

Global Health Policy

Bachelor of Science

Proposed By:

Student Name
Student UID#
Local Address
Phone Number
Student Email

Sponsored By:

Faculty Mentor's Name
Department
Campus Address
Campus Phone Number
Email Address

Introduction

Last August, I went to Costa Rica and Nicaragua with a group of pre-health University of Maryland students. I had never been to a developing country before, and throughout the trip, I found myself frequently thinking about the inequalities that exist in this world and the luxuries and privileges Americans tend to take for granted. The details of our lives that seem basic, such as electricity, clean water, and air conditioning, are not realities for many people. Over the course of two weeks, hundreds of adults, children, and babies waited hours in the tropical heat so that they could be examined and receive medicine that they would otherwise go without. The most common diseases we saw at the clinics—fungal infections, parasitic infections, common colds, and certain tropical diseases—were easily treatable with medication. The majority of the victims to parasites were children, who were often undernourished as a result. Even though the government provides the antibiotics to prevent parasite infections for free, some parents simply do not understand that their children need to re-take the antibiotics every six months. My volunteer trip inspired me to one day improve the living and health conditions in developing countries, and my major in Global Health Policy is the beginning of this path.

During my trip, I developed a curiosity about the many factors that contribute to the health conditions of populations in developing countries, and I now plan on investigating why health disparities manifest from scientific and sociological point of views. I entered the University of Maryland as a Community Health major, and after my trip to Central America, I realized that I want to take the interdisciplinary approach to learning offered by the Individual Studies Program. The requirements for the Biological Sciences majors and the Community Health major do not incorporate courses in social inequality and global issues. The pre-med requirements provide the science and physiology of health coursework, but the Global Health Policy major will give me a broader perspective on cultural and social issues that impact public

health. By studying Global Health Policy in IVSP, I will be able to gain a broad but comprehensive understanding of the health sciences, public health, policy, social inequality, and global issues.

Sample C

Global Health Policy Defined

The Global Health Policy major includes studies of the policies, politics, and sciences that improve human health status. This major investigates how science is perceived by the public, how policy decisions impact science, and how social inequalities and health disparities interrelate. Global Health Policy includes three main concentrations: Public Health and Policy, Health Sciences, and Ethics and Global Issues.

Coursework in **Public Health and Policy** (HLTH130, HLTH140, HLTH301, HLTH471, ANTH410, HONR228M, HONR288L, PUA699D) is essential to a well-rounded understanding of the science and art of protecting and improving the health of communities through policies, education, and promotion of healthy lifestyles. These classes will consider health disparities, theories and practices of community health, organization in healthcare, and the psychological and sociological mechanisms that contribute to health-related behavior. Courses in this concentration will also help in examining the achievements and weaknesses in public health and how public policy contributes to the implementation of public health programs.

Courses in the **Health Sciences** (NFSC100H, CHEM131, CHEM231, BSCI105, BSCI223, BSCI330, BCHM461) focus on the basic sciences that lead to discoveries and improvements in the medical and public health sectors. Coursework in chemistry, molecular and cell biology, and biochemistry will establish a foundation of knowledge regarding the biological and chemical processes that impact human health. These courses provide the groundwork for understanding the processes and functions of life underlying health.

Global Issues courses (AREC365, GEOG331, HONR269E, HONR348J, HONR359B) focus largely on global and social factors impacting health, environment, and resources. These classes examine the interrelationship between humans and the environment, and some courses

focus on the problem of and possible solutions to world hunger and resource depletion. The coursework also entails the dynamics of inequality and theories of social change. Studying the causes and results of global and social decisions will facilitate understanding of how to make positive impacts on communities in the future.

Sample C

Learning Objectives and Future Goals

Through the Global Health Policy major, I hope to gain a deep understanding of policies and social issues in areas of public health. This major will also provide a solid background in the basic sciences, which will help me in the medical field. My main goal in life is to develop my interests in health and medicine so that I may make a positive impact in the world of medicine and in the lives of those who need it the most. I hope to become a physician so that I can provide treatment to those who cannot afford it and to those living in developing countries. I also want to serve our country as well as developing nations by improving public health policies that affect healthcare and health conditions.

