

PUBHLTH 6000 – Introduction to Global Health
2 credits – Autumn 2025
Online – Synchronous

Course Instructor

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Course meeting time and Zoom link

Wednesday, 5:15 pm- 7:05 pm, EST

Zoom Link: <https://osu.zoom.us/j/97338710963?pwd=SDIJD4oeala9dqREShJgtbeKxXVLv2.1>

Meeting ID: 973 3871 0963 Passcode: 161118

Instructors' Office Hours

I will hold weekly office hours – 1 hour per week, **Mondays, 11 am – noon**. All office hours are held **via Zoom**; same link as class meeting link. *Office hours are also available by appointment if you cannot make the scheduled time.*

Instructor Feedback & Response Time

The following gives you an idea of our intended availability during the course:

- **Grading:** You can generally expect feedback on an assignment within 7 days after submitting the assignment.
- **E-mail:** I aim to reply to e-mails (sent via Carmen) within 24 hours on school days. You can expect a response within 48 hours on weekends/holidays.
- **Discussion board:** I will check and reply to messages in the discussion boards at least every 12 hours on school days, and every 24 hours on weekends, unless a different turnaround time (due to travel, etc.) is announced.

Course Description

This course is designed to enable students to deepen their knowledge and interest in the field of global health. The course provides an overview of current and emerging global health issues, their determinants, impacts and interventions; highlights links between global health and socioeconomic development; raises awareness of health issues that transcend national borders and culture and that require multi-national and multi-sectoral action; describes interventions and programs being implemented by major governmental and non-governmental organizations to address key problems across the world; discusses different guiding philosophies behind specific health interventions; and identifies factors that may influence the success or failure of an intervention. The course does not specifically address global health career paths.

Prerequisites

Graduate standing in the Master of Public Health program, Master of Health Administration program, or permission of instructor.

Course Class Sessions and Mode of Delivery

This course consists of 100% online delivery of the class sessions via Synchronous class meeting sessions.

Course Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to perform the following:

- Describe worldwide patterns of leading causes of morbidity and mortality and identify priorities for investment in global health;
- Demonstrate key public health concepts, including demographic and epidemiologic transitions, measurements of burden of disease, impact of key conditions on individuals and communities, and links between health, social, and economic factors;
- Discuss the concept and significance of demographic and epidemiologic transitions; explain and describe major factors contributing to communicable and chronic diseases incidence worldwide;
- Recognize and understand the role of political, social, economic, environmental and cultural factors as contributors to current global health issues;
- Recognize ethical and human rights considerations in the field of global health; and
- Identify key governmental and non-governmental players in international health, and discuss barriers and possible approaches to solving diverse key global health issues.

Public Health Foundational Competencies:

- Discuss how structural and social inequities undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels.
- Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health.
- Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs.
- Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations.
- Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation.

A complete list of College of Public Health Competencies is located in Appendix C of the CPH Graduate Student Handbook that can be found at: <https://go.osu.edu/cphgradcompetencies>

Carmen

There is a Carmen site for this course: <https://carmen.osu.edu>. All course materials are available via Carmen.

You will need to use BuckeyePass (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the BuckeyePass - Adding a Device help article for step-by-step instructions (go.osu.edu/add-device).
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application (go.osu.edu/install-duo) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

Class Format: How this online course works

- **Mode of delivery:** This course is 100% online with a synchronous Zoom class meeting each week. The Zoom class sessions will incorporate lectures, discussion of readings and student group presentations. You will find the sequence of materials and activities in the Module Section of Carmen.
- **Pace of online activities:** This course is divided into **weekly modules** that are released one week ahead of time.
- **Credit hours and work expectations:** This is a **2-credit-hour course**. According to Ohio State policy (go.osu.edu/credithours), students should expect around 2 hours per week of time spent on direct instruction (class meetings) in addition to 4 hours of homework/active learning activities (reading, assignments, and presentation preparation).
- **Attendance and participation requirements:** Consistent class attendance is expected. Attendance will be verified by participation in class activities. Participation is critical and contributes to a dynamic and stimulating learning environment.

Readings:

Readings for each lecture topic will be included in the Modules Section of Carmen. Students are expected to conduct independent literature searches to identify articles that will provide the substance of some of their assignments. Students are expected to read assigned chapters and articles, which will be available through the Carmen course site: <https://carmen.osu.edu>. Students are expected to prepare by reading the material before each class, attend each class session, and actively participate in the class discussions. Students are encouraged to utilize the OSU library website: <http://library.osu.edu>.

