



Syllabus of Record

Program: CET Taiwan

Course Code / Title: (TP/PBHL 310) Global Health: The Perspective from Taiwan

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: Public Health / Asian Studies, Health Sciences, Global Studies, International Relations

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites / Requirements: None

Description

Why are Taiwanese more willing to wear masks than Americans? How do Taiwan's marriage equality law, the need for assisted reproduction, and global medical travel lead to inequalities? How did Taiwan's healthcare system become part of its national identity? While COVID-19 undoubtedly highlighted the importance of global health, it is about more than just pandemic control. Global health is about issues that impact our lives in significant ways. This course covers topics in global health from a Taiwanese perspective, including the colonial roots of global health in both Taiwan and the world; Taiwan's key role in global health while being excluded from both the UN and World Health Organization (WHO); and Taiwan's COVID "success story" and its lessons on public trust, collectivist morality, disinformation, and pandemic nationalism. It also explores how social-economic status, gender, sexual identity, ableness, and immigration status intersect with health care.

This class takes a critical, decolonial, and intersectional approach to examine and challenge power structures in global health. Throughout the course, students use a self-reflexivity approach that asks: In global health interconnectivity, who suffers and benefits, why and how this happens, and what can we each do about it? Three field classes increase the diversity of perspectives and voices in the course.

Content warning:

At times, this course intentionally invites students to engage with readings and content that are controversial. Students might find this disturbing. The intention is not to endorse perspectives, but rigorously engage with them. If certain material is emotionally challenging, students can discuss with the professor before or after class. Students may also leave the classroom without academic penalty if the discussion becomes too emotionally challenging. Students are, however, responsible for all missed material, and so should arrange to get notes from another student or see the professor individually.

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Objectives

In this course, students:

- Analyze key topics in global health from a Taiwanese perspective
- Form a working understanding of a decolonial and intersectional view of global health
- Examine different social phenomena through the lens of health
- Build a comparative and critical capacity to understand global health policy and issues.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend each class as outlined in the CET Attendance Policy. Students are to read all assigned materials before each class session and come prepared to participate thoughtfully in class discussions. Reading assignments average about 50-80 pages per class.

In addition to course participation, graded assignments include:

- Leading a class discussion. Students select an article from the course reading list and lead a classroom discussion that includes a brief article summary, analysis of the main arguments, critiques, and discussion questions. Class members fill out a feedback form to provide constructive comments to the presenter.
- Four self-reflexivity exercises. Students turn in a short self-reflexivity essay (3 pages/800 words) three times during the semester that reflects on their own learning from the previous weeks. Essay content includes key concepts learned, how course materials relate to one's own experiences and things they learned elsewhere, critiques of the readings, and feedback for the instructor. At the end of the semester, students turn in a final self-reflexivity essay (5 pages/1,200 words) that synthesizes essential concepts they have learned in class and how they plan to continue learning about global health after the class.
- Final group presentation that includes submitting a presentation plan and constructive peer feedback. Students form small groups and pick a global health topic for a 30-minute final presentation. Presentations are to include an introduction of the topic, a literature review, personal observations, critical analysis, and compare and contrast. Creativity in content and format are welcome.

Grading

The final grade is determined as follows:

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| 25% | Discussion leader (20%) and feedback (5%) |
| 25% | Self-reflexivity exercises. (Three at 5% each and the final one at 10%) |
| 20% | Preparation for class and participation in class discussions |
| 30% | A collaborative final presentation |
| | 5% Proposed presentation plan |
| | 20% In-class presentation |
| | 5% Peer review and feedback |

