

Spring Term 2008

PPOL-638 - INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Wednesday, 10:15-12:45

Office Hours: 8:30 – 9:45 PM Wednesdays (or just call & set up a time)

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The efforts of societies to improve health and increase longevity have constituted a major on-going social revolution of the past 200 years. Our work this semester will be a wide-ranging survey of social, economic, demographic and public health perspectives on that movement. Lectures, readings, and class discussions will cover the social history of health in past times, belief systems about the causes of disease and illness, the evolution of major causes of disease over time, the ecology and etiology of major infectious and chronic diseases, measurement issues, social and economic factors affecting the incidence and severity of illnesses, the social and economic consequences of changes in mortality and health, and programs designed to affect health conditions. Issues relating both to currently industrialized countries and developing countries will be discussed.

Course Requirements

Academic integrity is a fundamental value of our community here at Georgetown. You should know the essentials of Georgetown's expectations in this regard – and you should act accordingly. More information can be found in the Graduate Bulletin (http://grad.georgetown.edu/pages/reg_7.cfm) and at the Honor Council website (<http://www11.georgetown.edu/programs/gervase/hc/index.html>).

You are expected to attend class and actively participate in the class discussions. Respectful engagement in conversation with the other members of the seminar is vital to the success of this course. We will all learn from your informed opinions and thoughtful contributions. Informed: Please be sure to read and think about the course materials and how they fit into your experience and knowledge before our class meetings.

We will choose assignments for the class presentations during the first class meeting. For the class presentation, you have two tasks. First, you will be expected to prepare (and present) a 45 minute presentation/activity on one of the topics; second, you will be expected to prepare a brief quiz (2 questions, 15 minutes) on the readings. Each seminar participant will be graded on all

quizzes (except your own!); your worst quiz grade will not be included in the calculation of your final grade.

Course evaluation will be based on four factors: 1) Midterm examination – 25%; 2) Final examination – 30%; 3) Class presentation – 30%; 4) Quizzes and class participation– 15%.

Class Schedule

Class Number	Date	Proposed Topic
1	January 16	Introduction
2	January 23	The Epidemiological Transition
3	January 30	Culture and Beliefs
4	February 6	Patterns of Mortality and Explanations of Mortality Decline
5	February 13	An Aging World Guest Lecturer Kevin Kinsella, International Programs, Bureau of the Census, "Limits to Longevity and Life Expectancy"
6	February 20	Socioeconomic Determinants of Health and Survival: Macro-level Explanations
7	February 27	Midterm Exam
	March 5	Spring Break
8	March 12	Socioeconomic Determinants of Health and Survival: Micro-level Explanations
9	March 19	The Health of Women and Children Guest Lecturer, James A. Simon, Clinical Professor, George Washington University; President and Medical Director, Women's Health & Research Consultants
10	March 26	Measurement of Morbidity/Mortality
11	April 2	Infectious Disease Guest Lecturer Alicia Carbaugh, Senior Policy Analyst, Kaiser Family Foundation, "Overview of Global and Domestic HIV/AIDS Epidemics."
12	April 9	Nutrition: Nutritional Deficiency, Obesity
13	April 16	Guest Lecturer Brett Hauber, Senior Economist, Research Triangle Institute, "Risk Benefit Tradeoffs for Regulatory Decision Making"
14	April 23	Ethics and the Public Health
	May 6	FINAL EXAMINATION

You may find the following books interesting.

Classic or Popular Accounts:

- Ademuwagun, Z.A. et al. (1979). African Therapeutic Systems. Crossroads Press.
- Barry, John M. (2006). The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History. Penguin Books.
- Bruce-Chwatt, L.J. and J. de Zulueta (1980). The Rise and Fall of Malaria in Europe. Oxford University Press.
- Garrett, Laurie (1994). The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance. Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- Garrett, Laurie (2000). Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health. Hyperion.
- Goubert, Jean-Pierre (1986). The Conquest of Water. Polity Press.
- McKeown, Thomas (1988). The Origins of Human Disease. Blackwell.
- McNeil, William (1976). Plagues and Peoples. Anchor Press/Doubleday.
- Payer, Lynn (1988). Medicine and Culture. Henry Holt and Company.
- Zinsler, Hans (1963). Rats, Lice, and History. Little, Brown and Co.

