**LS191 Introduction to Global Health**

Fall 2018 Syllabus

**Instructor:**  Margaret Eggers, PhD, MS, MA

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**Office Hours:** TBD and by appointment

**Lectures:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday, time TBD

**Course location:** TBD

**Textbook:**  Global Health 101 by R. Skolnik, 3rd edition

+ additional readings from current literature

**Grading:**  Attendance and class participation 10%

Homework and writing assignments 50%

Exams 40%

### Website: Course information including papers to read, homework assignments, instructions and course announcements will be posted in Brightspace LE by Desire2Learn (D2L), which is available at <https://ecat.montana.edu>. Students are responsible for checking the website to stay informed.

**Course summary**

Global health has been defined as “collaborative trans-national research and action for promoting health for all,” reflecting the fact that social, environmental, economic and political aspects of globalization are increasingly shaping global health and disease (doi:  [10.3402/gha.v3i0.5142](https://dx.doi.org/10.3402%2Fgha.v3i0.5142)). Hence global health is a shared responsibility requiring multi-national, interdisciplinary and equitable collaboration and cooperation among health care providers and scientists, communities, organizations and governments. This course will introduce the core concepts, principles and functions of global health. It will provide an overview of health determinants, methods for measuring population health and trends in global health and disease. The course will examine how sociocultural, educational, nutritional, environmental, economic and political factors influence the global patterns of disease and health inequities – including both communicable and non-communicable diseases. Finally, the course will discuss key actors working together to improve global health, and career areas in this field.

**Course objectives**

This course addresses the following questions:

1. What is global health?

2. What is the history of the field of global health?

3. How is global health studied?

4. How is global health practiced? Who works in global health, and what do these people do?

5. In what direction is the field of global health moving, and how can I get involved?

**Course learning outcomes**

After successful completion of this course student will be able to:

1. Define and discuss core concepts, principles and functions of global health.

2. Identify major global health challenges.

3. Demonstrate understanding of how sociocultural, nutritional, environmental, economic and political factors influence the global patterns of disease and health (in)equity, with an emphasis on health in low-resource settings.

4. Draw on multiple disciplines to examine global health issues and demonstrate understanding that solutions require interdisciplinary and interprofessional approaches.

5. Communicate their understanding of global health issues both in writing and in discussions.

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**Course activities**

Attendance

Regular attendance and active participation are expected. Exams will be based on lectures, readings and student presentations, including material presented in class that is not in the readings, so excellent attendance is essential to your learning the course material. Occasional in-class assignments will be worth 10% of your grade.

Class participation, trainings and homework

These activities are essential to this course, and in total are worth 50% of your grade.

Global health is about current events that are constantly emerging, for example, the opioid crisis, or an emerging zoonotic disease, or drinking water quality issues in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria. On case study days, students will each present a five-minute overview of a current global health issue relevant to the week’s topic. You will be expected to find one article on a current event, present a brief summary in class (on a case study day), and post it to D2L with your commentary. This assignment will be worth 10% of your grade. Questions about these presentations will be included in the exams.

Homework assignments will vary and will include both written and on-line assignments, which you will past into the relevant D2L dropbox *no later than* midnight on the designated due date. Homework assignments will include completion of relevant on-line trainings. (35% of your grade, collectively)

One in-class training in emergency management will be provided (5% of your grade).

Exams

There will be three exams worth 100 points each (40% of your grade). The exams will be based on the assigned readings, class lectures, student presentations, trainings and other activities. It is your responsibility to complete the readings, obtain the notes and attend class. The exams are not directly cumulative, but course material is continually built upon and reinforced.

***MSU Guidelines*** **for Academic Integrity**

Montana State University expects all students to conduct themselves as honest, responsible and law-abiding members of the academic community and to respect the rights of other students, members of the faculty and staff and the public to use, enjoy and participate in the University programs and facilities.  This course adheres to the MSU Student Conduct Code and Instructor Responsibilities, available at: <http://www2.montana.edu/policy/student_conduct/>. The MSU Conduct Guidelines states that students must:

1. Be prompt and regular in attending classes;
2. Be well prepared for classes and actively participate;
3. Submit required assignments on time;
4. Take exams when scheduled;
5. Act in a respectful manner toward other students and the instructor and in a way that does not detract from the learning experience; and
6. Make and keep appointments when necessary to meet with the instructor.

In addition to the above items, students are expected to meet any additional course and behavioral standards as defined by the instructor.

**Writing and Plagiarism**

Decent writing skills are essential for all professionals, and great writing skills are tremendously helpful in the global health field. Writing assignments for this class are expected to be free of errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation. Individual paragraphs should hang together, and the sequence of paragraphs should flow logically. Free tutoring help with your writing is available from the MSU Writing Center in Wilson Hall, Rm 1-114. Walk-in tutor availability is not guaranteed. To schedule a session with a tutor, please go to their website (<http://www.montana.edu/writingcenter/>).

Paraphrasing or quoting another’s work without citing the source is a form of academic misconduct.  Even inadvertent or unintentional misuse or appropriation of another's work (such as relying heavily on source material that is not expressly acknowledged) is considered plagiarism. If you have any questions about using and citing sources, ask for clarification.

**Brightspace LE by D2L**

Brightspace LE by D2L will be utilized in this course to post a variety of information pertinent to this course. You are required to check their website regularly for any updates, log in at <https://ecat.montana.edu>. **Your Brightspace LE username and password are the same as your My Portal Username and Password.** To reset your password use the password reset option at <http://password.montana.edu>. Brightspace LE help is available at: <http://www.montana.edu/ecat/help/index.html>.

**Collaboration**

University policy states that, unless otherwise specified, students may not collaborate on graded material.  Any exceptions to this policy will be stated explicitly for individual assignments.  If you have any questions about the limits of collaboration, please ask for clarification.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation(s), you are encouraged to contact your instructor and Disabled Student Services as soon as possible.

**Student Educational Records**

All records related to this course are confidential and will not be shared with anyone, including parents, without a signed, written release.  If you wish to have information from your records shared with others, you must provide written request/authorization to the office/department.  Before giving such authorization, you should understand the purpose of the release and to whom and for how long the information is authorized for release.

**Questions? Problems?**

Please come see me during office hours (immediately after class), or catch me after class or e-mail me to make an appointment at another time.