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Readings

- Bhattacharya, Nandini. "Disease and Colonial Enclaves." In *Contagion and Enclaves: Tropical Medicine in Colonial India*, 1-17. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2012.
- Bowleg, Lisa. "When Black + Lesbian + Woman ≠ Black Lesbian Woman: The Methodological Challenges of Qualitative and Quantitative Intersectionality Research." *Sex Roles* 59, no. 5 (2008): 312-325.
- Brysk, Alison. "Constructing Rights in Taiwan: The Feminist Factor, Democratization, and the Quest for Global Citizenship." *The Pacific Review* 34, no. 5 (2021): 838-870.
- Bump, Jesse B., and Ifeyinwa Aniebo. "Colonialism, Malaria, and the Decolonization of Global Health." *PLOS Global Public Health* 2, no. 9 (2022): 1-12.
doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0000936.
- Chang, Hung-Chieh. "Climate Strike or Not? Intersectionality of Age and Culture Encountered by Young Climate Activists in Taiwan." *Childhood* 29, no. 1 (2022): 7-23.
- Chen, Peters Li-ying. "A Reachable Governance to Fight COVID-19: Democracy and the Legacy of Embedded Autonomy in Taiwan." *Asian Journal of Social Science Studies* 5, no. 3 (2020): 18-28. doi.org/10.20849/ajsss.v5i3.777.
- Cheng, Shu-Ju Ada. "Rethinking the Globalization of Domestic Service: Foreign Domestic Workers, State Control, and the Politics of Identity in Taiwan." *Gender & Society* 17, no. 2 (2003): 166-186.
- Chiu, Ya-Wen, Yi-Hao Weng, Chih-Fu Chen, Chun-Yuh Yang, and Ming-Liang Lee. "Perceptions and Efficiency of Short-term Medical Aid Missions among Key Groups of Health Professionals." *Evaluation & the Health Professions* 37, no. 3 (2014): 379-393.
- Crawford, Paul. "Introduction: Global Health Humanities and the Rise of Creative Public Health." In *The Routledge Companion to Health Humanities*, edited Andrea Charise, Paul Crawford, and Brian Brown, 1-8. Milton Park, UK: Routledge, 2020.
- Fox, Daniel M. "Who We Are: The Political Origins of the Medical Humanities." *Theoretical Medicine* 6, no. 3 (1985): 327-341.
- Gkiouleka, Anna, Tim Huijtsa, Jason Beckfield, and Clare Bamba. "Understanding the Micro and Macro Politics of Health: Inequalities, Intersectionality and Institutions—A Research Agenda." *Social Science & Medicine* 200 (March 2018): 92-98.
doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2018.01.025.
- Gottfried, Heidi, and Jennifer Jihye Chun. "Care Work in Transition: Transnational Circuits of Gender, Migration, and Care." *Critical Sociology* 44, no. 7-8 (2018): 997-1012.
- Huang, Shu-Min, and Shao-Hua Liu. "Discrimination and Incorporation of Taiwanese Indigenous Austronesian Peoples." *Asian Ethnicity* 17, no. 2 (2016): 294-312.

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- Jhang, JhuCin Rita. "Almost-Marriage Equality in Taiwan." *Taiwan Insight*. University of Nottingham Taiwan Studies Program, June 2022. <https://taiwaninsight.org/2022/06/06/almost-marriage-equality-in-taiwan/>.
- _____. "Health Issue Facing Tongzhi/LGBTQ+ People in Taiwan." *Taiwan Insight*. University of Nottingham Taiwan Studies Program, Nov. 2022. <https://taiwaninsight.org/2022/11/10/health-issues-facing-tongzhi-lgbtq-people-in-taiwan/>.
- Kapilashrami, Anuj, and Olena Hankivsky. "Intersectionality and Why It Matters to Global Health." *The Lancet* 391, no. 10140 (2018): 2589-2591. doi.org/10.1007/s11366-021-09736-5.
- Khan, Mishal, Seye Abimbola, Tammam Aloudat, Emanuele Capobianco, Sarah Hawkes, and Afifah Rahman-Shepherd. "Decolonising Global Health in 2021: A Roadmap to Move from Rhetoric to Reform." *BMJ Global Health* 6, no. 3 (2021):1-3. doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2021-005604.
- Kloet, Jeroen de, Jian Lin, and Yiu Fai Chow. "'We are doing better': Biopolitical Nationalism and the COVID-19 Virus in East Asia." *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 23, no. 4 (2020): 635-640. doi.org/10.1177/1367549420928092.
- Koplan, Jeffrey P., T. Christopher Bond, Michael H. Merson, K. Srinath Reddy, Mario Henry Rodriguez, Nelson K. Sewankambo, and Judith N. Wasserheit. "Towards a Common Definition of Global Health." *The Lancet* 373, no. 9679 (2009): 1993-1995.
- Kuan, Chen-I. "Vaccine Hesitancy and Emerging Parental Norms: A Qualitative Study in Taiwan." *Sociology of Health & Illness* 44, no. 3 (2022): 692-709.
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- Lan, Pei-Chia. "From Reproductive Assimilation to Neoliberal Multiculturalism: Framing and Regulating Immigrant Mothers and Children in Taiwan." *Journal of Intercultural Studies* 40, no. 3 (2019): 318-333.
- Lee, Kelley. "WHO under Fire: The Need to Elevate the Quality of Politics in Global Health." *Global Social Policy* 20, no. 3 (2020): 374-377.
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- Liang, Li-Fang. "Creating a Gendered-Racialized Care Labor Market: Migrant Labor Policy and the Transformation of Care Work in Taiwan." In *Gender, Care and Migration in East Asia*, edited by Reiko Ogawa, Raymond K.H. Chan, Akiko S. Oishi, and Lih-Rong Wang, 139-156. Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

