

HSOC 591
Advanced Seminar in Health and Society

Instructors:

Dr. Carol Fenton, BHSc MSc MD FRCPC
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Office Hours/Policy on Answering Student Emails

If you would like to meet with the TA please set up appointment by email
If you do not get a response to your email within 48 hours, please re-send as well as cc the TA

Teaching Assistant:

Seham Elmrayed
email: seham.elmrayed1@ucalgary.ca

Time and Location:

Seminar: Wednesdays, 9:00am to 11:50am
Tutorials: by appointment
Seminars will be conducted synchronously every week via Zoom

Prerequisite/Co-Requisite:

Health and Society 401 and registration in the BHSc Honours Health and Society major

Course Description:

An advanced seminar involving critical analysis of contemporary health issues. Topics vary from year-to-year, but are always drawn from the current academic literature, from the public policy arena, and/or from the popular media.

Overarching Theme

Global Health: the complex historical, cultural, and economic dynamics that create global health challenges and the tools and skills to improve global health and tackle health inequities. This course is an opportunity to apply the concepts and skills from your HSOC degree to real-world wicked problems.

Global Objectives

The overall objective of this course is to be an opportunity for students to synthesize and demonstrate what they have learned through their previous experiences in their HSOC degree. The seminar format is designed to be an integrative experience with a focus is on critical thinking, discussion, analysis, and communication.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and analyze the determinants and factors that contribute to complex health inequalities locally and globally, including the history of colonization, cultural, economic and power

dynamics.

2. Identify the role of cultural competency skills, equitable partnership building, capacity building, and OCAP principles in global health work.
3. Describe the contributions of diverse disciplines within a transdisciplinary Global Health framework (e.g. veterinary medical scientists, social scientists, biologists, ecologists, environmental scientists, biomedical professionals, economists, political scientists, etc.)
4. Identify the roles of stakeholders such as government (local, national), NGOs, donors, academia, international organizations (WHO, UN, etc.), and community in research, program and policy development.
5. Apply and critique global health and disease burden statistics from community health assessments, disease registries, and surveillance data.
6. Discuss strategies to improve global health, including health promotion programs, governance and policy.
7. Create a written document that applies the above to a particular global health topic, including an analysis of the underlying causes and contributing factors, an environmental scan and critique of existing interventions, and description of possible future work to drive improvement.

Learning Resources

Course materials will consist of scholarly literature, social media, videos, and other relevant media. Required scholarly literature and course materials will be posted on D2L for the student to source. Due to the seminar-style format of the class, it is expected that students complete, understand and come prepared to discuss the required weekly posted materials prior to coming to class, out of respect for the seminar presenters and to contribute to an enriched discussion.

A Note regarding readings

*A list of required readings will be outlined on D2L and links and documents will be made available, where possible. Required readings have been chosen carefully to inform you and enhance the lecture material. **Students are REQUIRED to complete assigned readings BEFORE each lecture.** Instructors will proceed in class on the assumption that students have read completely the assigned readings. Students should be aware that many of the readings they will be assigned may be of an unfamiliar nature and style. Students should allot sufficient time to allow for several reads of the assigned material.*

Learning Technology Requirements

Brightspace (by D2L) is located on the University of Calgary server and will be used extensively for communication with students. **It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they receive all posted communications and documents and that they receive emails sent by instructors or fellow students through D2L.** Only your @ucalgary.ca email address may be linked to D2L. Please ensure that you are regularly checking your @ucalgary.ca account.

In order to successfully engage in learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

A laptop, desktop, tablet or mobile device is required for D2L access. If you need help accessing or using D2L, please visit the Desire2Learn resource page for students: <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/d2l-student/>.

Evaluation

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in section F of the 2020-2021 Calendar.

In determining the overall grade in the course, the following weights will be used:

1. Written Assignments		
You will write two papers (midterm & final) for this course, that relate to your personal learning objectives for the course		
Component	Weight	Description
Paper 1: Describe the problem	20%	Review the literature related to your personal learning objectives and describe the issues - what is the global health challenge? Why is it a wicked problem? What is unique about it? What types of data is available, what does it mean, and what are their strengths and limitations?
Paper 2: Describe the solution	20%	Review existing interventions for your described problems and critique them by applying the skills and approaches learned through your degree and the course. What might the ideal solution look like?

2. Seminar Presentation:		
The seminar-style format of this class means that students have an opportunity to lead an entire class seminar.		
Component	Weight	Description
Seminar Presentation	20%	In groups of 2 or 3, students will choose one of the core concepts of public health to explore through a format of class discussion, which includes: the weekly posted required articles on D2L, creative activities, social media, movies etc. A purely lecture style seminar is strongly discouraged. Students will have to submit an outline and timeline for their seminar, as well as any additional suggested readings, one week before their scheduled seminar presentation.

3. Class Presentations		
Use your communication skills to share your thoughts, ideas, and learnings with the seminar.		
Component	Weight	Description
Midterm	10%	The content of this presentation should be based on the content of your papers. No required format.
Final	10%	

4. Seminar Reflections:		
Midterm and final reflections allow for reflection and introspection over the HSOC journey and HSOC 591 course learnings		
Component	Weight	Description
Midterm reflection	5%	Your midterm and final reflections will be maximum two-page single-spaced documents that reflect on your experience of learning the course objectives and content, your progress in writing/creating your assignments, and other learning moments along the way.
Final Reflection	5%	

6. Reading Summaries		
Component	Weight	Description
Weekly	10%	marks for writing a summary of each week's readings. No required format - just prove to me that you read it and you get the mark

Students who do not complete both written assignments will be considered as not having completed the course; this will be reflected on the students' official transcript as 'Incomplete'. In the absence of medical or other documented reasons, the instructor reserves the right to award an 'Incomplete'.

