

# CET Syllabus of Record



**Program:** CET Vietnam: Development Studies

**Course Title:** Public Health in Vietnam: An Interdisciplinary Approach

**Course Code:** HC/PBHL 370

**Total Hours:** 45

**Recommended Credits:** 3

**Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings:** Public Health / Sociology, Gender Studies

**Language of Instruction:** English

**Prerequisites/Requirements:** None

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## Description

This seminar introduces students to public health issues in Vietnam, with reference to Southeast Asia and global development problems. The focus is on current health issues and new global pandemics. Students examine key topics in public health, including their challenges, nuances and attempted solutions, in modern-day Vietnam and in other parts of Southeast Asia and the developing world. The course provides students context for many of their day-to-day experiences in Vietnam, giving them the opportunity to focus on the broader, global relevance of issues they encounter in their immediate environment.

## Objectives

This course provides students with:

- An understanding of key development challenges in Vietnam and Southeast Asia today and how these affect public health and health care.
- An introduction to public health issues in modern Vietnam and their historical origins.
- Analyses of the impacts of economic growth and social change on public health in Vietnam.
- Discussions of local activities related to public health promotion and communication.
- An introduction to key public health research methodologies.

## Course Requirements

Active participation is essential in this course. I expect you attend each class and field trip and participate actively in seminar discussions. Course readings average around 50 pages per session and are subject to change depending on students' interests. Student teamwork will be encouraged to analyze and dissect particular readings. I will also assign some in-class free writing. Multimedia resources will be used to aid class discussions and reflections.

This course is conducted in a seminar format, in addition to lectures. This requires that students come to class prepared to discuss readings. Read carefully and take notes (in the form of questions).

Weekly readings are not long, but they require concentration and effort. In class, we present and discuss readings and your own work. We routinely use the 'Socratic method' in class discussion to foster collaborative and creative thinking.

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The short essays provide further opportunities to raise questions, discuss new theories, and connect readings to previous field trips and classes. We will discuss your fieldwork exercises during the seminar after you briefly present them in class.

At the end of the semester, you will write a focused research essay on a public health topic of your choosing (10 double-spaced pages, or around 2500 words). Paper topics will be discussed in advance. You will consult relevant secondary sources and conduct basic fieldwork, such as a survey, personal interviews, case study, etc. Final papers need to be polished and describe how you dealt with language and methodological challenges when conducting research.

- Short essay #1: Locating yourself in Vietnam
- Short essay #2: Meta-analysis of Zoonotic infections in Vietnam
- Short essay #3: Literature review
- Final research paper

### Methods of Evaluation

The final grade is determined as follows:

Weekly reflection papers	30%
Participation	30%
Final research paper	40%

### Primary Texts

A foot in and a foot out: Sex Migration of Vietnamese Women to Singapore, by Nicolas Lainez (2011). Chapter 2 - Profiles, motivations, earnings, pp. 24-34.

Abegunde DO, Mathers CD, Adam T, Ortegón M and Strong K. The Burden and Costs of Chronic Diseases in Low-Income and Middle-Income Countries. *The Lancet*. 2007; 370 (9603): 1929-1938.

Balajee SA, Pasi OG, Etoundi AGM, et al. Sustainable Model for Public Health Emergency Operations Centers for Global Settings. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*. 2017;23(Suppl 1):S190-S195. doi:10.3201/eid2313.170435.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). How to investigate an outbreak. *Epidemiology in the Classroom*, November 17, 2004. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC. <http://www.cdc.gov/excite/classroom/outbreak/steps.htm#step1>.

“Communication at the Core of Effective Public Health”, by Jay M. Berhardt (*Am J Public Health*, 94(2), 2004).