References:

- Disease Control Priorities in Developing Countries, Second Edition 2006. Editors: Dean T. Jamison, Joel G. Breman, Anthony R. Measham, George Alleyne, Mariam Claeson, David Evans, Prabhat Jha, Anne Mills, and Philip Musgrove.
<http://www.dcp2.org/pubs/DCP>
- The Cambridge World History of Human Disease. Editor: Kenneth F. Kiple. Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Others:

- Why Are Some People Healthy and Others Not? The Determinants of the Health of Populations. Editors: Robert G. Evans, Morris L. Barer, Theodore R. Marmor. Aldine de Gruyter, 1994.
- Socioeconomic Status and Health in Industrial Nations: Social, Psychological, and Biological Pathways. Editors: Nancy E. Adler, Michael Marmot, Bruce McEwen, and Judith Stewart. New York Academy of Sciences, 1999.

THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL TRANSITION

Omran, Abdel (1971). "The Epidemiological Transition." *Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly*. 49(4), Part I:509-538.

Heuveline, Patrick (1999). "The Global and Regional Impact of Mortality and Fertility Transitions, 1950-2000." *Population and Development Review* 25(4):681-702.

Sretzer, Simon (2002). "The McKeown Thesis: Rethinking McKeown: The Relationship between Public Health and Social Change." *American Journal of Public Health* 92(5): 711-25.

Hill, Kenneth. Vapattanawong, Patama. Prasartkul, Pramote. Porapakkham, Yawarat. Lim, Stephen S. Lopez, Alan D. (2007). "Epidemiologic transition interrupted: a reassessment of mortality trends in Thailand, 1980-2000." *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 36(2):374-84,

Vallin Jacques (2007). "Commentary: 'epidemiologic transition' interrupted or sweep to the second stage of 'health transition'?" *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 36(2):384-6,

CULTURE AND BELIEFS

Kleinman, Arthur (1986). "Concepts and a Model for the Comparison of Medical Systems as Cultural Systems." In Caroline Curren and Meg Stacy (eds.) *Concepts of Health, Illness and Disease: A Comparative Perspective*, Berg.

Gyapong, Margaret et al. (1996). "Filiariasis in Northern Ghana: Some cultural beliefs and practices and their implications for disease control." *Social Science and Medicine* 43(2):225-42.

Fink, Sheri (2002). "International Efforts Spotlight Traditional, Complementary, and Alternative Medicine." *American Journal of Public Health* 92(11):1734-39.

Dejun Su, Lifeng Li, Jose A. Pagan (2008). "Acculturation and the use of complementary and alternative medicine." *Social Science and Medicine*, 66:439-453

Richard Eckersley (2006). "Is modern Western culture a health hazard?" *Int. J. Epidemiol.* 35: 252-258

Craig R Janes (2006). "Commentary: 'Culture', cultural explanations and causality." *Int. J. Epidemiol.* 35: 261-263; doi:10.1093/ije/dyi238

PATTERNS OF MORTALITY and EXPLANATIONS OF MORTALITY DECLINE

Kunitz, Stephen J. (1987). "Explanations and Ideologies of Mortality Patterns." *Population and Development Review* 13(3):379-408.

Bobak, Martin and Michael Marmot (1996). "East-West mortality divide and its potential explanations: proposed research agenda. *BMJ* 312(7028):421-425.

Rodrigo R. Soares (2007). "On the Determinants of Mortality Reductions in the Developing World" *Population and Development Review* 33(2) :247–287

Lopez, Alan, Stephen Begg, and Ed Bos (2006). Chapter 2, "Demographic and Epidemiological Characteristics of Major Regions, 1990-2001" in *Global Burden of Disease and Risk Factors*, edited by Alan D. Lopez, Colin D Mathers, Majid Ezzati, Dean T. Jamison, and Christopher Murray.

AN AGING WORLD

Bryant, Lucinda L., Kitty Corbett, and Jean Kutner (2001). "In Their Own Words: A Model of Healthy Aging." *Social Science and Medicine* 53:927-41.

Wiener, Joshua . and J. Tilly (2002). "Population Ageing in the United States of America: Implications for Public Programmes." *International Journal of Epidemiology* 31:776-781.

