

**WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

HCA 347-A70: International Healthcare  
Summer 2020 – Online  
**Course Dates: June 8th -- July 10th, 2020**

**Updated March 31,  
2020**

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**Required Text:**

Richard Skolnik. (2019). *Global Health 101: 4<sup>th</sup> Edition*. Burlington, Mass.; Jones and Bartlett Publishers, APHA Press. ISBN-10: 1284145387; ISBN-13: 9781284145380

Other textbook for reference:

Kathryn H. Jacobsen. (2019). *Introduction to Global Health: 3rd Edition*. Burlington, Mass.; Jones and Bartlett Publishers, APHA Press. ISBN-10: 1284123898; ISBN-13: 9781284123890

**Disability Policy:**

If you are a student who requires specific disability accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids or services) for this course, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OFSDS), Student Success Center - DUC A201. The OFSDS telephone number is (270) 745-5004; TTY is 745-3030. Per university policy, please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

**Course Description**

**Purpose:** Historically, health concerns have been known to cross borders. As the world is increasingly becoming a global village, with ease in communication, traveling and sharing of goods and services, health and health care have become among the most important aspects of globalization. Students in healthcare administration and other health sciences need to be familiar with international perspectives of healthcare in order to understand the dynamics of the changes within and outside their countries. Some students have taken this course during study abroad programs in Tanzania, Dublin and London where they got firsthand experience on the health systems of the respective countries and observed some of the key differences between these countries and the U.S. The purpose of the course is:

1. To explore different healthcare systems and examine how they differ in important aspects of healthcare including access, financing, and delivery of services
2. To learn about important international health and healthcare concerns
3. To analyze real-life public health issues from different countries in the world
4. To illustrate global differences in the perceptions of illness and disease
5. To compare and contrast successes/challenges in different healthcare systems

6. To examine how healthcare systems change over time and across countries
7. To demonstrate the role of major global health and healthcare organizations and foundations in shaping the health of the people over time and across generations
8. To demonstrate important differences between the US healthcare system/programs and selected countries in developed and developing world
9. To create awareness among students in careers pertaining to global health

To meet these objectives, major global healthcare issues, types of healthcare systems, forces of change, and important studies on international healthcare will be introduced and discussed in the course. Components such as case studies, discussion forums, and country projects will be utilized for learning as well as for sharing research and informed opinions on global healthcare systems. Historical, economic, and cultural forces of global healthcare changes will be discussed and reported by individual students.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected to:

1. Describe major global health concerns;
2. Express differences in healthcare system between U.S. and other countries;
3. Demonstrate meaningful use of health-related data in making international comparisons of health and healthcare systems;
4. Explain how global health interventions are designed, funded and evaluated
5. Understand the important functions and changes in healthcare systems;
6. Be able to critically review, evaluate and report on global health research; and
7. Develop interest for ongoing involvement in global health services/issues.

### **Course Content**

The course will be covered in THREE weekly modules based on the assigned readings from the primary text. It will involve the following major components: text readings; discussion items; case analyses; quizzes; exams; and a country project. Each course module will be covered in a week. The country project report will be submitted at the end of the summer term.

### **Text Readings**

Global Health 101 (3rd Edition) by Skolnik is required for primary readings. Chapters will be assigned for each week of the class according to the module content. Additional readings would be provided in PowerPoint slides containing information from the Johnson and Stoskopf book. Students are expected to review all assigned reading materials for each module within the week allotted for that module to be able to actively participate in all components of the class.

### **Discussion Items – maximum points 40**

There will be two discussion items posted on Blackboard based on current and ongoing national and international health issues. Students are expected to make their contributions by way of reading and responding or providing feedback on the posted opinions of classmates. You may send questions to me through the discussion board if you would like to get my opinion on any of the ongoing discussions. Frequency of participation over the week as well as content will be used for assessment. The criteria for obtaining full credit is posted on BlackBoard with the instructions for the discussion assignment. Each discussion item will carry 20 points.

### **Quizzes – maximum points 60**

Two quizzes will be given during the course. Quiz content will be based on the modules indicated and on the study guide provided. The quiz format will be a combination of multiple-choice questions, true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blanks, and short answers. The quizzes will contribute 60 points to the total grade.

### **Exams – maximum points 200**

There will be two exams, given at the end of the second and fourth weeks of the term. The exams will not be cumulative. Exam 1 will be based on materials covered in weeks 1 and 2, while the content of exam 2 will be from materials covered in weeks 3 and 4. Each exam will carry 100 points. The exam format will be a combination of multiple-choice questions, true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blanks, and short answers. Each exam session will last for 60 to 90 minutes and only ONE attempt will be allowed per exam.