As a Global Health Policy major, I hope to do a research internship at the National Cancer Institute at NIH in the summer to gain experience in the science field and enable me to think critically about the theory and applications of biomedical research to medicine and public health. I am also considering participating in the Federal Semester Program in Health Policy as it would provide a perspective on federal policy within both an educational and professional environment.

I also plan to participate in a study abroad program that focuses on global health, such as Winter/Summer India: Global Health and Development. Through such a program, I would experience firsthand the health and development issues facing resource-constrained communities. By travelling to another country and interacting with the communities, I will deepen my understanding of the health disparities that occur in impoverished societies and what can be done to help them.

For my senior thesis, I plan to write a research paper that analyzes the current healthcare system in the United States and compares the performance of the US medical system with that of

Germany, a developed country with relatively low health expenditures and a high quality of care. I would examine the efficacy, efficiency, and equity of the US health care system as well as the successes of Germany's universal coverage policy. This analytical paper would reflect what I have learned through the Global Health Policy major as well as what I hope to pursue in the future.

Sample C

Coursework by Concentration

* Courses already taken; (CE) Currently Enrolled

Public Health and Policy

- HLTH130* 3** **Introduction to Public and Community Health:** An introduction to the theory and practice of public and community health. The influence of public health professionals on the past, present, and future health status of society through the examination of critical health issues will be described. Programming models, theories and policy development are included.
- HLTH140* 3** **Personal and Community Health:** Meaning and significance of physical, mental and social health as related to the individual and to society; important phases of national health problems; constructive methods of promoting health of the individual and the community.
- HLTH301 3** **Epidemiology for Public Health Practice:** An examination of the discipline of epidemiology and its application to public health issues and practices, covering current epidemiological concepts and methods.
- HLTH471 3** **Women’s Health:** *Also offered as WMST471.* The historical, physiological, psychological, sociological mechanisms which contribute to women’s health. Topics will include gynecological concerns and reproductive health; nutrition, exercise; violence; substance use/abuse; and the health of special populations.
- ANTH410 3** **Theory and Practice of Community and Health Development:** Introduction to the relationships between culture, health status and practices, and the design of community-based initiatives. The focus is on the use of anthropological knowledge and skills in the analysis of such relationships and in the design of community-based initiatives.
- HONR288L* 3** **Medical Devices: Applied Ethics and Public Policy:** Examine how controversial decisions were made by the FDA, manufacturers, physicians, and other government organizations, and whether those decisions were ethical. Examine other current issues from the literature and news media.
- HONR228M (CE) 3** **Public Health Politics:** Explore contemporary political issues as they relate health, medicine, and public health, particularly as they relate to children and families. Issues such as access, coverage, payment, medical authorities, health literacy, health care costs, presidential positions on

health reform, government programs, academic medicine, and the federal government's interests, roles, and responsibilities will be explored.

- PUAF699D 3 Selected Topics Public Policy: Disease, Disasters and Development:** Development- cultural, agricultural, industrial, social, economic, political- will be reviewed as a bringer of disease prevention and treatment and as a bringer of disease itself, from acute infections and poisonings to chronic conditions attributable to the "westernization" of diets.
- Health Sciences
NFSC100H* 3 Elements of Nutrition: Fundamentals of human nutrition. Nutrient requirements related to changing individual and family needs.
- BSCI105* 4 Principles of Biology I:** Basic principles of biology with special emphasis on cellular and molecular biology.
- BSCI223 (CE) 4 General Microbiology:** Fundamental concepts in morphology, physiology, genetics, immunology, ecology, and pathogenic microbiology
- BSCI330 4 Cell Biology and Physiology:** Biochemical and physiological mechanisms underlying cellular function. Properties of cells which make life possible and mechanisms by which cells provide energy, reproduce, and regulate and integrate with each other and their environment.
- BSCI440 4 Mammalian Physiology:** A study of the cardiovascular, hemopoietic, gastrointestinal, renal and respiratory systems. Chemical and endocrine regulation of physiological functions in mammals.
- BSCI441 2 Mammalian Physiology Lab:** Laboratory exercises in experimental mammalian physiology.
- BCHM461 3 Biochemistry I:** First semester of a comprehensive introduction to modern biochemistry. Structure, chemical properties, and function of proteins and enzymes, carbohydrates, lipids, and nucleic acids. Basic enzyme kinetics and catalytic mechanisms.
- CHEM131/2* 4 General Chemistry I:** An overview of the Periodic Table, inorganic substances, ionic and covalent bonding, bulk properties of materials, chemical equilibrium, and quantitative chemistry.
- CHEM231/2* 4 Organic Chemistry I:** The chemistry of carbon: aliphatic compounds, aromatic compounds, stereochemistry, arenes, halides, alcohols, esters and spectroscopy.

