



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

MPH201 Global health and human rights, 15 credits

Global hälsa och mänskliga rättigheter, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Institute of Medicine on 2016-11-02 and was last revised on 2019-01-19 to be valid from 2019-01-19, spring semester of 2019.

Field of education: Medicine 100%

Department: Institute of Medicine

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a freestanding course and as course in Master's (120 credits) programmes in public health with health economics.

The course can be part of the following programme: 1) Master's Programme in Public Health Science with Health Economics (M2FHH)

Main field of studies

Public Health Science with Health Economics

Specialization

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Entry requirements

Entry requirements are a Degree of Bachelor or courses equivalent to at least 180 credits. Specific entry requirements in English are required, English 6/the English B or the equivalence to IELTS 6.5 where some section may not be below 5.5, or TOEFL 575 p, TWE credit 4.5.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- describe and discuss the importance of social determinants for health development and inequality in health in a population, with a special focus on low- and middle-income countries
- explain and discuss the epidemiology of communicable and non-communicable diseases and how these can be prevented
- describe international regulatory frameworks for human rights as well as the relationship between these and their ethical, political and legal basis
- explain what the right to health means including its linkage to functioning health systems and public health
- describe the relationships between public health and economic, social and environmental sustainability

Competence and skills

- suggest appropriate strategies at different levels to improve the health of populations in low and middle-income countries considering gender and human rights perspectives,
- discuss how limited access to human rights influences the health of people both for the individual and for different groups in society

Judgement and approach

- interpret and evaluate health data from different parts of the world including their relationship to political, economic, social and cultural aspects and determinants
- discuss and argue for the importance of social determinants in work focusing on leveling out health inequalities in a global perspective
- discuss what an implementation of the right to health means in health policy and practice and how effects of policy with human rights perspectives can be measured at micro level, for example encounters in health care and other societal sectors

The course is sustainability-focused, which means that at least one of the learning outcomes clearly shows that the course content meets at least one of the University of Gothenburg's confirmed sustainability criteria. The content also constitutes the course's main focus.

Course content

The course has three main themes:

- 1) Introduction to global health, as part of the major field public health. The global burden of disease, international actors and globalisation of health and health care, the effect of the poverty for health as well as the conditions to conduct public health work and health care in low and middle-income countries, including in emergency situations.
- 2) The second theme treats social determinants of health for communicable (e.g. malaria, TB, HIV) and non-communicable diseases (e.g. mental illness, diabetes, sexual and reproductive health, maternal and child health, violence).
- 3) In addition the course deepens the theme human rights and the importance of the concept the right to health, that is both legal frameworks and practical implications in concrete activities are discussed and processed at lectures and applied workshops. Finally, the relationships between the right to health, health systems and public health are highlighted.

The three themes of the course is consistently connected to inequality in health.

Form of teaching

Teaching is conducted in the form of lectures, seminars, group discussions and case studies.

Language of instruction: English

Assessment

The course will be examined by attendance at four compulsory seminars indicated on the course schedule, one study visit, and the following assignments:

- Two group assignments to be submitted in writing and presented orally at two of the above compulsory seminars
- Two short written assignments to be submitted individually, related to the remaining two compulsory seminars
- One final essay to be submitted individually on the theme of global health and human rights.

Absence from compulsory seminars or the study visit will be compensated for with written assignments according to instruction from the course leader.

If a student, who has failed the same examination twice, wishes to change examiner for the next examination, a written request should be sent to the institution responsible for the course and shall be granted unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6, Section 22 of Higher Education Ordinance).

In cases where a course has been discontinued or has undergone major changes, the

student shall normally be guaranteed at least three examination occasions (including the ordinary examination) during a period of at least one year based on the course structure the last time the course was given.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

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For the grade Pass (G) the student must have attended all compulsory seminars and the study visit (or have compensated for them), achieved a pass in the group assignments and short written assignments, and pass in the final essay.

To pass with distinction (VG) the student must have attended all compulsory seminars and the study visit (or have compensated for them), achieved a pass in the group assignments and short written assignments, and a pass with distinction (VG) for the final essay.

Course evaluation

An oral course evaluation takes place at the end of the course and a written course evaluation take place via GUL. The result and any changes in the set-up of the course are communicated both to the students who carried out the evaluation and to the students who should start the course.