

SOCA6100: International Health: Cross-Cultural and Critical Social Science Perspectives

Callaghan and Online
Semester 1 - 2024



The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences (HCISS) is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description	This course explores how social and cultural dimensions of globalisation influence the making of international health. The uneven nature of many globalisation processes (such as the transnationalisation of: market/corporate capitalism, post-welfare policies, new technologies, population movements, consumerist cultural values and attitudes, financial crisis, food and environments insecurities, as well ethnic conflicts and violence) will be analysed in terms of their consequences for public health in different social contexts. The course helps students to develop a better understanding of the major challenges posed by the global worlds and culturally distinctive local practices to health and well-being in the 21st Century and the roles that different agents, organisational bodies and body politics play in dealing with health problems, both locally and globally.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Assumed Knowledge	Undergraduate degree majoring in a Social Science, Health, or related discipline.
Contact Hours	Callaghan Lecture Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1 Participation in Online activities Seminar Face to Face On Campus 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1 Online Lecture Online 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1 Participation in Online activities Seminar Online 1 hour(s) per week(s) for 13 week(s) starting Week 1
Unit Weighting	10
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort

COURSE OUTLINE

www.newcastle.edu.au

CRICOS Provider
00109J

(contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator

Callaghan and Online

A/Pr Daniela Heil

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Consultation: Please email for an appointment, thank you. -- Meeting options are either via zoom, or face-to-face.

Teaching Staff

Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.

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SYLLABUS

Course Content

The course will introduce students to major issues in international health, global social change, inequity and inequality. It will explore the socio-economic, cultural and political determinants of health at local, global and international levels by focusing on both inequities and inequalities in the distribution of risks, responsibilities, power and opportunities across and within societies. The course provides students with an opportunity to broaden their views by adopting different perspectives in their inquiry into the social, cultural, economic and political determinants of public health and critical social science perspectives. Substantive topics may be drawn from a range of areas including: theoretical approaches to health and development; gender/caste/class and health inequalities; poverty and population problems; approaches to HIV/AIDS; location-specific health concerns; civil conflicts and their impacts on health and well-being; recent bio-technological advancements such as GM food production, nano-technologies, as well as international health policies.

Topics may include:

1. Local, international and global approaches to health: past trends and present challenges, key concepts, key issues;
2. Pathologies of globalisation and public health: theoretical frameworks and perspectives;
3. Globalisation of health concerns, environmental hazards, risks and communicable and non-communicable diseases;
4. International health and global inequalities and inequities (transnational class, income, food and energy security);
5. Gender, age and international health;
6. Transnational population movements, ethnicity and health;
7. The local and global commercialisation of medication, corporate capitalism, market economy, and free trade;
8. International health and the globalisation of post-welfare (neo-liberal) policies;
9. International health and global players (international development and health programs and International Organisations such as WHO, INGOs and social movements);
10. Towards a Global Justice and Human Rights Approach to International Public health;

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Evaluate an understanding of social science approaches to international, local and global health.

2. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the social, economic, political and cultural factors involved in the creation, reproduction and perpetuation of health problems at local and global levels.

3. Critically engage in assessing and analysing local, global and international health literature through employing a global justice perspective.

4. Develop social science analytical skills through a cross-societal and critical study of international health issues.

Course Materials

See Canvas for required and recommended readings.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	International Global Health: Course Introduction	Past trends and contemporary challenges of international global health: Key concepts and issues.	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face, or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
2	4 Mar	Health and Globalisation	Pathologies of Globalisation: Globalisation and public health, theoretical frameworks and perspectives in the social sciences.	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
3	11 Mar	Global Health Inequalities	Public Health and Global Inequalities: transnational class, income, food and energy security	The lecture, weekly readings, and face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
4	18 Mar	Global Health and Gender	International Health, Gender and Global Change	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
5	25 Mar	Global Commercialisation of Health	Public Health and the Global Commercialisation of Medication: free trade, corporate capitalism and market economy	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
6	1 Apr	ONLINE CLASS THIS WEEK: Global Diseases	Globalisation of Health Concerns, Risks and Diseases: communicable and non-communicable	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
7	8 Apr	Global Health Players	International development and health programs and	The lecture, weekly readings, and either

