

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH POLICY AND PROSPECTS

Robert F. Wagner
Graduate School of Public Service
New York University
P11.2242

Professor Richard Alderslade

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INTERNATIONAL HEALTH POLICY AND PROSPECTS

Course Overview

The Wagner School Summer Institute brings together faculty and students from the United States and other parts of the world for an on-site exploration of international health policy and prospects in Geneva, Switzerland. The site was chosen because it is the seat of major international organizations of the United Nations such as World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO); major NGOs such as the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC); and other intergovernmental bodies such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, direct bearing on international health.

Trade policy, global communications, major economic and political reforms, violence and wars and the threat of bioterrorism have had enormous effects on health status and well being. Concern for the spread of infectious diseases, increasing rates of chronic diseases and the effectiveness of health systems to provide quality care, are among the daunting challenges to health leaders today. The aim of the International Health Policy and Prospects course is to provide students with a variety of opportunities to understand the trends in world health, the architecture of global health governance, and the effects of globalization on global and national health policy making in countries. Study visits with the staff of key international health organizations based in Geneva will provide the opportunity to hear first hand the challenges they face and explore their thinking on strategy and implementation of key programs to improve health worldwide.

Course Requirements and Grading

Students will be expected to complete assigned readings, conduct internet research on the organizations being visited to develop lines of inquiry for the visit, and keep current with newspaper and journal articles of relevance to the content of the course.

Before coming to the course, students are asked to select a contemporary problem/question in international health of particular interest to them from current press reports, publications, or their own experience. Students will use the experiences of the week in Geneva to develop options for addressing the problem, and these will be the

focus of a policy paper (8-10 pages). The outline for the paper must be submitted at the end of the week and students will be expected to present the highlights of the paper to the class on the final day. Final papers are due no later than Friday 13 July 2012. Copies should be submitted electronically to Professor Alderslade (richard.alderslade@gmail.com). Guidelines for the paper appear at the end of this note.

Course grades will be based 70% on the policy paper and presentation and 30% on preparation for and participation in classroom and site visit discussions.

The Faculty

Classes will be taught by Professor Richard Alderslade and international experts drawn from Geneva-based international organizations and non-governmental organizations and agencies.

Guest lecturers from Geneva based agencies will be confirmed and a final schedule will be provided on the first day of class. The sample list agencies to be visited, or speakers who will present to the class, are:

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
The World Health Organization (WHO)
The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Program Design

This program is designed along three main themes: Health, Health Status and Development: A Global Perspective; the Impact of Globalization on Health; the Architecture and Dynamics of Global Health Governance, including case studies in global health governance.

Depending on the topic under consideration, debates, panel discussions and experts in the area under study who bring with them extensive international experience will be invited to interact with the students. A variety of participatory methods will be used in teaching the Program including the case method, round tables with health leaders, academic experts and policy makers, and site visits to key intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) based in Geneva.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students will understand:

1. the various definitions of health, including the interpretation of health as a human right, which is reflected in international instruments;
2. the effects, both positive and negative, of globalization on health at country level;
3. the role of international organizations and their relationships to governments, NGOs and the business sectors;
4. the role of donors and the debates on their effect on health at global and country level;
5. the current mechanisms for global health governance and their impact at country level;
6. the dynamics of interaction between countries and global bodies working for health and the potential steps required to render this interaction more effective.

Program Schedule (found on Blackboard)

The course will be organized as follows:

The beginning of the Program is devoted to creating the learning environment including introductions, orientation and discussion of student expectations and the topic each student wishes to pursue for the course paper. The first two days will be dedicated to classroom work on course themes and preparation for study visits. Day 3 will contain reading time including the opportunity for 1:1 consultation with faculty on paper topics. The remainder of the time will be devoted to study visits, related discussions with some additional time for researching and working on presentations and papers.

The final day will be for student presentations and discussion and evaluation of the program. The schedule will be posted shortly, and may be subject to slight changes. Any additional changes will be posted on a revised version of the schedule, or provided on the first

day of class.

Web Sites for Agency Visits/Discussions:

Prior to site visits or sessions with representatives from agencies in the course, please go to the organizational website and review basic organizational documents (eg., constitution, charter, etc.); governance structure; and priority activities.

www.un.org

www.WHO.int

www.WIPO.int

www.ICRC.org

www.icmh.ch/

www.UNAIDS.org

www.wfp.org

www.theglobalfund.org/en/

Readings

THEME #1 Health, Health Status and Development: A Global Perspective

* 1. *The Future of the Public's Health in the 21st Century*, National Academy of Sciences Press, Washington, D.C., 2003 (www.nap.edu) – Chapter 1: “Assuring America’s Health” p 19-41 and Chapter 2 “Understanding Population Health and Its Determinants” p. 84-95.

2. Gruskin, S. and Tarantola, D. *Health and Human Rights*, Cambridge FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Working Paper #10, 2000 (www.hsph.harvard.edu/fxbcenter/working_papers.htm)

*3. *Social Determinants of Health: The Solid Facts*, 2nd Edition at www.who.int/social_determinants/en/

*4. World Health Organization, See previous World Health Reports at www.who.int/whr/previous/en/index/html See particularly *The World Health Report 1999 Making A Difference, Part I*, pp.1-27

5. *UNDP Human Development Report, 2003* (<http://www.undp.org>), ch.1 and 2, pages 27-65 and *UNDP Human Development Report 2010* The real wealth of Nations New York UNDP 2010

*6. *Macroeconomics and Health: Investing in Health for Economic Development*. Report of the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health. World Health Organization, 2001

*7. *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2011* United Nations New York 2011

*8. Sen, Amartya “The Perspective of Freedom” Chapter 1 in *Development as*

Freedom, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1999

*9. Primary Health Care for All. Jeffrey D Sachs Scientific American Magazine, 16 December 2007

11. "Advancement of global health: key messages from the Disease Control Priorities Project" Laxminarayan R et al. Lancet 2006;367: 1193-1208

THEME #2 The Impact of Globalization on Health

I. Lee, Kelley "Globalization – A New Agenda for Health?" ch.2 in *International Cooperation in Health*, edited by Martin McKee, Paul Garner, and Robin Stott, Oxford University Press, 2001, p.13-26.