Course technology

Technology skills needed for this course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen (go.osu.edu/canvasstudent)
- CarmenZoom virtual meetings (go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings)

Required equipment

- **Computer:** current Mac (MacOs) or PC (Windows 10) with high-speed internet connection
- **Calculator:** Students should have access to a scientific calculator that can perform basic arithmetic, square roots, logarithms, and exponentiation. For this online class, a program such as Microsoft Excel may suffice.
- **Other:** a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) to use for BuckeyePass authentication

Optional equipment (for participation in optional live office hours and/or review sessions)

- **Webcam:** built-in or external webcam, fully installed and tested
- **Microphone:** built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone

Required software

- See below for details on software required for this class

Technology support

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** <http://it.osu.edu/help>

- **Phone:** 614-688-4357(HELP)
- **Email:** servicedesk@osu.edu
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

Required Software

- **Microsoft Office 365**

All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found at go.osu.edu/office365help.

Assignments/Assessments

Global Health in the News:

Each week, two students will discuss current events/news pertaining to Global Health and content for that week's class materials. This discussion should be in the form of a short powerpoint presentation (5 minutes max) with the news article link/source, key points pertinent to Global Health, relevance to course content for that week and implications of that current event/news for Global Health.

Presentation for Global Health in the News must be uploaded to Carmen before class so that all students can follow along. The list of student Global Health in the News presenters per week will be shared on Carmen.

Class participation:

Each class will have in-class activities. While some in-class assignments will be completely individual, many will occur within small groups. For example, students may be assigned a case exercise to complete in small groups. When in-class assignments are assigned to groups, the group should submit a single group assignment via Carmen during class.

Reflections:

Reflections are short written assignments that provide students with the opportunity to communicate their thoughts and observations for course materials per week. Students will be encouraged to share their reflections verbally in class discussions as well. This practice also enables the instructor to evaluate whether there are topics that may need further explanation or discussion.

Article presentations:

Article presentations provide the opportunity for students to understand and apply global health principles and methods in research settings, and to verbally practice global health language and presentation skills. Weekly articles for student presentations will be posted in Canvas one week prior to the presentation date and course content. Per class, each assigned article will be presented by one student. The presenter has 10-15 minutes to present and then we will spend another 10-15 minutes for Q & A and discussion. The list of student article presenters per week will be shared on Carmen.

Presentations must be accompanied by a PowerPoint file uploaded to Carmen before class so that all students can follow along. Article presentations should include the following elements:

1. Aim/Goal of the Article
 - State the central research question or goal.
 - Classify the article type: *empirical study, policy analysis, review, commentary, or modeling paper*.
2. Motivation for the Article
 - Explain why the authors wrote this article.
3. Main conclusions

- Summarize the authors' main findings.
 - Identify specific evidence that supports those conclusions (data, case studies, models, or figures).
4. One New Insight
 - Share one thing you learned from this article that you did not know before.
 - Explain how this insight changes the way you think about global health practice, policy, or research.
 5. Most Confusing Element
 - Identify the part of the article that was hardest for you to understand.
 - Describe what steps you took to try to clarify it (e.g., re-reading figures, looking up definitions, connecting to lecture material).
 6. Three Questions for the Authors
 - One clarifying question (about methods, terms, or definitions).
 - One critical question (about limitations, assumptions, or bias).
 - One forward-looking question (about implications, policy relevance, or future research directions).

Group presentation:

Students will work in groups of ~4 on a global health topic of their choice. There should be no overlap in topics across groups. Each group will give a 12 to 15-minute presentation on their topic and will have 5 additional minutes for questions. The presentation will be graded based on presentation delivery, clarity, and slide content. The score for this will be the average of the scores from the instructor and student colleagues.

The presentation should include the following:

1. Overview of the global health problem and a description of its prevalence and geographical location(s) at risk
2. Critical analysis of social, behavioral and biological factors that contribute to the existing or emerging problem
3. Potential evidence-based strategy to reduce the problem
4. Existing challenges to implementation of the proposed strategy; and
5. A conclusion.