CHEM241/2 (CE) 4 **Organic Chemistry II:** A continuation of CHEM231 with emphasis on molecular structure; substitution reactions; carbonium ions; aromaticity; synthetic processes; macromolecules.

CHEM271/2 4 **General Chemistry and Energetics:** An introduction to the physical aspects of chemistry; chemical kinetics, thermodynamics and electrochemistry in the context of current chemistry research

Global Issues

AREC365 (CE) 3 **World Hunger, Population, and Food Supplies:** An introduction to the problem of world hunger and possible solutions to it. World demand, supply, and distribution of food. Alternatives for leveling off world food demand, increasing the supply of food, and improving its distribution. Environmental limitations to increasing world food production.

GEOG331 3 **Introduction to Human Dimensions of Global Change:** Introduction to global-scale interrelationship between human beings and the environment. The development of global issues including but not limited to the environment, food, energy, technology, population, and policy.

HONR269E 3 **Exploring Key Issues of Globalization:** This course aims to assist students in their efforts to understand the phenomenon called globalization, by taking a multi-disciplinary approach that employs alternative integrating themes. Central to the course is the view that globalization relates as much to a way of thinking as it does to a description of the dynamics of political, economic, social and cultural relations and changes.

HONR348J 3 **Contemporary Social Issues:** This class examines the origins, purpose, and nature of social institutions (i.e. affirmative action) in hopes of assessing their effectiveness. In this same light, we will look at the origins and purposes of multiculturalism. Are diversity and multiculturalism simply an acknowledgment of new social realities? Or are they the result of out-of-control left-wing political correctness?

HONR359B 3 **Alternatives to Violence:** The course offers a study of the methods, history, and practitioners of nonviolence. An objective of the course is to study nonviolence as a force for change, both among nations and among individuals faced with violence in their daily lives.

Individual Studies

IVSP317	1	Progress Report
IVSP318 (optional)	3 - 9	Independent Learning Activities
IVSP420	3	Senior Paper
Writing Craft Course	3	Writing for Health Professions

Credits from 300+ level courses (excluding IVSP courses):

37/27 required credits, in 11 courses.

Total Credits including IVSP: 92 – 98 credits

Current Status: 27 credits completed, 65–71 credits remaining

Coursework by Semester

Spring 2011

CHEM241/2: Organic Chemistry II	4
BSCI223: General Microbiology	4
HONR228M: Public Health Politics (SH)	3
AREC365: World Hunger, Population, and Food Supplies	<u>3</u>
	14

Fall 2011

CHEM271/2: General Chemistry II	4
PHYS121: Fundamentals of Physics I	4
HONR359B: Alternatives to Violence	3
ENGL391: Advanced Composition	<u>3</u>
	14

Spring 2012

BSCI330: Cell Biology and Physiology	4
BSCI440: Mammalian Physiology	4
HONR269E: Exploring Key Issues of Globalization	3
HLTH301: Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	<u>3</u>
	14

