

Global Health: A Practitioner's Approach to Real-World Problems

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What does it mean to work on global health? Many students are committed to the delivery of global health, but few are exposed to the core elements of programs development, funding, implementation, and assessment. Our course is a practical primer in each of these areas. Using fundamental texts, our own experiences, a case-based approach, concrete exercises to develop technical skills, and guest speakers from the field, we will provide skill-building, guidance, and structure. We will honestly reflect on successes and challenges in our work and best-practices and pitfalls in global health practice and give students authentic assignments that we will discuss and critique as we would in a work setting. This course will shed light the complexity of global health delivery and keys skills that can support success for students who envision pursuing work in global health domains or who want to better understand the field from the sidelines.

Key elements of the course will include:

Global health delivery: setting the context for access to care
Overview of the determinants of health
Health system strengthening theory and practice
Building an NGO: addressing a global health issue from the ground up-vision, strategy, practicality
Principles and practice of quality improvement, monitoring, and evaluation
Quality Improvement roadmaps for effective implementation
Financing in global health: donors, foundations, federal funders
Operations and NGOs: The life cycle of a grant from application to end and anatomy of a business plan
Financial sustainability for global health efforts
Case interpretation and assessment for class discussion
Introduction to emerging leaders in global health and key challenges they face

Preliminary Syllabus

Class I: Introduction to global health delivery: setting the context for access to care

Health system strengthening theory and practice

Introduction: interests, background, course expectations
Basic intro to global burden of disease
A common vocabulary
Changing definitions of global health activities and moving boundaries
Expanding roles of practitioners- not just clinicians but planners, measurement, and the roles
Our paths to this work

Class II: Addressing equity in a global health context

Building an NGO or addressing a complex global health issue from the ground up: vision, strategy, practicality

Human Resources for Health (HRH) challenge: framing the problem developing the solutions:

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that the world will be short of 12.9 million health-care workers by 2035. This gap explains in part the delays in achieving the universal health coverage.

Class III: Basics of M&E framework

Principles and practice of monitoring, and evaluation

Lecture and group discussions

Basics: indicators definition, logic frames.

Introduce key concepts: Inputs, outputs, outcome, and impact

Breakout groups on M&E Tools

Class VI: Quality Improvement

Roadmap for an effective implementation of QI in a hospital setting

The use of data for root cause analysis and prioritization, and continuous quality improvement in global health including:

Definition and fundamental principles of quality improvement

Measurement and tracking quality improvement interventions

Sustainability and spread of QI interventions

Class V: Financing in global health: donors, foundations, federal funders and leadership in global health

Part I - Global fund, WHO

Part II- Country specific financing and performance based financing ie pay for performance models

Part III- Race to the top from US education to health care motivation

Potential Guest Speaker: Ryan Schwarz, MD, MBA. Chief Operating Officer, Possible Health

Class VI: Anatomy of a business plan and operations in NGOs

The life cycle of a grant from application to end

Practical Resources

Class VII: Expert Panel

A panel to include colleagues from several of the following: Last Mile Health, Maya Health, Seed Global Health, Partners In Health, PIVOT, and Possible, to discuss key planning and implementation aspects of global health.

Note, the organizations represented on the panel will be the bases for final project assignments on grant development or business planning.

Class VIII: Primer on budgets and operating finance

Introduction to non-profit finance and grant preparation for GH efforts

Class IX: Principles applied: case-base studies in global health – Neno, Malawi

We will take a deep dive into the Global Health Delivery/Harvard Business School Case reflecting on key strategic and ethical components. This course will include both the protagonist and case writer to provide history and updates as well as insights on their experiences.

Guests: Case Writer and Protagonist

Class X: Film and Discussion with protagonists- Bending the Arc

The film Bending the Arc was released in 2017 and describes the paths of Drs. Paul Farmer and Jim Kim, and Ophelia Dahl from the conception of Partners In Health through the work of the past 30+ years.

Class XI: Recap of content and reflection. Workshop time for presentation development

Class XII: Guest speaker Joia Mukherjee, MD. Chief Medical Officer Partners in Health

Class XIII: Final Project Presentations due in class with expert panel review

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UN MDG Goal 2: Universal Education
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hNBvtM1hmzQ&index=2&list=PL3B3A7606FE4C0886>

UN MDG 3: Gender Equity
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNj4n8RN0uo&list=PL3B3A7606FE4C0886&index=3>

UN MDG 4: Child Health
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjQW4f8EJo&index=4&list=PL3B3A7606FE4C0886>

UN MDG 5: Maternal Health
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76W3AdJtTRo&list=PL3B3A7606FE4C0886&index=5>

UN MDG 6: Combat HIV
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cEicDJ_aiME&index=6&list=PL3B3A7606FE4C0886

UN MDG 7: Environmental Sustainability
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lx-1XFQDIUU&list=PL3B3A7606FE4C0886&index=7>

UN MDG 8: Global Partnership
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXDDNFLDiFw&index=8&list=PL3B3A7606FE4C0886>

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