son, 1867 pp. iii-iv, 3-12.

**How did the rise of the laboratory affect knowledge about disease and its control at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?**

Feb 16 Tropical Medicine and the Rise of the Laboratory  
 Feb 18 Microbes Past and Present (Guest lecture from Dr. Sheldon Campbell)

Secondary Sources

David Barnes, "Taxonomies of Transmission: Local Etiologies and the Equivocal Triumph of Germ Theory," *The Great Stink of Paris and the Nineteenth Century Struggle Against Filth and Germs*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007: 105-139.

Warwick Anderson. "Excremental colonialism: Public health and the poetics of pollution." *Critical Inquiry* (1995): 640-669.

Deborah Neill, "Building Networks in Tropical Medicine." *Networks in Tropical Medicine, 1890-1930* (2012): 12-43.

Primary Sources

Patrick Manson, "On the necessity for special education in tropical medicine" *Lancet*, 150 (1897) 3866: 842-845.

**Assignment:** \*Bibliography with three sources on your country not including Wikipedia due in discussion section\*

### III. INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ACROSS TWO WORLD WARS

---

#### What were the health consequences of World War I?

Feb 23            The Great Influenza  
 Feb 25            International Health: Politics by Other Means

#### Secondary Sources

John M. Barry, *The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in History*. NY: Penguin Books: 167-242

Borowy, Iris. (2011). International Health Work: The Beginnings. *Michael*, 8, 210-221.

Theodore M. Brown and Anne-Emanuelle Birn. "The Making of Health Internationalists" in *Comrades in Health*. Rutgers U Press (2013):15-42.

#### Primary Source

Simon Flexner, "Epidemiology and Recent Epidemics," *Science*, 50 (Oct 3 1919), 313-318

#### What are the connections between capitalism and health-related philanthropy?

Mar 1            The Birth of Philanthrocapitalism: A Tale of Two Gates  
 Mar 3            Midterm Exam (In Class)

#### Secondary Sources

Anne-Emanuelle Birn, "A Match Made in Heaven?" in *Marriage of Convenience: Rockefeller International Health and Revolutionary Mexico*. Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2005:15-46.

Michael Specter. "What Money Can Buy" *The New Yorker*. 24 October 2005: 56-71.

**\*\*NO SECTIONS THIS WEEK\*\***

#### How did World War II and its immediate aftermath reshape the landscape of international health?

Mar 8            Magic Bullets and Human Experimentation  
 Mar 10          The Creation of WHO and International Bureaucracies

Secondary Sources

Amy L. S. Staples, "Constructing international authority in the World Health Organization" in *Birth of Development: How the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization, and World Health Organization Changed the World, 1945-1965*. Kent State University Press, 2006: 137-160.

Robert Baker (2001) "Bioethics and Human Rights: A Historical Perspective" *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*. 10: 241-252.

Theodore Brown, Marcos Cueto, and Elizabeth Fee, "The World Health Organization and the Transition from 'International' to 'Global' Public Health" *American Journal of Public Health*. 2006 (96)1: 62-72

Primary Sources

Albert Deustch. *The World Health Organization: It's Global Battle Against Disease*. Public Affairs Pamphlet, No. 265. 1958.

**Assignment:** *First paper due in section*

IV. WORLD HEALTH AND THE POSTCOLONIAL CONDITION

**Does paying attention to health reveal holes in the iron curtain during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century?**

Mar 29            Decolonization and Development Economics  
 Mar 31            Problems of Population

Secondary Sources

Nils Gilman "Modernization Theory: The Highest Stage of American Intellectual History" *Staging Growth*, UMass Press, 2003: 47-80.

Bashford, Alison. "Global biopolitics and the history of world health." *History of the human sciences* 19.1 (2006): 67-88.

Primary Sources

John A. Logan, "Countering Communism Through Foreign Assistance Programs in Public Health" *American Journal of Public Health* 45 (1955): 1017-21.

Paul Ehrlich, *The Population Bomb*. 118-155.