“Consuming Urban Culture in Contemporary Vietnam”, ed. Lisa Drummond & Mandy Thomsas (2003)

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- Dasgupta, P., & Mäler, K. G. (1990). The environment and emerging development issues. *The World Bank Economic Review*, 4(suppl\_1), 101-132.
- Dealing in Desire: Asian Ascendancy, Western Decline, and the Hidden Currencies of Global Sex Work, by Kimberly Hoang (2015). Chapter 2 - The contemporary sex industry, pp. 39-52.
- Dean H. Introduction to public health, epidemiology, and surveillance. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC Science Ambassador Program, July 16, 2012.
- E-learning course – Introduction to Epidemiology  
(<https://www.cdc.gov/publichealth101/epidemiology.html>)
- Faces You Forget – Nights Out in Saigon (2015) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz\\_eZ\\_-V\\_oA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz_eZ_-V_oA)
- Fraser DW, Tsai, T, Orenstein W, et al. Legionnaires' disease: description of an epidemic of pneumonia. *New Engl J Med* 1977;297:1189–97.
- Gebreyes WA, Dupouy-Camet J, Newport MJ, et al. The Global One Health Paradigm: Challenges and Opportunities for Tackling Infectious Diseases at the Human, Animal, and Environment Interface in Low-Resource Settings. Bethony JM, ed. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases*. 2014;8(11):e3257. doi:10.1371/journal.pntd.0003257.
- Hand, Food and Mouth Disease: Situation Updates (29 May 2013).  
[http://www.wpro.who.int/emerging\\_diseases/HFMD/en/](http://www.wpro.who.int/emerging_diseases/HFMD/en/). 2013. Accessed June 8, 2013.
- Haub, C., & Huong, P. T. T. (2003). An overview of population and development in Vietnam.
- Haunting Images: A Cultural Account of Selective Reproduction in Vietnam, by Tine Gammeloft (2014).
- Health Statistics Yearbook. HIDS, Planning-Financial Department, Ministry of Health, Vietnam. 2007.
- Hinh, N. D., & Van Minh, H. (2013). Public health in Vietnam: scientific evidence for policy changes and interventions. *Global health action*, 6.
- “How Vietnam tries to stop false health scares from going viral”, by Mike Ives (*Independent UK*, 2016)
- “Intervention effects from a social marketing campaign to promote HPV vaccination in preteen boys”, by Joan Cates a, Sandra Diehl, Jamie Crandell & Tamera Coyne-Beasley (*Vaccine*, 32(33), 2014)

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Investing in Health for. Economic Development in Vietnam: Report on Opportunities and Constraints for a National. Macroeconomics and Health Program. Ulf-G Gerdtham and Björn Ekman. World Health Organization

Lee, K., Zappelli, R., Goldner, E. M., Vu, N. C., Corbett, K. K., & Murphy, J. (2015). The political economy of mental health in vietnam: key lessons for countries in transition. *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*, 2(2), 266-279.

Lee LM, Teutsch SM, Thacker SB, St. Louis M, Eds. Principles and practice of public health surveillance.

Moore, M., Yeatman, H., & Pollard, C. (2013). Evaluating success in public health advocacy strategies. *Vietnam Journal of Public Health*, 1(1), 66-75.

NCD Country Profile: Vietnam.  
[http://www.wpro.who.int/vietnam/topics/chronic\\_diseases/factsheet/en/index.html](http://www.wpro.who.int/vietnam/topics/chronic_diseases/factsheet/en/index.html). 2011. Accessed June 11, 2013.

Nguyen, Q., Naguib, R., Ton, T., & Jenny, H. (2013). Climate change impacts on public health in Vietnam: Unravelling the black box. *Vietnam Journal of Public Health*, 1(1), 5-7.

Peter Byass - Twenty Years of Public Health Progress in Vietnam, *huffingtonpost.co.uk*

'Professional Girlfriends': An ethnography of sexuality, solidarity and subculture in Cambodia, by Heidi Hoefinger (2011). *Cultural Studies*, Vol. 25, No. 2 March 2011, pp. 244-266.

Rabaa MA, Tue NT, Phuc TM, et al. The Vietnam Initiative on Zoonotic Infections (VIZIONS): A Strategic Approach to Studying Emerging Zoonotic Infectious Diseases. *Ecohealth*. 2015;12:726-735. doi:10.1007/s10393-015-1061-0.

"Rethinking Communication in the E-health Era", by Linda Neuhauser & Gary Kreps (*J Health Psychology*, 8(1), 2003)

Sex Entrepreneur in the New China, by Travis S. K. Kong (2012). *Contexts*, Vol. 11, No. 3, pp. 28-33.

Sex Work and Migration: The Dangers of Oversimplification A Case Study of Vietnamese Women in Cambodia, by Joanna Busza (2004). *Health and Human Rights*, Vol. 7, No. 1.

