INS 572-TX- US Foreign Policy and Infectious Diseases
Tuesday 5pm-7:30pm -MM 201
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Ferré Building- 3rd Floor (Room 321)
Office hours: Tuesday 2pm-3pm, Wednesday 11am-12pm. Additionally, I’m always available by appointment, so please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me.
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“Medicine is a social science, and politics nothing but medicine on a grand scale.”
Rudolph Virchow, 1858

This semester I propose:
“Global public health and the spread and control of infectious disease is a social science, and politics nothing but global public health on a grand scale.”
Sherri Porcelain, 2009

Question we seek to answer this semester:
What have we learned (or not) from global public health strategies, foreign policy and health diplomacy since the 1850?

COURSE OVERVIEW:
This seminar will explore the inextricable relationship of global public health- and more specifically infectious disease- to international affairs. Communicable diseases have a long history in influencing and being influenced by activities associated with world travel and international trade. Nevertheless, infectious diseases, as most public health matters, have secured a very limited role in the study of international relations.

We will identify improved analytical and empirical research methods that embrace a comprehensive approach to the study of infectious diseases in the 21st Century. Consequently, this seminar will promote an interdisciplinary approach to the study of infectious disease and foreign policy matters that extend beyond the traditional models in medicine and public health. We begin with an historical overview of infectious diseases from the late 1850s to current time; discuss the role of foreign policy in public health matters then and now, and explore national, regional and global policies developed for outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics.

We will discuss the political, social, cultural, economic, environmental and technical challenges in policy making to reduce the spread of infectious diseases in 21st Century. The increasing anxiety associated with both the unintentional and intentional spread of highly infectious diseases presents new obstacles for national policy makers and world leaders. While more children in the developing world die from infectious diseases such as upper respiratory and diarrheal diseases, the potential threat of bioterrorism gains greater momentum as health issues move from “low politics” to “high politics.” We will examine the issues of state sovereignty, global governance and health...
diplomacy. If states act as sovereign entities then who will determine the requirements for
global governance in the prevention and spread of infectious diseases?

We begin by identifying and discussing US policies and the ethical considerations
associated with infectious disease from the mid 1800s through the 21st Century’s new
struggles. How do sovereign states agree, respect and respond to potential and actual
threats of infectious diseases that may extend beyond their borders? We will discuss such
infectious diseases as: cholera; leprosy; malaria; yellow fever; influenza; tuberculosis;
smallpox; polio; HIV/AIDS; SARS; influenza (e.g. Spanish flu, Avian Flu H5N1, season
flu and pandemic flu), food borne disease such as _e.coli O157:H7_ and potential acts
of bioterrorism (e.g. anthrax - _Bacillus anthracis_ and plague - _Yersinia pestis_) and much
more during the semester.

To conclude, students will participate in problem solving exercises to help define,
describe and explain the roles and ethical dilemmas states must consider during the
decision-making process to prevent and control the further spread of diseases from within
and beyond geographical borders.

**COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

_by the conclusion of this course students are expected to be able to:_

1. Identify key infectious diseases and the direct and indirect links to
   international affairs
2. Analyze the role of infectious disease in US foreign policy and health
   diplomacy
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the social political, economic, technological
   and environmental issues related to infectious disease and world affairs.
4. Identify leading ethical principles associated with research and policy on
   infectious diseases
5. Apply problem solving strategies to the issues of public health threats in
   international studies

**Required Reading:**

There are no required texts. Consequently, I have prepared an anthology of readings for
this course. Articles will be posted on the Blackboard under assignments and organized
by assigned readings for that week.

I highly recommend that each student purchase 3- ring binders and organize all course
material by the weekly topics of discussion. At the end of the semester you can bind
these articles/book chapters as a book. I selected this option of course readings so you
will not spend hundreds of dollars on texts. A bibliography is provided at the end of this
syllabus and includes additional books that I may refer to in my Power Point
presentations or class discussions. All books are available through my office.

Please make sure you download each PDF document (either accessed through the web
link provided on the course syllabus or PDF posted under course assignments), read the
articles and generate your own personal electronic or hard copies of our course readings.
This will keep you organized and make it easier to reference material for assignments. The key is to be organized on a weekly basis.

**Additional Preparation for Seminars:**
Each week students are encouraged to review at least one outside source to determine if any outbreak of an infectious disease or a threat of the spread of disease is occurring around the globe and what the social, political, economic, or environmental impacts may be. Sources of information could include the New York Times, Financial Times, Economist or other reliable sources. We will use the first 5 minutes of each seminar to briefly discuss emerging or re-emerging infectious disease issues and their national, regional or global threats to populations.

