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School of Diplomacy and International Relations

Fall 2014

Global Impact of Infectious Disease

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Recommended Citation

Huang, Yanzhong Dr., "Global Impact of Infectious Disease" (2014). *Diplomacy Syllabi*. 143.
<https://scholarship.shu.edu/diplomacy-syllabi/143>

School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Seton Hall University

GLOBAL IMPACT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DIPL 6279NA
T 5:00-7:10 pm

Fall 2014
Duffy 82

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Remarks on the Significance of Infectious Disease

“In any effort to understand what lies ahead, as much as what lies behind, the role of infectious disease cannot properly be left out of consideration. ... Infectious disease which antedated the emergence of humankind will last as long as humanity itself, and will surely remain, as it has been hitherto, one of the fundamental parameters and determinants of human history” (William H. McNeill)

Course Overview

Infectious disease has affected world history more extensively than most of us can imagine. This course will examine infectious disease as both a mirror reflecting macro historical process and a causative agent of change in governance for health. By taking this course, students are expected to not only obtain an in-depth understanding of the impact of infectious disease but also learn to use some important analytical tools to study issues of global health governance.

Textbooks

Sophie Harman, *Global Health Governance* (New York: Routledge, 2012). [**Harman**]

William H. McNeill, *Plagues and Peoples* (New York: Anchor Press, 1976). [**McNeill**]

Lawrence Gostin, *Global Health Law* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014). [**Gostin**]

Requirements

Because this course emphasizes genuine, informed participation by all involved, it will be expected that students keep up with the readings. Students will be asked questions (“Socratic Dialogue”) and that interaction will constitute an important part of the “participation” consideration in the final grade.

Grading

Course evaluation will be based on the following components: A blog-style short paper (worth 20 percent of the course grade), an oral presentation (worth 20 percent of the course grade) and one take-home final (worth 35 percent of the course grade). The remaining 25 percent of the course grade will reflect in-class participation and attendance.

Late Assignments Policy

All assignments and exams should/must be completed by the scheduled time. If for some substantial reason you cannot complete your assignment/exam in time you must/should contact me *directly* prior to the due date to avoid the penalty for late work.

About the Syllabus

In view of the progress of the course, the instructor may modify its contents. Every effort will be made to notify the class should such a deviation become necessary.

Academic Conduct

All forms of dishonesty whether by act of omission, including but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and knowingly furnishing false information to the University are prohibited and may elicit University sanctions of suspension or expulsion.

Accommodation

Students at Seton Hall University who have a physical, medical, learning or psychiatric disability, either temporary or permanent, may be eligible for reasonable accommodations at the University as per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. In order to receive such accommodations, students must identify themselves at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), provide appropriate documentation and collaborate with the development of an accommodation plan. The DSS phone number (973) 313-6003. For further information, please go to [DSS website](#).

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

August 26 **Introduction**

Sept. 2 **Epistemology of Epidemics**

McNeill, pp. 19-32

Recommended:

James D. Fearon, "Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science," *World Politics*, 43 (January 1991), pp. 169-95.

Sept. 9 **Epidemics, History, and the State**

McNeill, pp. 161-241

Laurie Garrett, "The Return of Infectious Disease," *Foreign Affairs*
January/February 1996, pp. 66-79

Sept. 16 Approaches to Global Health Governance
Harman, Chs. 1-2

Sept. 23 Global Health Institutions I
Gostin, Ch. 4

Sept. 30 Global Health Institutions II
Gostin, Chs. 5, 9

October 7 Global Governance of the Big Three
Harman, Ch. 3-5

***Information on the short paper distributed**

October 14 Fall Break; No Classes

October 21 Global Governance of Public Health Emergencies
Gostin, Chs. 6, 12

*** Information on student presentation distributed***

October 28 Reading Day

November 4 Challenges to Global Health Governance
David Fidler, [*The Challenges of Global Health Governance*](#), CFR IIGG
Working Paper, May 2010.

Gostin, Ch. 2

*** Short paper due ***

November 11 Student presentations

November 18 Student presentations

November 25 Reading Day

December 2 Course Wrap-up
Harman, Ch. 6

*****TAKE HOME FINAL QUESTION DISTRIBUTED ON DEC. 2, DUE AT NOON ON TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 9*****