			organisations, such as the WTO, WHO, NGOs, unions and social movements.	face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Health Policies	Public Health and the Globalisation of Post-Welfare, Neo-Liberal Policies	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
9	6 May	International Health and Migration	The 'Brain Drain' of Health Care Professionals: From low- and middle-income countries to high-income countries	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
10	13 May	Environmental Changes and Global Health	Public Health Transitions and Global Environmental Climate Change	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
11	20 May	Medical Pluralism	Intersections between Biomedicine, Complementary and Alternative Medicine and International Health	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course.
12	27 May	Global Health Justice	Towards a Global Justice and Human Rights Approach to Public Health	The lecture, weekly readings, and either face-to-face or online engagement with the course materials are recommended for you to succeed in the course. The Final Essay (Assessment 3) is due: Monday, 3 June 2024, by 11:59pm.
13	3 Jun	No More Classes this Week		
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Participation in 2 Canvas discussion questions	Online for online students, by Monday 11.59pm of the following week for weeks 1-12. Face-to-face for students participating class.	Individual	20%	1, 2
2	Essay 1	Monday, 8 April 2024 by 11:59pm	Individual	35%	1, 2, 3
3	Essay 2	Monday, 3 June 2024, by 11:59pm	Individual	45%	1, 2, 3, 4

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Participation in Canvas discussion questions

Assessment Type

Participation

Purpose

Course Learning Outcomes 1 and 2.

Description

Students are asked to respond to weekly readings, related questions, visuals and other corresponding points that are provided in each of the weekly SOCA6100-Canvas site modules.

Weighting

20%

Length

600 words (50 words each week in response to 2 questions of your choice)

Due Date

Online by Monday 11.59pm of the following week (for weeks 1-12, by the following Monday for online students, weeks 2-12; and in the following week's seminar for face-to-face students).

Submission Method

In class for face-to-face students / Online for online students.

Assessment Criteria

Please check the Assessment 1 criteria that are available on the SOCA6100-Canvas site; that is, under the Assessments-heading, and 'Participation'.

Return Method

In class for FTF students / Online for online students.

Feedback Provided

In class for FTF students / Online for online students.

Assessment 2 - Essay 1

Assessment Type	Essay
Purpose	To assess student understandings of the process and application of International Health addressing the first half of the course; Course Learning Outcomes 1, 2 and 3.
Description	The Essay Questions are available on the SOCA6100-Canvas site. Zoom-sessions will be set up for course participants to ask questions; and the course coordinator will respond via zoom and/or in class.
Weighting	35%
Length	1750 words
Due Date	Monday, 8 April 2024 by 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online via Turnitin in the course website on Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Please find, check and work with the marking criteria on the Canvas website.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 14 days after the set due date.

Assessment 3 - Essay 2

Assessment Type	Essay
Purpose	To assess student understandings of the process and application of International Health, Course Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4.
Description	You will use the course materials provided in conjunction with your own thinking, planning and independent research to generate a critical response to your selection of an international health-question covering the concluding components of the course.
Weighting	45%
Length	2500 words
Due Date	Monday, 3 June 2024, by 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online via Turnitin in the course website on Canvas
Assessment Criteria	Please find, check and work with the marking criteria on the Canvas website.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Within 14 days after the set due date.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods	Communication methods used in this course include:
Course Evaluation	Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.
Oral Interviews (Vivas)	As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the Oral Examination (viva) Procedure . In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the Student Conduct Rule .
Academic Misconduct	All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35 .
Adverse Circumstances	The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;3. you are requesting a change of placement; or4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement. Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at: https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236
Important Policy Information	The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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