**Teaching Format/Grading Criteria:**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar participation/class exercises</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment #1</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment #2</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Research Paper</td>
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Seminar participation is **25% of the final grade.** Each participant is expected to complete all required reading prior to the scheduled seminar discussion. Mid-semester feedback will provide students with suggestions for improvement (e.g. preparation, discussion, and/or critical analysis of the literature). Students missing more than two classes will be required to submit a written response to the required reading assignments for each class missed after the second absence. These reaction papers must be turned in by the next scheduled seminar unless special considerations have been pre arranged with the instructor. **A summary of the reading will not be acceptable.** Please submit a 3-5 page response to the readings and your reaction on how this literature does or does not contribute to the wider understanding of US foreign policy and infectious diseases. I would like to know your thoughts. Failure to submit reaction papers (after two missed class sessions) will result in an “F” for participation on that date.

Additionally, students will participate in expanded seminar discussions activated through the university Blackboard system. Please make sure you are familiar with using the Blackboard and the discussion forums. If you have any difficulty please let me know as soon as possible. The discussion board will serve the following purposes: (1) to assist students that may not feel as comfortable participating in seminar discussions and would like to express themselves more thoroughly through this form of communication; (2) to promote greater dialogue outside the classroom setting; (3) to build collegiality and (4) to continue discussions that may be truncated due to the lack of classroom time. The blackboard discussion forums are **NOT** a substitute for attending or participating in class. The discussion forums will serve as a supplemental tool to our in-class discussions.

**Writing Assignment #1 is 25% of the final grade.** Students will be given a list of essay questions to select from. You will have 2 weeks to complete this take home assignment. **Late papers will be assessed a 5 point penalty for each day until the assignment is submitted.** If you are unable to attend class on the day the assignment is due please submit your work electronically to my e-mail address found on the course syllabus. Course literature, lectures,
and seminar discussions will be expected to be used for this assignment. Explicit instructions, grading criteria and assessment scales will be distributed and posted on the Blackboard.

Writing Assignment #2 is 25% of your final grade. This science/policy research project will assist you in writing your final research paper. Each student will identify an infectious disease (old or new) and examine the role of US foreign policy. Please select a topic that you are very interested in since this will be a large part of the writing and research process throughout this semester. Yes, you are encouraged to use the same topic for this midterm assignment and your final research paper. Late papers will be assessed a 5 point penalty for each day until the assignment is submitted. If you are unable to attend class on the day the assignment is due please submit your work electronically to my e-mail address found on the course syllabus.


I. Introduction to your topic (5 points)
Briefly discuss the significance of this topic to the study of global public health and US foreign policy. (1 page)

II. Clearly present a thesis (5 points)
If you have not finalized one yet, please generate one that will best capture your work in progress. Don’t forget a thesis needs to be specific and you need to take a stand. (1 paragraph)

III. Methodology (15 points)
Describe your research methodology. Please make sure you consider
a. How you will gather your information
b. What methods you will use
c. Why you selected these methods
d. Limitations to your methods (2-4 pages)

IV. Theoretical and empirical research (25 points)
Identify a guiding theoretical framework (s)
   a. Briefly discuss your theoretical framework
   b. Identify and discuss case study (ies) (where you are to date)
   c. Determine what empirical evidence may exist to support your argument(s). (3-4 pages)

V. Annotated bibliography (25 points)
This is a list of your key works (articles, documents and/or books). Next to each of these citations give a very brief description and evaluation of the work.
The purpose of an annotated bibliography is to inform the reader of the appropriateness of this source and its relevance to your research. Make sure you references that consider the following: the science associated with the disease(s) and the policy that helps us understand local, national and/or international policy matters. (3-5 pages—depends upon your topic)

VI. Précis (30 points)
Prepare a précis. If you have not written one previously please use the following guidelines to assist you. This should be a condensed overview of your work. Obviously, this will be refined as you continue to complete your final product.
Specific objectives of a précis
1- Propose the purpose of your research
2- Clarify concepts, use key terms (this is very important since we are promoting an interdisciplinary language)
3- Identify data to support work
4- Describe methods used (3-5 pages)

Considerations when writing a précis
A. What is it you are actually studying
B. How you will do it
C. What you are learning
D. Why your work is an important contribution to the interdisciplinary field of science and policy in global public health.

The 12-17 pages suggested for the Writing Project #2 is an approximation. Please adjust as you need for your topic of research

Research Paper is 25% of the final grade. Each student will continue their research on the topic of infectious disease and US foreign policy. The work you do in the writing exercise #2 will contribute to the final research paper. Research papers will be expected to be written in Modern Language Association (MLA) format and approximately 20 pages double space. Specific requirements, format and grading rubric will be discussed and posted on the Blackboard during the semester

Important Dates To Remember
February 10 Submit Research Topic Only For Feedback
February 17 Writing Exercise #1 distributed in class
March 3 Writing Exercise #1 due at start of class
April 7 Writing Exercise #2 due at start of class (exercise details found in course syllabus)
May 7 (Thursday) Final research paper due by 5pm

Topics and Reading Requirements by Scheduled Date:

January 20
Welcome to INS 572- US Foreign Policy and Infectious Disease. -Course Introduction and Overview. Why we need to study such topics as global health and infectious disease threats in international studies.

