Community and Global Health

Professors: Geist and Kiino (co-directors)

The Community and Global Health interdisciplinary concentration enables students to broadly explore the determinants and consequences of physical and mental health, critically examine relevant global, national, and local policies and programs, learn theories and methodologies important to the study of public health, and gain and apply practical skills through service-learning courses and projects, internships, study abroad, and/or community-based research. It prepares students, as global citizens, to recognize the spectrum of contemporary global health issues and exercise intellectual and practical skills in response. It also prepares students interested in careers in public health or human, dental, or veterinary medicine for graduate and professional school.

The CGHL Concentration

Required core:

CGHL 120 Epidemiology & Global Health
CGHL 210 Contemporary Issues in Public Health: An Introduction

Four additional electives, at least one chosen from each of the following three categories:

Natural sciences and quantitative reasoning

ANSO 212 Quantitative Analysis
BIOL 322 General and Medical Microbiology
BIOL 360 Immunology and Human Health
MATH 105 Quantitative Reasoning & Statistical Analysis
MATH 260 or 261 Applied Statistics or Biostatistics (preferred)
MATH 360 Applied Statistics II
PED 210 Nutrition
SEMN 207 Global Health and Social Justice (check with your Advisor to see if this Soph Sem may "count")

Social and cultural determinants of health

ANSO 210 Medicine and Society
ANSO 225 Sex and Sexualities
ANSO 295 Understanding Violence
ANSO 245 Qualitative Methods
ANSO/SEMN 255 You Are What You Eat (check with your Advisor to see if this Soph Sem may "count")
ANSO 310 Social Research for Social Change
ANSO 325 States, Bodies, and Epidemics
ANSO 350 Political History of Western Environmental Thought
PHIL 305 Biomedical Ethics
PSYC 211 Adolescent Development
PSYC 270 Feminist Psychology of Women
PSYC 295 Health Psychology
PSYC 424 Drugs, Addiction, and Behavior
PSYC 495 Adv Psych of Sexuality
SEMN 220 Chinese Food Culture (check with your Advisor to confirm whether this Soph Sem "counts")
SPAN 205 Cultures of Health and Disease in Hispanic Communities
Public policy

ECON 225 Economics of Development and Growth
ECON 235 Environmental and Resource Economics
ECON 265 Issues in Urban Economics
ECON 290 Health Economics
POLS/WGS 265 Feminist Political Theories (cannot count towards both social/cultural determinants & public policy elective)
POLS 270 The European Union: Institutions, Actors, Aliens, and Outcomes
POLS 310 Women, States, and NGO’s
POLS 330 Politics of the Holocaust
POLS 380 Drugs, Democracy, and Human Rights
POLS/SEMN 406 Male Violence Against Women

Experiential requirement

Students are required to incorporate at least one experiential component into their concentration. CGHL 210 is a service-learning seminar and fulfills this requirement. Students seeking additional experiences can explore community-based learning (both within and outside of courses) during the academic year through the Mary Jane Underwood Center for Civic Engagement, which has built many health-related community partnerships. The CCE also offers paid, six-week summer Community Building Internships with local organizations, many of them in health fields. Students may also pursue opportunities for health-related ICRPs abroad.

Community and Global Health courses

CGHL 120 Epidemiology & Global Health
This course provides students with the fundamental concepts, skills and perspectives of epidemiology and epidemiological thought and introduces some of the major issues and challenges in global health today.

CGHL 210 Contemporary Issues in Public Health
This introductory survey explores contemporary issues, theories, and methods in public health. Students work with community-based organizations and/or schools in Kalamazoo on health-related projects that illuminate the determinants and consequences of contemporary “epidemics.” We use the social medicine framework to examine how race, gender, age, environment, and class shape “the modern plagues.”

CGHL 593 Senior Individualized Project

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