

Sociology 115G (Fall 2023)  
**Health in a Global Society**

*Genetics & Plant Bio 107*  
*Monday and Wednesday, 6:30-7:59 pm*

**Faculty:** Prof. Yan Long

**Email:** Please use **inbox on bCourses**

**Office Hours:**  
Monday 4:00-6:00 PM

sign up at <https://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/ygmsi>

**Office:** 448 Barrows

**Grader:** Ms. Nadia Rojas

### **Course Description**

The aim of this course is to introduce important concepts, perspectives, issues, and trends in global health studies, focusing specifically on how global change can alter the nature humans inhabit and their susceptibility to disease. We will also be addressing the political, economic, and cultural aspects of these changes and susceptibilities. Discussions will be focused on the general population and environmental changes that contribute to health deficiencies at the regional and global levels and the challenges for policy development they represent. These subjects will be explored using an interdisciplinary approach as readings will be selected from a wide range of areas to reflect the general interests of social scientists alike.

### **Outcomes and Student Learning**

- To introduce key concepts and frameworks used in examining global health issues.
- Develop an understanding of main methods used to answer and monitor questions of human-environment interactions and their health impact.
- To understand the distribution of health and disability around the world and to understand the social, and institutional factors that affect the burden of disease.
- To introduce the key actors in the global health system, and to learn to articulate the policy relevance of complex global health issues.

### **Readings**

A course website is available through bCourse at <http://bcourses.berkeley.edu/>. All readings will be available on the bCourse site (as pdf or word files) or on-line. *Readings will be added/changed as the semester progresses* accordingly, and they will be announced in advance. All the lecture notes will be posted on bCourse.

## Course Requirements

The requirements for this class consist of attendance and participation, reading quizzes, a short analytical essay, a group project, and two exams.

**Participation (10%):** Regular attendance and participation is mandatory. Group working is also required. To perform well, you must take good class notes, complete the readings, and understand the material covered in class. We will also have a number of in-class activities that are designed to help you engage with the course material. You will be graded for participating in these activities.

Section absence will only be excused with formal written documentation of “extraordinary circumstances” including physician-certified illness, death in the family, hospitalization, religious observance, and university-sponsored travel or activities (e.g., band or athletics). Let the professor know immediately if there is anything she can do to facilitate your participation or make you more comfortable.

You are allowed two “free” unexcused section absences; after that every absence will count as a “skip” and a 2% deduction will be deducted from your overall grade for *each* unexcused absence.

If you must miss class, you will need to get notes from a classmate. The professor does **NOT** give out copies of the notes.

**Reading Quizzes (14%):** To keep you on track with the readings and check that you understand the material, there will be about 10 quizzes given during the semester. Quizzes will consist of one or two questions on the readings for the week. The quiz questions will be taken from a weekly set of guidelines that are designed to help you understand the main points of the reading and place the reading within the context of the course. They will also be an important review tool for exams and provide a basis for class discussions. Reading guidelines will be distributed on the Wednesday before we cover the readings. Quizzes **CANNOT** be made up for any reason, but I will only count the best seven scores. Each of these seven quizzes is worth 2% of your final grade.

**Short Analytical Essay (11%):** This essay will comprise a double-spaced 3-page paper based on course materials. Details will be given in class and posted on bCourses. It will be due on Sep 13 on bCourse. All assignments must be turned in on time. The professor will **NOT** accept late assignment.

**Group Project (20%):** In teams of 3-5 people, you will research, prepare and deliver a class presentation on one topic related to the class. A list of possible topics will be later given and discussed in class. You will have to get together in groups and prepare outside of class. Presentations should last approximately 30 minutes and will be given using Microsoft PowerPoint or Apple Keynote. This portion of your grade will be determined

by your level of participation in the group (both preparation and presentation). Peer evaluation is an integral part of this assignment: all team members may not get the same grade; this is largely based on how you shared the burden of research and work with the other members of your team. A written report is not required, but your group must submit a copy of the presentation and related bibliography. More details will be discussed later in class.

**Midterm (15%):** You will have one midterm exam covering materials from Weeks 1-7 on October 18.

**Final (30%):** You will have one final exam that covers all course materials throughout the semester.

### Student Evaluation and Grading

If past performance holds, you should anticipate a straight scale for your final grade: 90-100% (A-/A/A+), 80-89% (B-/B/B+), 70-79% (C-/C/C+), 60-69% (D-/D/D+), ≤59% (F).

	<b>% of final grade</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Attendance & Participation	10%	
Reading Quizzes	14%	Wednesday
Short Analytical Essay	11%	Sep 13
Midterm Exam	15%	Oct 18
Group Project	20%	Nov 13-29
Final Exam	30%	Dec 15

**Extensions and Make-Up Exams:** If you are unable to meet a deadline or take an exam due to a potentially “excusable” reason, you must contact Professor Long **72 hours** (3 full days) in advance of the due date and inquire as to the possibility of an extension or make-up.