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- Lin, Ching-Fu, Han-Wei Liu, and Chien-Huei Wu. "Breaking State-Centric Shackles in the WHO: Taiwan as a Catalyst for a New Global Health Order." *Virginia Journal of International Law Online* (2020). doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3675481.
- Lin, Teh-Chang, and Jean Yen-Chun Lin. "Taiwan's Foreign Aid in Transition: From ODA to Civil Society Approaches." *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 18, no. 4 (2017): 469-490.
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- Liu, Michael Shi-yung. "From Colonial Medicine to International Health in East Asia." *Humanities Futures*. Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University, 2018.
<https://humanitiesfutures.org/papers/from-colonial-medicine-to-international-health-in-east-asia/>.
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- Macarthur, Sam. "Top 10 International Public Health Careers." *MPH Online*. Accessed November 17, 2022. <https://www.mphonline.org/best-international-public-health-jobs/>.
- Pande, Amrita. "Global Reproductive Inequalities, Neo-eugenics and Commercial Surrogacy in India." *Current Sociology* 64, no. 2 (2016): 244-258.
- Ramos, José G. Pérez, Adriana Garriga-López, and Carlos E. Rodríguez-Díaz. "How Is Colonialism a Sociostructural Determinant of Health in Puerto Rico?" *AMA Journal of Ethics* 24, no. 4 (2022): 305-312. doi.org/10.1001/amajethics.2022.305.
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- Yen, Wei-Ting. "Taiwan's COVID-19 Management: Developmental State, Digital Governance, and State-Society Synergy." *Asian Politics & Policy* 12, no. 3 (2020): 455-468. doi.org/10.1111/aspp.12541.
- Yeophantong, Pichamon, and Chih-yu Shih. "A Relational Reflection on Pandemic Nationalism." *Journal of Chinese Political Science* 26 (2021): 549-572.

Outline of Course Content

- Topic 1: Global health, colonialism, and globalization
- Taiwan and the past
 - Decolonization and the contemporary shadow of colonialism
- Topic 2: Racism, politics, and world power imbalance in global health
- Taiwan as an excluded but vital player
- Topic 3: COVID-19 and its many stories
- Public health mandates and compliance
 - Collectivist morality
 - Human rights concerns
 - Vaccine hesitancy and public trust
 - Democracy and infodemic
- Topic 4: COVID and pandemic nationalism
- Topic 5: National Health Insurance and national identity pride in Taiwan
- Topic 6: Intersectionality, marginalization, and global health
- Topic 7: Domestic policy and global medical travel
- Marriage equality?
 - Assisted reproduction technology and globalization
 - Global reproductive inequalities
- Topic 8: Fertility, family, and feminism
- Topic 9: Immigration and global care work