A Note regarding Writing Assignments:

Writing skills are important to academic study in all disciplines. In keeping with the University of Calgary's emphasis on the importance of academic writing in student assignments (section E.2 of 2020-21 Calendar), writing is emphasized, and the grading thereof in determining a student's mark in this course. The Bachelor of Health Sciences values excellence in writing. Competence in writing entails skills in crafting logical, clear, coherent, non-redundant sentences, paragraphs and broader arguments, as well as skills with the mechanics of writing (grammar, spelling, punctuation). Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. The University of Calgary offers a number of instructional services through the Students' Success Centre's Writing Support Services (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/writingsupport/>) for students seeking feedback on assignments or seeking to improve their general writing skills. Students are **strongly encouraged** to take advantage of these programs.

Grading Scheme:

Letter Grade	Description	Percentage
A+	Outstanding performance	96-100
A	Excellent performance	90-95
A-	Approaching excellent performance	85-89
B+	Exceeding good performance	80-84
B	Good performance	75-79
B-	Approaching good performance	70-74
C+	Exceeding satisfactory performance	65-69
C	Satisfactory performance	60-64
C-	Approaching satisfactory performance	57-59
D+	Marginal pass	54-56
D	Minimal pass	50-53
F	Did not meet course requirements	0-49

Missed Components of Term Work:

Please contact the instructor and/or TA the earliest possible if you are encountering obstacles or struggling to meet deadlines and course objectives.

Course Evaluations and Student Feedback

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the Universal Student Rating of Instruction (USRI) and a qualitative student evaluation. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor. Students may also address any concerns they may have with Dr. Ebba Kurz, Associate Dean (Undergraduate Health and Science Education) in the Cumming School of Medicine (kurz@ucalgary.ca).

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a 'live' video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. **Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course.** Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions, you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. **Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID** (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies. If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the

instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity (where available). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (such as for group work, presentations, etc).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only.

Attendance

Please make every effort to attend all seminars. Success in this course requires engagement with and discussion of the topics so you can apply them to your personal learning objectives. If you cannot attend, please let the instructor or TA know.

Conduct During Lectures

The classroom (whether in-person or virtual) should be respected as a safe place to share ideas without judgement - a community in which we can all learn from one another. Students are expected to frame their comments and questions to lecturers in respectful and appropriate language, always maintaining sensitivity towards the topic. Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment.

As members of the University community, students, employees and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/forms/title>.

Students are expected to take notes during class and should not rely solely on material supplied by the instructors.

Use of Internet and Electronic Communication Devices in Class

The Bachelor of Health Sciences program aims to create a supportive and respectful learning environment for all students. The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. However, research studies have found that inappropriate/off-topic use of electronic devices negatively affects the learning of the user and others during class time.

Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf>.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

Copyright

All students are required to reach the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material->

[protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf](#)) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may **NOT** be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. **The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited.** Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course **at the same time** may be allowed under fair dealing.

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodations to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Academic Misconduct

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. The University of Calgary has created rules to govern all its members regarding the creation of knowledge and the demonstration of knowledge having been learned.

Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour that compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes (but is not limited to): cheating, fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance, failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses, and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures, please visit; <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>
<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity website at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures is **prohibited** except where explicit permission has been received from the instructor.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary

Appeals

If there is a concern with the course, academic matter or a grade, first communicate with the instructor. If these concerns cannot be resolved, students can proceed with an academic appeal, as per Section I of the University Calendar. Students must follow the official reappraisal/appeal process and may contact the Student Ombuds' Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds>) for assistance with this and with any other academic concerns, including academic and non-academic misconduct. Students should be aware that concerns about graded term work may only be initiated **within 10 business days** of first being notified of the grade. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

Resources for Support of Student Learning, Success, Safety and Wellness

Student Success Centre	http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/
Student Wellness Centre	http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/
Distress Centre	http://www.distresscentre.com/
Library Resources	http://library.ucalgary.ca

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Ombuds' Office

The Student Ombuds' Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca

BHSc Student Faculty Liaison Committee (SFLC)

The BHSc SFLC, with elected representatives from all majors, serves to raise issues of interest to BHSc students to the program administration, including items pertaining to curriculum, scheduling and events. A list of current representatives can be found on the BHSc website.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; the SU representatives for the Cumming School of Medicine can be reached at medrep1@su.ucalgary.ca or medrep2@su.ucalgary.ca.

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

As part of the University of Calgary Emergency Evacuation plan, students, faculty, and staff should locate the closest Assembly Point in case of Fire Alarm. Safety signage is posted throughout the campus showing the locations and the possible route to these locations. All students, faculty, and staff are expected to promptly make their way to the nearest Assembly Point if the Fire Alarm is activated. No one is to return into campus facilities until an all clear is given to the warden in charge of the Assembly Area. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/building-evacuation/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.