Lee, Marlene (2007). "Global Health and Population Aging." Today's Research on Aging: Program and Policy Implications. Population Reference Bureau.<http://www.prb.org/pdf07/TodaysResearchAging4.pdf>

Sonnega, Amanda (2007). "Assessing the Fiscal Impact of Aging." Research Highlights in the Demography and Economics of Aging. Population Reference Bureau.
http://www.prb.org/pdf07/NIA_AssessingFiscalImpact.pdf

SOCIOECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND SURVIVAL: MACRO-LEVEL IDEAS

Marmot, Michael (1999). "Epidemiology of Socioeconomic Status and Health: Are Determinants Within Countries the Same as Between Countries?" In *Socioeconomic Status and Health in Industrial Nations: Social, Psychological and Biological Pathways*, *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* 896:16-29.

Fuhrer, R., M.J. Shipley, J.F. Chastang et al. (2002). "Socioeconomic Position, Health, and Possible Explanations: A Tale of Two Cohorts." *American Journal of Public Health* 92(8):1290-94.

Casas-Zamora, JA. And S.A. Ibrahim (2004). "Confronting health inequity: the global dimension." [Editorial] *American Journal of Public Health*. 94(12):2055-8.

Cutler, David and G. Miller (2005). "The Role of Public Health Improvements in Health Advances." *Demography* 42(1):1-22.

Cossmann, Jeralynn Sittig. Cossmann, Ronald E. James, Wesley L. Campbell, Carol R. Blanchard, Troy C. Cosby, Arthur (2007). "Persistent clusters of mortality in the United States." *American Journal of Public Health*. 97(12):2148-50

Burnham, Gilbert, Riyadh Lafta, Shannon Doocy, and Les Roberts. 2006. "Mortality After the 2003 Invasion of Iraq," *The Lancet* 368(9545):1421-8.

See also David Brown and Joshua Partlow "New Estimate of Violent Deaths Among Iraqis Is Lower," Washington Post Staff Writers, Thursday, January 10, 2008.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/01/09/AR2008010902793.html?referrer=emailarticle>

Pongou, Roland. Salomon, Joshua A. Ezzati, Majid (2006) "Health impacts of macroeconomic crises and policies: determinants of variation in childhood malnutrition trends in Cameroon." *Journal of Epidemiology*. 35(3):648-56,

SOCIOECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND SURVIVAL: MICRO-LEVEL IDEAS

Adler, Nancy E. and Joan M Ostrove (1999). "Socioeconomic Status and Health: What We Know and What We Don't." In *Socioeconomic Status and Health in Industrial Nations: Social, Psychological and Biological Pathways*, *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* 896:3-15.

Sandiford, P., J. Cassel, M. Montenegro, and G. Sanchez (1995). "The impact of women's literacy on child health and its interaction with access to health services," *Population Studies* 49:5-17.

Collins, J.W., R.J. David, A. Handler, S. Wall, and S. Andes (2004). "Very low birthweight in African American infants: the role of maternal exposure to interpersonal racial discrimination." *American Journal of Public Health* 94(12):2132-38.

Mechanic, David (2005). "Policy Challenges in Addressing Racial Disparities and Improving Population Health." *Health Affairs* 24(2):335-38.

Kawachi, Ichiro, N. Daniels, and D.E. Robinson (2005). "Health Disparities by Race and Class: Why Both Matter." *Health Affairs* 24(2):343-52.

Sweet E. McDade TW. Kiefe CI. Liu K. (2007). "Relationships between skin color, income, and blood pressure among African Americans in the CARDIA Study. *American Journal of Public Health*. 97(12):2253-9

Kunitz SJ. (2007) "Sex, race and social role--history and the social determinants of health." *International Journal of Epidemiology*. 36(1):3-10

THE HEALTH OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Yount, Kathryn M. Abraham, Bisrat K. (2007). Female genital cutting and HIV/AIDS among Kenyan women. *Studies in Family Planning*. 38(2):73-88,

Dannenberg, A., H. W. Lawson, and S.F. Dorfman (1995). "Homicide and other injuries as causes of maternal death in New York City, 1987 through 1991," *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* 172(5):1557-1564.

McDonough, Peggy and Vivienne Walters (2001). "Gender and Health: Reassessing Patterns and Explanations." *Social Science and Medicine* 52:547-59.