Optional: you can listen to this 20 minute talk on this evolving topic of interest.
Web cast on infectious disease and foreign policy
http://www.cdc.gov/iceid/webcast/foreign_policy_id.htm
January 27
Historical context of infectious disease and foreign policy
Required Reading


February 3
Why we need to address infectious disease as an important part of foreign policy
Required Reading:

http://www.milbank.org/Foreignpolicy.html (Read from the website since no more bound copies are available)


Suggested Reading:


February 10
New and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases and Security

Required Reading


**February 17 (Distribute Writing Assignment #1)**

*Ethics and Infectious Disease: The role of research*

**Guest Lecturer:**
Kenneth W. Goodman, Ph.D. Director, Bioethics Program University of Miami Director, Florida Bioethics Network

**Required Reading:**


**February 24** - Health Diplomacy, Security and Infectious Diseases in the 21st Century *(Continue working on writing Assignment- due next week)*

**Required Readings:**


We will engage in a class exercise on infectious diseases and health diplomacy. Case studies and questions will be posted for class discussion. We will apply theoretical and empirical research methods to analyze specific infectious disease issues/outbreaks and relevant policies.

**March 3  Writing Exercise #1 Due At Start of Class**

*Immigration, Infectious Disease and Foreign Policy. What are the ethical issues?*

(Additional readings to be posted on Blackboard)

**Required Reading**


**March 10**

*Malaria: History of disease and policy challenges.*

**Guest Lecturer**

Professor John Beier, Professor of Epidemiology and public Health and Director of the UM Global Public Health Program.

**Required Reading:**


**March 17--- Spring Break No CLASS**

**March 24—**

_Flu epidemic, US Policy and Global Realities (pending final confirmation on this date or future date this semester- need to be flexible)_

**Guest Lecturer:**

**Nelson Arboleda, MD MPH**  
Senior Medical Epidemiologist  
Immunization Safety Office (ISO)  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

_(Readings to be posted)_

**Required Reading:** _(UPDATE TO BE PROVIDED)_

CDC MMWR. Prevention and Control of Influenza. June 28, 2006;55:1-41  
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr55e628a1.htm


Garrett, Laurie. _The Next Pandemic_. _Foreign Affairs_. July/August 2005.3-23.  
http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20050701faessay84401/laurie-garrett/the-next-pandemic.html

http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20050701faessay84402/michael-t-osterholm/preparing-for-the-next-pandemic.html


**Suggested Reading:**


http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5523a2.htm

**March 31-**
*What are new policy implications with re-emerging and newly emerging diseases? An examination of leishmania, Dengue, Rift Valley Fever and Chikungunya.*

(Additional articles to be posted)

**Guest Lecturer**
Dr. Arba Ager, Professor of Microbiology University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

**Required Reading:**


Gubler, DJ. The changing epidemiology of yellow fever and dengue, 1900 to 2003; full circle? Com Immunology Microbiology of Infectious Disease, 2004; 27(5):319-330.

**Suggested Readings:**

April 7  (Writing Assignment #2- due at start of class) –
TODAY IS WORLD HEALTH DAY!
I am willing to adapt this session to meet students’ interest. Some possible choices to be considered: Tuberculosis: US Policy and Global Realities; Food Born Illnesses and US Polices; Bioterrorism and US Foreign Policies. Other suggestions? We will explore the options during the first class session and select week’s topic by the second class meeting.

Required Reading:
Forthcoming PDF articles will be posted on the blackboard.

Suggested Reading:


April 14
HIV/AIDS and US Foreign Policy. What we need to understand about HIV/AIDS in order to make good decisions. (The next two weeks we will discuss HIV/AIDS)

Guest Lecturer:
Dushythana Jayaweera, M.D. (Dr. J) Professor in Medicine Division of Infectious Diseases University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Required Reading:

Garrett, Laurie. The Lesson of HIV/AIDS. Foreign Affairs. July/August 2005 51-64. (PDF posted)

Garrett, Laurie. HIV and National Security; Where are the links? Council of Foreign Relations Report 1-72. 2005. (PDF posted)


April 21
AIDS Orphans and Social Stability: New Concerns for US Foreign Policy

Guest Lecturer:
Sheldon Levy, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Director of Behavioral Science, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
Voluntary Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Community Health
University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine

Required Reading:


April 28
Problem Solving Scenarios: US Foreign Policy and Infectious Disease. Class exercise and evaluation of where do we go from here?

Required Readings:
Case Studies and questions will be posted for class discussion. We will apply theoretical and empirical research methods to analyze specific infectious disease outbreaks and relevant policies.

We will conclude with a course summation.

May 2-5
Readings Days
May 7
Final papers due by 5pm. Early papers are gladly welcomed while late papers are not! You will be penalized 5 points per day until submitted.

May 18
Final Grades released by faculty

May 20
Final grades available to students in MyUM

Additional Course Bibliography:


Behrman, Greg. The Invisible People.: how the US has slept through the global AIDS pandemic, the greatest humanitarian catastrophe of our time. Free Press, 2004.


Garrett, Laurie The Coming Plague. 1994


Pan American Health Organization. *International Health: A North South Debate*, 1992