Fall 2012

BCHM461: Biochemistry	3
BSCI441: Mammalian Physiology Lab	2
GEOG331: Introduction to Human Dimensions of Global Change	3
IVSP317: Progress Report	1
HONR348J: Advanced H. Seminar: Contemporary Social Issues	3
EDHD320: Human Development Through the Life Span	<u>3</u>
	15

Spring 2013

IVSP420: Senior Paper	3
ENGL395: Writing for Health Professions (Writing Craft)	3
HLTH471: Women's Health	3
PUAF699D: Selected Topics Public Policy: Disease, Disasters, & Development	3
ANTH410: Theory and Practice of Community and Health Development	<u>3</u>
	15

CORE Coursework

FUNDAMENTAL STUDIES			
CATEGORY	COURSE#	COURSE TITLE	SEMESTER TAKEN
FE	ENGL101	Intro to Writing	AP Credit
FM	SAT		
JE	ENGL391H	Advanced Composition	Fall 2011

DISTRIBUTIVE STUDIES			
HUMANITIES AND THE ARTS			
CATEGORY	COURSE#	COURSE TITLE	SEMESTER TAKEN
HL	ENGL243	Intro to Poetry	Fall 2009
HA	MUSC205	History of Popular Music	Fall 2009
HA/HL/HO/IE	LARC160	Intro to Landscape Architecture	Summer II 2008
SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS			
CATEGORY	COURSE#	COURSE TITLE	SEMESTER TAKEN
PL/LL	BSCI105	Principles of Biology I	Spring 2010
LL/LS/PL/PS	NFSC100H	Elements of Nutrition	Fall 2010
LL/LS/MS/PL/PS/IE	STAT100	Elementary Statistics	AP Credit
SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HISTORY			
CATEGORY	COURSE#	COURSE TITLE	SEMESTER TAKEN
SH	HONR288M	Public Health Policies	Spring 2011
SB	KNES287	Sport and American Society	Fall 2009
SB/IE	HONR288L	Medical Devices	Spring 2010

ADVANCED STUDIES			
CATEGORY	COURSE#	COURSE TITLE	SEMESTER TAKEN
AS	EDHD320	Human Development	Fall 2012
AS	IVSP420	Senior Paper	Spring 2013

HUMAN CULTURAL DIVERSITY			
CATEGORY	COURSE#	COURSE TITLE	SEMESTER TAKEN
D	KNES287	Sport and American Society	Fall 2009

Name:

Major Title: Global Health Policy

For Office Purposes Only	COURSE#	Course Title	Credits
	BSCI105	Principles of Biology I	4
	BSCI223	General Microbiology	4
	BSCI330	Cell Biology and Physiology	4
	BSCI440	Mammalian Physiology	4
	BSCI441	Mammalian Physiology Lab	2
	BCHM461	Biochemistry	3
	CHEM131/2	General Chemistry I	4
	CHEM231/2	Organic Chemistry I	4
	CHEM241/2	Organic Chemistry II	4
	CHEM271/2	General Chemistry and Energetics	4
	NFSC100H	Elements of Nutrition	3
	HLTH130	Introduction to Public and Community Health	3
	HLTH140	Personal and Community Health	3
	HLTH301	Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	3
	HLTH471	Women's Health	3
	ANTH410	Theory and Practice of Community and Health Development	3
	HONR288L	Medical Devices: Applied Ethics and Public Policy	3
	HONR228M	Public Health Politics	3
	PUAF699D	Selected Topics Public Policy: Disease, Disasters, & Development	3
	AREC365	World Hunger, Population, and Food Supplies	3
	HONR269E	Exploring Key Issues of Globalization	3
	HONR348J	Contemporary Social Issues	3
	HONR359B	Alternatives to Violence	3
Total 300+ Level Credits (excluding IVSP courses)			37
	IVSP317	Progress Report	1
	IVSP318 (optional)	Independent Learning Activities	3 - 9

	IVSP420	Senior Paper	3
	Writing Craft Course	ENGL395: Writing for Health Professions	3
Total Credits (including IVSP courses)			92-98

Sample C