Extensions and make-up exams will **ONLY** be given with a documented, written, valid excuse (e.g., physician-certified illness, death or serious illness in the family, hospitalization, religious observance, or Berkeley-sponsored travel/activities). Car trouble, over-sleeping, traffic court, vacation, illness without a physician’s excuse, work for other classes, early departure or late return from break, employment, etc. are **NOT** valid excuses. Email does not “count” as written documentation, regardless of its source. A fax *may* be accepted as a *provisional* excuse, provided you later provide written documentation that matches the fax *exactly*. Physician-certified excuses must be originals.

## Course Policies

*\*You are responsible for all policies whether you read this or not\**

**Conduct and Decorum:** Conduct that distracts others or compromises the collective learning environment will not be tolerated. You must refrain from activities that are distracting (and rude). Inappropriate conduct in lecture will lower your participation grade. Thus:

- **NO ELECTRONIC DEVICE** is allowed during lectures in class. If you are engaged in activities such as texting, emailing, or web browsing in class, you will lose participation and attendance points for that day.
- Arrive on time & settle in before lecture begins.
- Do not talk with others during lectures or while others are speaking.
- Do not pack up your belongings before the end of class—doing so makes it difficult for others to hear, think, and concentrate.
- Respect others' rights to hold opinions and beliefs that differ from your own. Challenge or criticize the idea, not the person.
- If you are offended by something or think someone else might be, speak up.
- Support your statements. Use evidence and provide a rationale for your points.

Professor Long will check and respond to course-related email **ONLY VIA BCOURSES** Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Expect a response within 24 to 48 hours. (Therefore, do not wait until the last minute to email the professor regarding assignments. An email sent on Friday or on the weekend will not be read until the end of the day on Monday; a reply may not be sent until the end of the day on Tuesday.) If you decide to email the professor, please be courteous, professional, and formal. If you email with a question that is answered clearly in the syllabus, or if your email is overly informal, Professor Long may not respond to your email.

**Accommodations:** Please let the professor know within **the first two weeks of the start of the semester** of any special accommodations that you will need due to learning disabilities, religious practices, intercollegiate athletics, physical requirements, medical needs, etc. Accommodations will be discussed discretely.

**Academic Integrity:** As a student at Berkeley, you are expected to adhere to the standards and policies. If you are unsure about the expectations for completing an assignment or taking a test or exam, be sure to seek clarification beforehand.

All suspected violations of the *Code* will be handled according to University policies. Sanctions for academic misconduct may include a failing grade on the assignment, reduction in your final course grade, a failing grade in the course, among other possibilities.

Plagiarism is defined as using AI or presenting someone else's work, including the work of other students, as one's own. Any ideas or materials taken from another source for either written or oral use must be fully acknowledged, unless the information is common knowledge. What is considered "common knowledge" may differ from course to course.

- A student must not adopt or reproduce ideas, opinions, theories, formulas, graphics, or pictures of another person without acknowledgment.
- A student must give credit to the originality of others and acknowledge indebtedness whenever:
  1. Directly quoting another person's actual words, whether oral or written;
  2. Using another person's ideas, opinions, or theories;
  3. Paraphrasing the words, ideas, opinions, or theories of others, whether oral or written;
  4. Borrowing facts, statistics, or illustrative material; or
  5. Offering materials assembled or collected by others in the form of projects or collections without acknowledgment.

**Intellectual Property and Commercial Use:** All of Professor Long's lecture materials, handouts, syllabi, assignments, etc. are protected by copyright. Lecture recording, paid transcription, sale, and/or any commercial use of these materials are strictly prohibited. Students who engage in such activities will fail the course.

### Schedule of Readings

#### **Week 1: Aug 23**

INTRODUCTION

#### **Week 2: Aug 28 & 30**

GLOBALIZATION AND HEALTH/ENVIRONMENT BASICS

1. Jeffrey P Koplan, et al. 2009. "Towards a Common Definition of Global Health." *The Lancet* 373: 1993–1995.
2. Spiegel, Jerry, Ronald Labonte, and Aleck Ostry. 2004. "Understanding Globalization as a Determinant of Health Determinants." *International Journal of Occupational Environmental Health* 10: 360-367.

#### **Week 3: Sep 6**

WHY DOES GLOBALIZATION MATTER?

1. Bell, Susan. 2018. "Placing Care: Embodying Architecture in Hospital Clinics for Immigrant and Refugee Patients." *Sociology of Health & Illness* 40: 314-326.