Shaw, R. (2006). Critical issues of community based flood mitigation: examples from Bangladesh and Vietnam. *Science and Culture*, 72(1/2), 62.

Smith PF, Hadler JL, Stanbury M, et al. Blueprint version 2.0: updating public health surveillance for the 21st century. *J Public Health Manag Pract* 2013;19:231-9.

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“The MMR vaccine and autism: Sensation, refutation, retraction, and fraud”, by Sathyanarayana Rao and Chittaranjan Andrade (*Indian J Psychiatry*, 53(2), 2011)

The Political Economy Of Health Care Reform In Vietnam - Le Thanh Forsberg

The Real Cost of Developing Vietnam, Asia Society <https://asiasociety.org/real-cost-developing-vietnam>

“The Ritualization of Abortion in Contemporary Vietnam,” by Tine Gammeloft (*Australian Journal of Anthropology* 14(2), 2003).

“The Role of Culture in Health Communication”, by Matthew Kreuter & Stephanie McClure (*Annu Rev Public Health*, vol 25, 2004)

“The Role of Theory in Developing Effective Health Communications”, by Martin Fishbein & Joseph Cappella (*Journal of Communication*, 2006)

The Teacher (2010) <http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/9362/TEACHER>

Vietnam: a development success story? Simon Roughneen, <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/dec/23/vietnam-development-middle-income-trap>

Vuong DA, Ginneken EV, Morris J, Ha ST and Busse R. Mental Health in Vietnam: Burden of Disease and Availability of Services. *Asian Journal of Psychiatry*. 2011; 4 (1): 65 – 70.

“WHO Strategic communications framework for effective communications”, by WHO (2017)

“Why health communication is important in public health”, by Rajiv Rimal & Maria Lapinski (2009)

Willing Daughters: The Moral Rhetoric of Filial Sacrifice and Financial Autonomy in Tokyo’s Sex Industry, by Gabriele Koch (2016). *Critical Asian Studies*, Vol. 48, Iss. 2, pp. 1-20.

World Bank – New research on development issues in Vietnam – Volume 9, number 24 (2017 December 20), <https://cdevn.net/2017/12/21/world-bank-new-research-on-development-issues-in-vietnam-volume-9-number-24-2017-december-20/>

### Supplementary Texts

Internet resources and additional articles as provided by instructor

### Outline of Course Content

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This course covers approximately one theme every 2 weeks. The order of topics and readings may vary slightly according to your research interests and field visits. Readings are available both electronically and in printed format.

## Theme 1: Overview of Public Health and Development Issues in Vietnam

- What are the impacts of globalization on Vietnamese society (since the 1990s)?
- How have these affected public health and health care provision in Vietnam?
- What are the main public health and development issues in Vietnam today?
- How do we address poverty, malnutrition, HIV/AIDS, and new emerging healthcare challenges?
- Can Vietnam benefit from experiences of other countries in Southeast Asia and Asia?
- What are the impacts of collaboration from foreign governments and non-governmental organizations, as Vietnam emerges from the post-war period?

## Theme 2: Introduction to Epidemiology

- Data cleaning
- Create an Epi curve
- Determine mode of spread
- Determine most likely period of exposure

## Theme 3: Introduction to Public Health Surveillance

- Define public health surveillance
- Describe the goal of public health surveillance
- Recognize the legal basis for public health surveillance
- Compare active and passive public health surveillance
- Describe the public health surveillance process

## Theme 4: Gender and Public Health Today, Part 1 – Reproductive Health Issues

- What are the main health issues that Vietnamese women face today?
- How do Vietnamese gender roles affect women's health in contemporary Vietnam?
- What are some of the key socioeconomic & reproductive health challenges in Vietnam?

## Theme 5: Gender and Public Health Today, Part 2 – Sex Work Issues

- What are the links between sex work and poverty, global inequality, employment opportunities, gender roles and expectations?
- What are the most notable issues about sex work in Vietnam, compared to other Asian neighboring countries?
- How are the sexual minority groups being underrepresented and overshadowed in the general public discourse on sex work?

## Theme 6: Public Health Communication

- What is public health communication?
- Why is communication important in improving the public health sector?

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- Communication methods: Shifting from one-way communication towards a more interactive approach.
- How have health communication methods changed over the past few years?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of one-way communication?
- What are the challenges using social media to communicate about health?
- How to make public health communication effective?