Late Work Policy:

- Most assignments can be submitted up to **2 days (exactly 48 hours) after the due date without penalty** (i.e., due date of Wednesday at 11:59PM instead of Monday at 11:59PM). Students do not need to notify instructor(s) of late submissions as long as the submission is within this 2-day grace period.
- If missing a course deadline (by more than the 2-day grace period) because of extenuating circumstances, students must reach out to the instructor within 24 hours of the assignment deadline posted on Carmen in order to be considered for potential accommodations. Students should understand that extensions past the 2-day grace period are extremely rare, since there is already so much flexibility in this course.
- The 2-day grace period does not apply to Global Health in the News and Article Presentations (as those are due right before class the day of the presentation).

Grading

Final class grade will be determined as follows:

Attendance and Class participation	15%
Reflections	20%
Article Presentations	20%
Group Presentation and Peer Review	30%
Global Health in the News	15%

Grading Scale: This course will use the following grading scheme*:

A	93 – 100	Outstanding work that reflects mastery of the material and the ability to apply it
A-	90 – <93	Excellent work that reflects mastery of the material
B+	87 – <90	Good work that reflects mastery of most of the material
B	83 – <87	Good work that reflects mastery of some of the material
B-	80 – <83	Good work that reflects mastery of a few aspects of the material
C+	77 – <80	Mediocre work that reflects familiarity with, but not mastery of the material
C	73 – <77	Mediocre work that reflects familiarity with most of the material
C-	70 – <73	Mediocre work that reflects little familiarity with the material
D+	67 – <70	
D	60 – <67	
E	Below 60	

**The instructors reserve the right to adjust the grading scale if it appears necessary due to overall class performance. These adjustments will only raise a student's grade, not lower it.*

A student will be given a grade of “Incomplete” only if they have completed most of the class work and are unable to complete the work for a serious reason beyond their control. Students are responsible for educating themselves about the registrar's deadlines for withdrawal from the course. Assistance can be obtained from the College of Public Health, Office of Academic Programs and Student Services.

Assignment Scoring

Clear and effective communication is crucial in epidemiology and biostatistics. This rule is applied to all assignments and submissions. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that answers are justified and provide enough detail for the grader to understand. Points may be deducted for answers that are not well-justified, even if they are correct.

Any questions regarding grading must be addressed **within one week** of the return of the assignment/exam. No request of regrading on previous assignments will be accepted after the final group project is submitted. As a general policy, when requested, the regrading will apply to the whole exam or the homework, not just to the specific part which the student thinks there might be a mistake. Consequently, regrading may lead to a lower overall score. **Any questions regarding grading must be directed to the professors.**

Policies for this Course

- **Global Health in the News, Reflections, Study Presentations:** Students are permitted (indeed, encouraged) to work together, but each student must independently write up and submit their own responses/presentations.

- **Group Presentation:** This course includes a final group project, which is designed to be completed collaboratively within an assigned small group.

Copyright Statement

This syllabus and all course materials (e.g., homework assignments, solution keys, course materials) are under copyright by the instructor and cannot be posted elsewhere without written permission.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University, the College of Public Health, and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understood the University's *Code of Student Conduct* and the School's *Student Handbook*, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. The *Code of Student Conduct* and other information on academic integrity and academic misconduct can be found at the COAM web pages (<https://oaa.osu.edu/academic-integrity-and-misconduct>). Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's *Code of Student Conduct*, the *Student Handbook*, and in the syllabi for their courses may constitute "Academic Misconduct."

The Ohio State University's *Code of Student Conduct* (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Please note that the use of material from the Internet without appropriate acknowledgement and complete citation is plagiarism just as it would be if the source were printed material. Further examples are found in the *Student Handbook*. Ignorance of the *Code of Student Conduct* and the *Student Handbook* is never considered an "excuse" for academic misconduct.

If an instructor suspects a student of academic misconduct in a course, they are obligated by University Rules to report these suspicions to the University's Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that the student has violated the University's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in the course and suspension or dismissal from the University. If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact the instructors to discuss.

Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity

Given that the learning goals of this class are calculating statistical and epidemiologic measures, defining terms, selecting appropriate analytical methods, using biostatistical tools to make inference about a population, and identifying design strategies for epidemiologic studies, the use of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) tools such as Copilot or ChatGPT or translation platforms such as Google Translate is **not permitted in this course**. Any use of GenAI tools for work in this class may therefore be considered a violation of Ohio State's [Academic Integrity](#) policy and [Code of Student Conduct](#) because the work is not your own. The use of unauthorized GenAI tools will result in referral to the [Committee on Academic Misconduct](#). If we suspect that you have used GenAI on an assignment for this course, we will ask you to communicate with us to explain your process for completing the assignment in question.