**Week 4: Sep 11 & 13**

## NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES ON THE HORIZON

1. Balwicki Ł, Stokłosa M, Balwicka-Szczyrba M, *et al.* 2016. "Tobacco Industry Interference With Tobacco Control Policies In Poland: Legal Aspects And Industry Practices." *Tobacco Control* 25: 521-26.
2. Mazhnaya, Alyona, *et al.* 2016. "In Their Own Voices: Breaking the Vicious Cycle of Addiction, Treatment and Criminal Justice among People who Inject Drugs in Ukraine." *Drugs: Education, Prevention and Policy* 23 (2): 163-75.

**Week 5: Sep 18 & 20**

## FOOD SYSTEMS AND CARDIVASCULAR DISEASES

1. LBD Double Burden of Malnutrition Collaborators. 2020. "Mapping Local Patterns Of Childhood Overweight And Wasting In Low- And Middle-Income Countries Between 2000 And 2017." *Nature Medicine* 26, 750–759.
2. Daniel, Caitlin. 2020. "Is Healthy Eating Too Expensive? How Low-Income Parents Evaluate the Cost of Food." *Social Science & Medicine* 248: 1-8.

**Week 6: Sep 25 & 27**

## THE BURDEN OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1. Morens, David, Gregory Folkers, and Anthony Fauci. 2004. "The Challenge of Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases." *Nature* 430: 242-249.
2. Matthew Sparke, and Dimitar Anguelov. 2012. "H1N1, Globalization and the Epidemiology of Inequality." *Health Place* 18 (4): 726-736.

**Week 7: Oct 2 & 4**

## OLD ISSUES: MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS

1. Packard, Randall M. 2007. "Chapter 3 A Southern Disease." Pp. 83-98 in *The Making of a Tropical Disease: A Short History of Malaria*. Johns Hopkins University Press.
2. Kehr, Janina. 2012. "Blind Spots and Adverse Conditions of Care: Screening Migrants for Tuberculosis in France and Germany." *Sociology of Health & Illness* 34: 251-65.

**Week 8: Oct 9 & 11**

## NEW PROBLEMS: COVID-19

1. Chuncheng, Liu. 2021. "Making Sense of Algorithms: Relational Perception of Contact Tracing and Risk Assessment During COVID-19." *Big Data & Society* 1-13.
3. Reich, Jennifer. 2020. "Vaccine Refusal and Pharmaceutical Acquiescence: Parental Control and Ambivalence in Managing Children's Health." *American Sociological Review*.

**Week 9: Oct 16 & 18**

## MIDTERM REVIEW AND EXAM

**Week 10: Oct 23 & 25**

## HEALTHCARE: NATIONAL OR TRANSNATIONAL

1. Hanefeld, J., et al. 2015. "Why do Medical Tourists Travel to Where They Do? The Role of Networks in Determining Medical Travel." *Social Science & Medicine* 124: 356-363.

**Week 11: Oct 30 & Nov 1**

## ECONOMICS OF HEALTH MARKET

1. George, Sheba. 2016. "'Real Nursing Work' versus 'Charting and Sweet Talking': The Challenges of Incorporation in US Urban Health Care Settings for Indiana Immigrant Nurses." Pp. 133-152 in *Bodies Across Borders: The Global Circulation of Body Parts, Medical Tourists and Professionals*. Routledge.
2. Twine, France Winddance. 2015. "Google Babies: The Global Market in Eggs and Sperm." Pp. 35-45 in *Outsourcing the Womb: Race, Class and Gestational Surrogacy in a Global Market*. Routledge.

**Week 12: Nov 6 & 8**

## MEDICINE AND KNOWLEDGE

1. Holmes, Seth. 2013. "Chapter 5 Doctors Don't Know Anything." Pp. 111-154 in *Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States*. University of California Press.
2. Tengbeh, Angus, et al. 2018. "'We Are The Heroes Because We Are Ready To Die For This Country': Participants' Decision-Making And Grounded Ethics In An Ebola Vaccine Clinical Trial." *Social Science & Medicine* 203: 35-42.

**Week 13: Nov 13 & 15**

## GENDER, VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT

1. Lopes, Gisella. 2021. "Technology as Both a Facilitator of and Response to Youth Intimate Partner Violence: Perspectives from Advocates in the Global-South", Pp. 427-446 in *The Emerald International Handbook of Technology-Facilitated Violence and Abuse*. Emerald Publishing Limited.
2. Farmer, Paul. 1997. "On Suffering and Structural Violence: A View from Below." Pp. 261-285 in *Social Suffering*. University of California Press.

**Week 14: Nov 20**

## GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATION

**Week 15: Nov 27 & 29**  
GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATION

**Week 16 Dec 4 & 6**  
REVIEW WEEK

**Week 17: Dec 15**  
FINAL EXAM (3:00-6:00 pm)