N612/SOCWK744
Essentials of Practice in International Health and Social Development

Credits: 3
Term: Fall, 2003
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Room 3184SNB  Room 308, ILIR (Victor Vaughan Building)

Prerequisites: Enrollment in the Certificate in International Health and Social Development, or Graduate Student Standing and Permission of Instructor

Schedule: Monday evenings 6-9PM, Room 1804 School of Social Work Building

Description
This course provides an overview of international health and social development, including the impact of globalization. Frameworks are provided for the comparative analysis of health and social development, and the economic, political, policy, and cultural aspects, which influence them. Approaches to interdisciplinary project planning, community building, program implementation, program evaluation, and research in international contexts will be explored. Sustainability of international initiatives and ethics are threads throughout the course. Students are provided opportunity to examine relevant health and social issues and unique needs of population subgroups during the course, and relate these to their own disciplines and career goals.

Objectives
Upon completion of the learning experiences associated with this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss key issues in international health and social development.
2. Analyze the impact of globalization on health and social development.
3. Analyze health and social welfare systems, and social policy, and their linkages.
4. Describe the influence of economic, political, policy, and cultural realities on health and social development, and analyze ways in which systems and organizations may contribute to justice or injustice.
5. Discuss the processes of international and interdisciplinary project planning, implementation, and evaluation.

6. Analyze conceptual, methodological, and ethical issues that are unique to the conduct of international project planning and research, and explore ways of addressing them in a professionally and ethically sound manner.

7. Explore the effects of health and social policy on the management of a specific health problem or the health of a particular population.
# CLASS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Faculty</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course. Defining Health and Social Development.</td>
<td>VHB &amp; JAT</td>
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<td>Key Concepts and Issues Related to Health and Social Development</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Key Determinants of Health and Social Welfare</td>
<td>VHB &amp; JAT</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>Analysis of the Financing and Organization of Health Care Systems</td>
<td>VHB</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>Analysis of the Financing and Organization of Social Welfare Systems</td>
<td>JAT</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>October 6</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary International Project Planning</td>
<td>VHB</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary International Project Implementation and Evaluation</td>
<td>VHB</td>
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| 7.            | October 27 | The Conduct of Research in an International Context Ethics of International Work | Dr. Jersey Liang  
|               |            | Dr. Shaké Ketefian                                                     |                 |
| 8.            | November 3 | Analysis of Specific, Major Health and Social Problems (Topics selected based on students’ interests) | VHB & JAT Students |
| 10.           | November 17| Impact of Globalization on Health and Social Development                | JAT             |
| 11.           | November 24| Analysis of Case Studies in International Health and Social Development | Guest Speakers  |
| 12.           | December 1 | Student Presentations                                                  | Students        |
| 13.           | December 8 | Student Presentations                                                  | Students        |
|               |            | Course Evaluation                                                       |                 |
Course Format.
Class sessions are designed as seminars, led either by faculty and/or students. Students are expected to be fully prepared for class sessions by completing required readings and being ready to discuss them.

Course Textbooks and Resources.
Textbooks:

Course tools:
A Coursetools web site for the course contains a substantial amount of information regarding references and tools, which will be useful in the course. Students are encouraged to use that resource.

Student Evaluation
Students will receive a letter grade for the course. The course grade will be derived from midterm and final papers (30% + 50%, respectively) and class participation (20%).

**Systems Analysis Paper.** In this midterm paper, students will compare and contrast two health or social welfare systems in two countries as a whole or a specific, major aspect thereof. Students can choose the two systems based on personal interest. Students should select the two systems from comparison by September 22nd and review choice of topic with faculty. The paper is due on October 20th.