### **Country Project – maximum points 100**

Students will work on a healthcare project based on the specific country assigned to them. Students are highly encouraged to look for project materials from published resources and other reliable Internet sources to enrich the content of their projects. Country assignments, project requirements, and format will be available via Blackboard by May 24, 2017. You can start to work on your project as soon as a country is assigned to you. The project carries 100 points.

### **Participation**

Students are expected to visit the course site on Blackboard daily to follow up course information and actively participate in class activities. This is a web-based class; students need to manage their time responsibly to ensure full class participation. In addition, build a habit of reading materials from the assigned text and other sources materials to grasp the module content and facilitate your participation in the discussions. Your preparation and contribution are important for enriching the class experience.

### **Availability of Timed Assessments & Late Submission Policy**

Case studies and quizzes will be available as indicated on the course module schedule. Please observe these deadlines. This is a short summer intensive session and deadlines will be strictly adhered to in this course. Exceptions for make-up quizzes or exams beyond the indicated dates will be made for genuine/documented family or medical reasons. Late work will be penalized by point deductions depending on how late it is submitted after the deadline. The last day of class is June 23, 2017. For administrative purposes, no late work (including country project) will be accepted after this date. Note that the term is short, please prepare to work on time and submit all your work without failure. Contact me if you find yourself running behind.

## Grading Summary

Final grade will be determined by the following assessment:

Assignments	Dates Due	Possible Points/Grading Summary
Discussion Board 1	06/11/2020	20 points
Quiz 1	06/12/2020	30 points
Discussion Board 2	06/18/2020	20 points
Quiz 2	06/19/2020	30 points
Exam 1	06/22/2020	100 points
Country Report	06/26/2020	100 points
Final Exam	07/03/2020	100 points
		<b>400 Points TOTAL</b>

## Final Grade Scale

A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = 0-59%

**A suggested schedule to help you get through this short summer intensive.**

**Spend some time on the course each day. As you review the chapters work on the study guide that goes with it. This is completely achievable.  
Success is the goal.**

Date	Topic	Chapter (s)
8 <sup>th</sup>	1. The Principles and Goals of Global Health/ Global Priorities – Sustainable Development Goals	1
9 <sup>th</sup>	2. Health Determinants, Measurements, and the Status of Health Globally	2
10 <sup>th</sup>	3. Health, Education, Equity, and the Economy	4
11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Discussion 1 -- Global &amp; National Water issues</b>	
12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Quiz 1 Based on Chapters 1, 2, &amp; 4</b>	
13 <sup>th</sup>	4. Ethical and Human Rights Concerns in Global Health	5
14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Big Writing Day</b> work on essays and Writing assignments	
15 <sup>th</sup>	5. Introduction to Health Systems	6
16 <sup>th</sup>	6. Natural Disasters and Complex Humanitarian Emergencies	16
17 <sup>th</sup>	7. Culture and Health	7
18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Discussion 2 – COVID-19</b>	
19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Quiz 2 Chapters 5, 6 &amp; 16</b>	
20 <sup>th</sup>	8. The Environment and Health	8
21 <sup>st</sup>	9. Nutrition and Global Health	9
22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Exam 1 Mainly Chapters 7, 8, &amp; 9 a few important issues from previous chapters may be included</b>	

23 <sup>rd</sup>	10. Women's Health & The Health of Young Children	10 11
24 <sup>th</sup>	11. Non-communicable Diseases 12. Communicable diseases	14 13
25 <sup>th</sup>	13. Science, Technology & Global Health	18
26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Country Report Due June 26th</b>	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Exam 2/Final Exam Mainly Chapters 10, 11, 14, 13 &amp; 18 but a few important issues from previous chapters may be included</b>	

### Syllabus and Grading Scale

The instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus, course requirements, and grading scale.

### E-mail

Please use your WKU email address for all correspondence with the course instructor. Please include course number (HCA 347 Summer) in the subject line. Make sure you double-check the email address before sending.

### Academic Integrity

Any instance of cheating or any other form of academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Student's participation in a course activity in an unethical manner involving but not limited to plagiarism, copying of another student's opinions, providing work for another to copy, claiming to have done work they did not do, or inappropriate or disrespectful communication via email or the discussion board will lead to grade penalties, a record filled with the department of public health, or a report to the Office of Student Conduct. Detailed information on WKU's policy on Academic Misconduct is available at <https://wku.edu/studentconduct/process-for-academic-dishonesty.php>. Please read this policy so that you are fully aware of the possible outcomes of any form of academic misconduct, consequences, and options that may be available for you.

### Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at [https://wku.edu/policies/hr\\_policies/2040\\_discrimination\\_harassment\\_policy.pdf](https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf).

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

### **HCA 347: Country Project Information and Grading Criteria**

1. A country has been assigned to you. Familiarize yourself with the culture, people and health system of your country through different publicly available resources including **journals, books, published reports, foundation/project websites, technical reports, conference proceedings and datasets**. **All sources should be properly cited and referenced in APA style when used.**
2. Describe the healthcare system of this country. Discuss type of delivery system adopted and how it is financed. Include an overview of access, cost and quality of care under this system. Make a brief comparison between this country and the United States on the basis of important aspects of a health care including major challenges faced by the US healthcare system.
3. Identify a major health problem that is facing this country: Discuss in detail whether or not this problem is global or specific to this country alone.
4. Discuss the extent of the health problem and present the social, cultural, economic and any other relevant factors that you think contributed to the problem in this country. Explain types and levels of threat posed to the United States by the health problem faced by this country.
5. Discuss how the healthcare system of your project country is/is not equipped for solving this problem.
6. Design a solution to this problem by proposing healthcare system changes that will aid in improving the quality of care and prevention of this health problem.

Use credible, published sources of information for your research. These may include:

- Country Government websites
- International Agencies' websites (e.g. World Health Organization, etc.)
- Published reports (e.g. Health Systems in Transitions Reports, etc.)
- Journal articles
- Course textbook
- Other books
- Personal interviews (if possible) with natives of your project country

A **minimum** of six (6) different sources of information and data is required. All resources should be appropriately cited and referenced using the APA format.

- The following website commonly referred to as Purdue OWL is a very useful guide for using APA format. Go to: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

<b>GRADING CRITERIA</b>	<b>Points Possible</b>
<b><i>Format/Layout (20 points)</i></b>	
Title page: <i>Include title of your project, your name, course, and a colored image of your country's flag. Be creative! This page is not included in the page count.</i>	5
Abstract: <i>One page (one paragraph 200-250 words) of a concise statement of the summary of the project. This page is not included in the page count.</i>	5
Appropriate use of figures to present your information: <i>You may include a maximum of three graphs/charts/pictures only (not including the flag on the cover page). Clearly indicate the source(s) of your figures.</i>	5
Times New Roman, font size 12, font color black, double spaced. Follows requirements of length excluding cover page and reference page(s): <i>Not less than 7 pages but not more than 8 pages. Please include page numbers.</i>	5
<b><i>Main Text/Content/Information (70 points)</i></b>	
Introduce the Country: Geographic location, Population, Environment, Economic factors, etc.	5
Discuss Health Indicators: Birth rate, life expectancy, mortality rate	5
Describe the healthcare system of the country: How is healthcare delivered? How it is financed? Include an overview of access, cost and quality of care under this system.	10
Make a comparison between this country and the United States on the basis of important aspects of a health care including major challenges faced by the US healthcare system.	10
Identify a major health problem that is facing this country: Discuss in detail whether or not this problem is global or specific to this country alone.	5
Discuss the extent of the health problem and present the social, cultural, economic and any other relevant factors that you think contributed to the problem in this country.	10
Explain types and levels of threat posed to the United States by the health problem faced by this country. In other words, in the context of global health, why should the USA or any other nation be concerned about the health issue you described?	5
Discuss how the healthcare system of your project country is equipped in solving this problem.	5
Suggestions/Recommendations that might help improve health outcomes in the country you studied. You may propose healthcare system changes that will aid in improving the quality of care and prevention of this health problem.	5
Clarity of sentences and paragraphs, organization and coherence of ideas, fluency, sequencing	5
Spelling, grammar, and use of English	5
<b><i>References and Use of references (APA STYLE) (10 points)</i></b>	
The information presented appears based on careful research. Use of at least six scholarly/peer reviewed references.	5
APA format followed for in-text citations and references. Credit must be given for references and sources of information. You must cite your sources of information using APA format	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>
<b><i>Evidence of Plagiarism (Check your Safe Assign Score; Fix any issues and then resubmit your paper, if not you may lose up to 60 points and may be subject to other penalties associated with Academic Misconduct. No points will be taken off for the references highlighted in your Safe Assign Report.</i></b>	<b>Minus 60 points</b>