If you feel you need to use GenAI for translation, please contact the instructors first. If you have any other questions regarding this course policy, please contact us.

Office of Student Life: Disability Services

The university strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let the instructors know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, we may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with us as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. Contact SLDS at: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue. Students seeking to request COVID-related accommodations may do so through the university's request process (slds.osu.edu/covid-19-info/covid-related-accommodation-requests/), managed by Student Life Disability Services.

Mental Health Services

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting <https://ccs.osu.edu/> or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Religious Beliefs or Practices Accommodations

Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement and the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a

course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the [Civil Rights Compliance Office](#). (Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#))

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee ([Faculty Rule 3335-5-48.7 \(B\)](#)). For additional information, see the [Code of Student Conduct](#).

Intellectual Diversity

Ohio State is committed to fostering a culture of open inquiry and intellectual diversity within the classroom. This course will cover a range of information and may include discussions or debates about controversial issues, beliefs, or policies. Any such discussions and debates are intended to support understanding of the approved curriculum and relevant course objectives rather than promote any specific point of view. Students will be assessed on principles applicable to the field of study and the content covered in the course. Preparing students for citizenship includes helping them develop critical thinking skills that will allow them to reach their own conclusions regarding complex or controversial matters.

Grievances and Solving Problems

A student who encounters a problem related to his/her educational program has a variety of avenues available to seek resolution. According to University Policies, if you have a problem with this class, you should seek to resolve the grievance concerning a grade or academic practice by speaking first with the instructor or professor. Then, if necessary, you may take your case to the department chairperson. Specific procedures are outlined in [Faculty Rule 3335-8-23](#), the [CPH Graduate Student Handbook](#), and the [CPH Undergraduate Student Handbook](#). Grievances against graduate, research, and teaching assistants should be submitted first to the supervising instructor, then to the chairperson of the assistant's department.

Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct

The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a community to reflect diversity and to improve opportunities for all. All Buckeyes have the right to be free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Ohio State does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom), race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, academic programs, admission, and employment. Members of the university community also have the right to be free from all forms of sexual misconduct: sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation.

To report harassment, discrimination, sexual misconduct, or retaliation and/or seek confidential and non-confidential resources and supportive measures, contact the Civil Rights Compliance Office:

Online reporting form at <http://civilrights.osu.edu/>,
Call 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605,
Or Email civilrights@osu.edu

The university is committed to stopping sexual misconduct, preventing its recurrence, eliminating any hostile environment, and remedying its discriminatory effects. All university employees have reporting responsibilities to the Civil Rights Compliance Office to ensure the university can take appropriate action:

- All university employees, except those exempted by legal privilege of confidentiality or expressly identified as a confidential reporter, have an obligation to report incidents of sexual assault immediately.
- The following employees have an obligation to report all other forms of sexual misconduct as soon as practicable but at most within five workdays of becoming aware of such information: 1. Any human resource professional (HRP); 2. Anyone who supervises faculty, staff, students, or volunteers; 3. Chair/director; and 4. Faculty member.

Course Schedule*

Week	Class Meeting Date	Topics (Assigned readings posted on Carmen)
1	8/27/2025	Course Introduction
2	9/3/2025	Fundamentals of Population health
3	9/10/2025	Global Health Crises: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
4	9/17/2025	History of Global Health (Part 1)
5	9/24/2025	History of Global Health (Part 2)
6	10/1/2025	Unpacking Global Health: Theories and Critique
7	10/8/2025	Economics, Foreign Aid and Global Health
8	10/15/2025	<i>Autumn Break (no new material or assignments)</i>
9	10/22/2025	Health Delivery Models and Health Systems
10	10/29/2025	Environment and Global Health
11	11/5/2025	Antimicrobial Resistance
12	11/12/2025	Maternal and Child Health
13	11/19/2025	Non-communicable Diseases and Global Health
14	11/26/2025	<i>Thanksgiving break (no new material or assignments)</i>
15	12/3/2025	Interventions in Global Health
16	12/10/2025	Global Health Equity and Closing Reflections
17	12/17/2025	Student presentations

**Readings, activities and assignments for each week will be posted on Canvas*