**Final Paper.** Students choose a topic or international health/social development problem discussed within the course or of interest to them, and develop the themes using the perspective of their disciplines. Students review the relevant literature, identify a framework through which issues will be analyzed and discussed. The paper should address specific needs/issues/requirements of populations that are uniquely affected by the specific problems or needs selected, and describe the type of interventions or solutions that would be brought to bear to address the problems or needs, in a manner that fits the requirements of the context and constraints of the setting. The roles of governmental, or international agencies or NGO's may be discussed where relevant. The paper should also address how conflicting solutions/proposals could be negotiated and addressed. Examples of possible paper topics are listed: This paper is expected to be between 15-20 pages of narrative presentation, and is due on December 8th.

Examples of possible paper topics are listed:
- Maternal and child health issues in developing countries.
- Gender and health, sexual health and rights.
- Population aspects of HIV/AIDS and its impact on particular countries overseas.
- Impact of infectious and parasitic diseases, treatment and eradication programs.
- Health and social issues in war, violence, mass migration.
- Economic growth, trade and property right issues (including, for instance, availability of drugs at affordable prices) as related to health and social development.
- Role of international agencies, relevant governmental agencies, NGO's and other professional groups involved in amelioration of health and social problems.
Class Participation.
Students are expected to attend all course sessions and be prepared for and be active participants in class discussions. In addition students will present the findings of their analyses in Paper #2 in an oral presentation to the class.

Course Expectations
- Any consistent presentation style (for example that of the American Psychological Association [APA] or the Vancouver Style of biomedical Journals will be used for papers). [Students from Nursing are required to use APA style.]
- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, using fonts no smaller that 11 and appropriate references.
- All cell phones and pagers should be turned off during class.
- Excessive absences and late paper submissions, without permission, may have course grade implications.
- Students are expected to read extensively beyond the required readings to master the content of this course. Required readings are considered minimal expectations.
Required Readings

**Sept. 8**  
**Introduction to the Course, Defining Health and Social Development**  
**Key Concepts and Issues Related to Health and Social Development**  

Leon & Walt – Chapters 1 and 4, pp 1-14, 58-83.

**Sept. 15**  
**Key Determinants of Health and Social Welfare**  

Leon & Walt -- Chapters 2-3, pp. 17-54.

**Sept. 22**  
**Analysis of the Financing and Organization of Health Care Systems**  
Leon & Walt – Chapter 9, pp. 175-193.


Field, M. G. Comparative health systems and the convergence hypothesis: the dialectics of Universalism and Particularism. Chapter 3, pages 35-44.


Chapter 1, International comparison of health care system reforms, pages 3-33.

**Sept. 29**  
**Analysis of the Financing and Organization of Social Welfare Systems**  
Leon & Walt -- Chapters 8, pp. 159-174.


Chapter 12, A tale of two countries, pp. 167-180.

**Oct. 6**  
**Interdisciplinary International Project Planning**  
Leon & Walt – Chapters 11 and 15, pages 217-246, 294-311.

McKenzie & Smeltzer – Chapters 2-4, 6, pages 12-93, 122-136.
Oct. 20  Interdisciplinary International Project Implementation and Evaluation  
Leon & Walt – Chapters 6 and 16, 125-136, 312-332.

McKenzie & Smeltzer – Chapters 8-14, pages 170-301.

Oct. 27  The Conduct or Research in an International Context  
Ethics of International Work  
Leon & Walt -- Chapters 114, pages 283-293.

Guest speakers will assign additional readings.

Nov. 3  Analysis of Specific, Major Health and Social Problems  
(Topics selected based on students’ interests)  
Leon & Walt -- Chapters 13, pages 263-282.


Nov. 10  Analysis of the Impact of Specific Health and Social Needs of Populations at Risk  
Leon & Walt – Chapters 7 and 12, pages 137-158, 247-262.

Nov.17  Impact of Globalization on Health and Social Development  


Leon & Walt – Chapter 17, pages 333-345.

Nov. 24  Analysis of Case Studies in International Health and Social Development  
Readings will be requested from guest speakers.

Dec. 1 & 8  Student presentations. No assigned readings.