Mishra, Vinod, T.K. Roy, and R.D. Retherford (2004). "Sex Differentials in childhood feeding, health care, and nutritional status in India." *Population and Development Review* 30(2):269-.

McLanahan, Sarah (2004). "Diverging Destinies: How Children Are Faring Under the Second Demographic Transition." *Demography* 41(4):607-627.

Roper MH. Vandelaer JH. Gasse FL. (2008) „Maternal and neonatal tetanus." *Lancet*. 370(9603):1947-59

Shiffman J. (2007). "Generating political priority for maternal mortality reduction in 5 developing countries." *American Journal of Public Health*. 97(5):796-80

MEASUREMENT OF MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY

Mirabelli, M.C. and D.B. Richardson (2005). "Heat-Related Fatalities in North Carolina." *American Journal of Public Health* 95(4):635-37.

Bunker, J., H. Frazier, and F. Mosteller (1994). "Improving health: measuring effects of medical care," *Milbank Quarterly*, 72(2):225-258.

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AbouZahr C. Cleland J. Coullare F. et al (2007). "The way forward." *Lancet*. 370(9601):1791-9

Chalapati Rao, Gonghuan Yang, Jianping Hu, Jiemin Ma, Wan Xia, and Alan D Lopez (2007). "Validation of cause-of-death statistics in urban China." *Int. J. Epidemiol.* 36: 642-651;

Jha, Prabhat, Binu Jacob, and Rajesh Kumar (2007). "Commentary: Reliable measurement of the causes of mortality in developing countries" *Int. J. Epidemiol.* 36(3):651-3

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Pinner R.W. et al. (1996). "Trends in infectious diseases mortality in the United States." *JAMA* 275(3):189-193.

Kirby, James B. (2001). "Exposure, Resistance, and Recovery: A Three-Dimensional Framework for the study of mortality from Infectious Disease." *Social Science and Medicine* 53:1205-15.

Eisenberg JN. Scott JC. Porco T. (2007). "Integrating disease control strategies: balancing water sanitation and hygiene interventions to reduce diarrheal disease burden." *American Journal of Public Health*. 97(5):846-52

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (2006). "Global data on HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria, & More." <http://www.globalhealthfacts.org/?CFID=2386890&CFTOKEN=79744080>

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, 2007. HIV/AIDS Policy Fact Sheet. <http://www.kff.org/hivaids/upload/3030-103.pdf>

MALNUTRITION AND NUTRITIONAL DEFICIENCY

De Onis, M., M. Blossner, E. Borghi, R. Morris, and E.A. Frongillo (2004). "Methodology for estimating regional and global trends of child malnutrition." *International Journal of Epidemiology* 33(6):1260-70.

Levin, H.M. et al., "Micronutrient Deficiency Disorders." Chapter 19 in Jamison, Mosley et al. (eds.) *Disease Control Priorities in Developing Countries*.

Powers, C. (2004). "Influences on childhood height: comparing two generations in the 1958 British birth cohort." *International Journal of Epidemiology* 33(6):1320-28.

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Andrew M Prentice (2005). "The emerging epidemic of obesity in developing countries." *Int. J. Epidemiol.* 35: 93-99;

ETHICS AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH

Kass, Nancy E. (2001). "An Ethics Framework for Public Health." *American Journal of Public Health* 91(11):1776-82.

Garrett, Laurie (2000). "Epilogue: The Changing Face of Public Health and Future Global Prophylaxis." Chapter six in *Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health*, Hyperion Press, New York, NY.

Muggli, M.E. and R.D. Hurd (2004). "A cigarette company and a managed care company collaborate to censor health information targeted at employees." *American Journal of Public Health* 94(8):1307-11.

Wendler, D., E.J. Emanuel, and R.K. Lie (2004). "The standard of care debate: can research in developing countries be both ethical and responsive to those countries' health needs?" *American Journal of Public Health* 94(6):923-28. See also comment in *AJPH* December 2004 94(12):2048 and author reply 94(12):2048-49.

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Graham WJ. Hussein J. (2007). "Ethics in public health research: minding the gaps: a reassessment of the challenges to safe motherhood." *American Journal of Public Health*. 97(6):978-83