*2. "The Case for Globalization" in the *Economist*, September 29-October 5, 2001.

*3. Stiglitz, Joseph, *Globalization and Its Discontents*, Penguin Books, 2002 Ch. 1 "The Promise of Global Institutions" p. 3-22 and "Ethiopia: The Struggle Between Power, Politics, and Poverty" p. 25-36.

*4. Davis, K. "International Health Policy: Common Problems, Alternative Strategies," *Health Affairs* (18) 3, May/June, pp. 135-143.

5. Gill, W. "Globalization of International Health," *The Lancet* (351) 9100, 1998.

6. Zacher, M. "Global Epidemiological Surveillance: International Cooperation to Monitor Infectious Diseases," and Chen, L. Evans, T. and Cash, R. "Health as a Global Public Good," (both are in Kaul, Grunberg and Stern, eds. *Global Public Goods*)

7. The health impacts of globalization: a conceptual framework. Huynen M Martens P, and Hilderink H. www.globalizationandhealth.com/content/1/1/14 - accessed 13 May 2012

THEME #3 – The Architecture and Dynamics of Global Health Governance

I. Koivusalo, M. and Ollila, E., "WHO", Ch 2 p. 6-22, "The World Bank" ch. 3 p.23-45, "UNICEF" ch. 4, p.46-61, "UNDP", p. 62-70, "UNFPA" p. 71-19, and, "Other Actors in International Health Policies" p. 80-93 in *Making a Healthy World*, Zed Books, Ltd. London, 1997

*2. *World Development Report 2004: Making services Work for Poor People*, ch.11 "Donors and Service Reform" p. 203-217, World Bank, Washington, D.C. 2003

*3. Salomon, Lester M. "The Rise of the Non-Profit Sector" in *Foreign Affairs*, Volume 73, No. 4, p. 109-122

4. United Nations Global Compact (www.unglobalcompact.org)

5. Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS (www.businessfightsaids.org)
6. Websites of key foundations in global health: (www.gatesfoundation.org), (www.rockfound.org, www.osi.org)
- *7. Dodgson, R., Lee, Kelley, and Drager, N. "Global Health Governance: A Conceptual Review", Discussion Paper No. 1, Centre for Global Change and Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and WHO Department of Health and Development, February 2002
8. "Developing Successful Global Health Alliances", Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, April 2002
9. The Challenge of Global Health, Laurie Garrett, Foreign Affairs January/February 2007
10. *Governance for health in the 21st century*. Copenhagen WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2011. (EUR/RC61/inf.Doc./6

Case Studies in Global Health Governance

*1. The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco

Wipfli, H., Bettecher, D., Subramanian, C., and Taylor, A.L., Confronting the tobacco epidemic: emerging mechanisms of global governance" ch. 8 in McKee, M., Garner, S., and Stott, R., *International Cooperation in Health*, Oxford University Press, 2001, p.127-149.

*2. The Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria

A Force for Change: The Global Fund at 30 Months, ch. 1, The Global Fund, 2004

*3. Global Regulation of the Pharmaceutical Industry: the TRIPS agreement on essential medicines

a) Schaeffer, E.R., et al "Global Trade and Public Health" in *AJPH* 2005, Vol.95 No.1, p.23-34

b) Attaran, Amir "How Do Patents and Economic Policies Affect Access to Essential Medicines in Developing Countries?" *Health Affairs*, Vol. 23, Number 3, 2004

* Priority readings

Guidelines for Course Paper

You have been asked to select a contemporary problem/question in international health of particular interest to you. These problems can be drawn from press reports, publications or your own experience

(though this is a good opportunity to explore a new subject). The problem should be one of global significance and your paper should explore the role of relevant global health organizations and the relationships between involved global health organizations and country health or political leadership in addressing the problem.

The product should be an 8-10 page working paper that can be used to inform policy making. It should draw on the readings for the course and the experiences of the week in Geneva to deepen your understanding of the problem you have selected and its underlying causes. Because most options for solving complex problems are contextual, the development of solutions in the time available is probably unrealistic; however, your work could be used to inform others who are “living with the problem” as they seek to take effective action.

Your paper should include the following:

1. A clear statement of the problem you have selected
2. An explanation of why you selected it and why you believe it to be important
3. The process you used for gathering information
4. A discussion of what you believe to be the underlying causes of the problem and why
5. Identification of the key stakeholders who would need to be involved in solving the problem and why you selected them
6. Next steps for policy makers
7. A bibliography and list of individuals interviewed (if applicable)

You will be asked to identify your selected problem on the first day of the course. Time will be available on Day 3 of the course to consult with faculty on the topic and approach you have chosen and work on your paper.

On the final day of class, we will use the class as a learning community, and each of you will be expected to submit a written outline of your paper to the faculty and present the highlights of your paper to colleagues for discussion and feedback. The final written paper will be due on Friday 13 July 2012 and a copy should be sent to Professor Richard Alderslade (richard.alderslade@gmail.com)

Papers should be 1 ½ or double spaced with font size 12.

