UCL SUMMER SCHOOL

GLOBAL HEALTH: LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Key Information

Module code ISSU0025
Taught during Session Two: Monday 22 July - Friday 9 August 2019
Module workload 45 teaching hours plus approximately 100 study hours
Module leader Shivani Singh
Department Global Health, Faculty of Population Health Sciences
Credit 15 UCL credits, 7.5 ECTS, 4 US
Level Level 1, first year Undergraduate
Pre-requisites Standard entry requirements
Assessment Presentation (40%)
Essay outline (10%)
Essay (50%)

Module Overview
This module serves as an introduction to core concepts in Global Health. Through a multidisciplinary approach students learn about the way in which the health of the individual is shaped by socio-political forces. Each week students evaluate a major cause of ill health in developed and developing countries and the role of key actors that influence health.

Week One: What makes us sick?
- Understanding illness
  - Global burden of disease, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases
  - Biosocial models
- Measures and conceptualising health
  - DALYs, epidemiological transition, demographic change

Week Two: Political and Economic influences on health
- International (WHO, WTO) and national actors (DFID, USAID)
- Aid (bilateral/multilateral), Public Private Partnerships and Philanthrocapitalism
- Policy and regulation (case studies on structural adjustment and pharmaceutical industries)
Week Three: Structural and social elements of health

- Measuring inequality, what does inequality look like?
- Factors affecting health (social determinants of health)
- Culture society and health

Module Aims
This module is an introduction to the discipline of Global Health. Each week will be framed around the ‘wicked problems’ facing our world and the ways in which the individual can engage with global issues. Topics covered include access and availability of healthcare, inequality, poverty, ethics, aid, and the key actors in global health. A symposium will be held whereby students can speak to academics and public sector actors about the topics covered in the course.

Each week will begin with a UK case study relating to a core topic and end with an excursion to a local site of significance in the development of the global health discipline. These excursions will link UCLs core values of equality along with the rich history of social welfare and public health that began in London in the 1700s.

Teaching Methods
The course will be taught through daily lectures, tutorial groups, moodle based activities and off campus excursions. Distance learning and WebCT will not be used. Students are encouraged to engage with the course content and ask questions during lecture time and sessions will be interactive in nature. There will be time built in to every lecture for questions and office hours will be held so that students can come in for additional individual meetings with the course tutor. Students will be encouraged to use the forum on the moodle page to ask questions and to interact with classmates throughout the course.

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this module, students will:

- Have developed an understanding of the relationship between the health of the individual and their socio-political circumstances
- Understand the impact of international and national actors on health at the local level, and how health policy is developed
- Understand the different types of health systems using case studies from around the globe
- Understand major theoretical debates within the discipline, and be able to engage with the literature
- Be able to define key terms and concepts around health, poverty, and inequality
- Have developed critical analysis skills through workshops and presentations

Assessment Methods

- 10-minute presentation (40%)
- 500-word essay outline (10%)
- 2,500-word essay (50%)

Please note that this module description is indicative and may be subject to change.
Key Texts

Books and Journal Articles
Poor Economics (2011) Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo
The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries Are Failing and What Can Be Done About It (2007) Paul Collier
Lancet – Special Issue Series on Global Health

Websites
Gapminder. - http://www.gapminder.org/
Guardian global development series - http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development