In the 21st 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, Mar 3
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 18th and 19th 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 20th 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% **May 6**

**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](https://www.yale.edu/academicpolicy)). A full discussion of using sources and avoiding plagiarism is on the [Writing Center Website](https://www.yale.edu/writingcenter).
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


Why and How Do We Care About Global Health?

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

Secondary Sources


II. COLONIAL ENCOUNTERS

How did health figure in the colonizing projects of 19th century Europe?

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

Secondary Sources


Primary Source

**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


Primary Source


How did the rise of the laboratory affect knowledge about disease and its control at the turn of the 20th 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


Primary Sources

**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**


**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**


**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


Primary Sources


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-20th century?

Mar 29    Decolonization and Development Economics
Mar 31    Problems of Population

Secondary Sources


Primary Sources


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-20th century?
Apr 5       Vertical Approaches: Eradicating Disease
Apr 7       Horizontal Approaches: Promoting Primary Health Care

Secondary Sources


Primary Sources


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


Primary Sources

IV. GLOBAL HEALTH IN THE 21st CENTURY

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

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

Secondary Sources


Primary Sources


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


Primary Source


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

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