**Assignment:** *Bibliography with three new country-specific sources due in Section*

**Why did health interventions come to be oriented on vertical versus horizontal axes in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century?**

Apr 5            Vertical Approaches: Eradicating Disease  
 Apr 7            Horizontal Approaches: Promoting Primary Health Care

### Secondary Sources

“WHO-led or WHO-managed? Re-assessing the Smallpox Eradication Program in India, 1960-1980” in Alison Bashford (ed) *Medicine at the Border: Disease, Globalization and Security, 1850 to the Present*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006: 60-75.

Marcos Cueto, “The WHO and Primary Health Care during the 1980s” in Medcalf et al (eds) *Health for All*. (2015): 10-19

Gabriella Soto Laveaga, “Mexico’s Historical Models for Providing Rural Healthcare” in Medcalf et al (eds) *Health for All*. (2015): 25-35.

### Primary Sources

D.A. Henderson, “Eradication: Lessons from the Past” *Bulletin of the WHO* 76 (1998), suppl 2: 17-21.

Declaration of Alma-Ata. International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, USSR, 6-12 Sept 1978.

**Assignment:** *Second Paper Due in Section*

### **How did the emergence of AIDS provoke reconfigurations in international health during the 1980s?**

Apr 12            Epidemics, New and Old and New: AIDS, TB, and Drug-Resistant TB

Apr 14            The Rise of the World Bank and Microfinance

### Secondary Sources

Nicholas B. King (2002). Security, Disease, Commerce: Ideologies of Postcolonial Global Health. *Social Studies of Science*, 32(5-6), 763-789.

Anke Schwittay (2015). “Muhammad Yunus: A Bangladeshi Aid Celebrity” in Richey, Lisa Ann (ed) *Celebrity Humanitarianism and North-South Relations: Politics, Place, and Power*. NY: Routledge.

Alison Katz, “The Sachs Report: Investing in Health for Economic Development—Or Increasing The Size of the Crumbs From the Rich Man’s Table? Part II,” *International Journal of Health Services* 35(1) 2005: 171-188.

### Primary Sources

“Investing in Health,” World Bank: Oxford University Press, 1993: 1-13.

Ronald Bayer & Gerald Oppenheimer, *Shattered Dreams? An Oral History of the South African AIDS epidemic*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007: 21-42.

#### IV. GLOBAL HEALTH IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

---

### What is “globalization” and how has it lead to a reconceptualization of international health in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?

Apr 19            Pharmaceuticals and the Ethics of Care  
Apr 21            Global Mental Health

#### Secondary Sources

“Global Mental Health and its Discontents: An Inquiry into the Making of *Global* and *Local Scale*” *Transcultural Psychiatry*. 2014, Vol 51(6): 850-874.

Clara Han. “The Work of Pharmaceuticals in Santiago, Chile” in Biehl and Petryna (eds) *When People Come First: Critical Studies in Global Health*. Princeton (2013): 276-301

Julie Livingston, “Pain and the Politics of Relief in Botswana’s Cancer Ward” in in Biehl and Petryna (eds) *When People Come First: Critical Studies in Global Health*. Princeton (2013): 182-206.

#### Primary Sources

Vikram Patel. “Global Mental Health, From Science to Action” *Harvard Review of Psychiatry*. Volume 20, Number 1, 2012: 6-12

### How do you know if your solution solves a problem?

Apr 26            Failure, Is It An Option?  
Apr 28            The Future of Health, The Future of History

#### Secondary Sources

Laurie Garrett, “The Challenge of Global Health.” *Foreign Affairs*. Jan/Feb 2007.

Paul Farmer, “From ‘Marvelous Momentum’ to Health Care for All: Success Is Possible With the Right Programs” (Reply to Garrett) *Foreign Affairs*. Mar/Apr 2007.

#### Primary Source

The Lancet, *Technologies of Global Health*, 2012.

“Admitting Failure” excerpts from <https://www.admittingfailure.org/about/>

**Third paper due May 3, submitted through your dropbox on Classes V2.**