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Diplomacy Syllabi

School of Diplomacy and International Relations

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Spring 2014

# Global Health, Bioterrorism, and International Security

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The School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Seton Hall University

**GLOBAL HEALTH, BIOTERRORISM, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**  
[Updated: January 14, 2014]

DIPL 4277 AA  
M 2:00-4:30pm

Spring 2014  
Duffy 61

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**Course Overview**

Health issues, especially infectious diseases, have affected world history more extensively than most of us can imagine. In today's world, international trade and travel threaten pandemics by transporting and spreading diseases globally at jet speed. The growing risk of exposure to infectious disease, coupled with the looming threat of bioterrorism, creates a situation in which health and security are interacting with greater frequency and intensity. This development parallels post-Cold War efforts to redefine the concept of security to encompass new global challenges. How did epidemics function as causal agents of historical change? What are the major linkages between health and security? Should new global health challenges (e.g., non-communicable diseases) be framed as problems that require attention and response from the national security community? How does this "securitization of health" affect the international governance of particular health problems? Conversely, how do the discussions and debates on health security transform our understanding of security in the contemporary world?

This interdisciplinary course focuses on global health security. It has four main objectives: 1) to examine the historical impact of infectious disease, be it naturally occurring or deliberately caused; 2) to clarify the processes by which health problems function to threaten human, national or international security; 3) to evaluate emerging global health challenges and their potential security implications; and 4) to explore the pros and cons of securitizing health challenges.

**Textbooks**

Andrew Price-Smith, *Contagion and Chaos: Disease, Ecology, and National Security in the Era of Globalization* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2009).

Stefan Elbe, *Security and Global Health: Toward the Medicalization of Insecurity* (Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2010)

**Student Responsibilities**

Reading Requirements and Class Participation

*It is your responsibility to be in class, on time, each day.* If you miss a class or come late, be sure to obtain missed information from a classmate. Attendance is essential for class participation. Your final grade will be lowered by one-half letter grade for each absence beyond **two** (e.g., If your grades average to “B,” your final grade, with one absence beyond limit, will be reduced to “B-”).

Students are expected to complete all the required readings prior to coming to class. Students who fail to read will have trouble keeping up with the class. Moreover, meaningful and lively discussions and debates depend on completion of the readings before the class period in which they will be discussed. Your performance in completing assigned readings and participating in class discussions will be an important component of your “participation” grade.

### Late Work Policy

All assignments and exams should/must be completed by the scheduled time. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have a proven excuse. If for some substantial reason you cannot turn in your assignment or make a presentation an exam at the scheduled time you must/should contact me *directly* prior to the scheduled date to avoid the penalty.

### **Grading**

Your grade for this course will be based on the following:

1. A blog piece on global health: 20%
2. Oral presentation: 20%
3. Take-home final: 35%
4. Class participation, including attendance and in-class discussions: 25%

*You must complete all components to receive a passing grade.*

### **Grading Scale**

A	94-100%	A-	90-93%	B+	87-89%
B	83-86%	B-	80-82%	C+	77-79%
C	73-76%	C-	70-72%	D+	67-69%
D	60-66%	F	59% and below		

### **About the Syllabus**

In view of the progress of the course, the instructor may modify the course contents and schedule. 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 TOPICS AND READINGS**

**January 13 Introduction**  
Elbe, Ch. 1

**January 20 Martin Luther King Day – University Closed; No Class**

**January 27 Epidemics in Historical Perspective**  
Matthew Shulman, “[12 Diseases that Altered History](#),” *US News & World Report*, January 3, 2008

Price-Smith, Ch. 2

**February 3 Case Study: The 1918 Spanish Influenza**  
Watch PBS Video [Secrets of the Dead](#)

John M. Barry, *The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History* (New York: Viking Penguin, 2004), esp. Ch. 32

Price-Smith, Ch. 3

**February 10 BW Video Session**

**February 17 Biological Weapons and Biological Warfare**  
R. Roffey, A. Tegnell and F. Elgh, “Biological Warfare in Historical Perspective,” *Clinical Microbiology and Infection* 8, 2002, 450-454

John Steinbruber, “Biological weapons: A plague upon all houses,” *Foreign Policy*, Winter97/98

Laurie Garrett, "Biology's Brave New World," *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2013

**February 24 Bioterrorism and Biosecurity**

Elbe, Ch. 3

Laurie Garrett, "The Nightmare of Bioterrorism," *Foreign Affairs*, Jan/Feb 2001, pp. 76-89

Philip Alcabes, "The Bioterrorism Scare," *The American Scholar* 73, Spring 2004

**March 3 HIV/AIDS and Security**

Price-Smith, Ch. 4

P.W. Singer, "AIDS and International Security", *Survival*, 44 (1), Spring 2002, pp. 145-158.

Colin McInnes and Simon Rushton, "HIV, AIDS and Security: Where are we now?" *International Affairs* 86, no. 1 (2010): 225-245

**March 10 Spring Break**

**March 17 Pandemic Flu and Security**

Elbe, Ch. 2

Price-Smith, Ch. 6

Christian Enemark, "Is Pandemic Flu a Security Threat?" *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy* 51, no. 1 (Feb-March 2009): 191-214.

**March 24 Health, Demographic Crisis, and Security**

Philip Longman, "Think Again: Global Aging," *Foreign Policy*, November 2010

Ellen Knickmeyer, "The Arab World's Youth Army," *Foreign Policy.com*, January 27, 2011

Jack A. Goldstone, "The New Population Bomb: The Four Megatrends That Will Change the World," *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2010.

**March 31 Other Health Security Issues**

Elbe, Chs. 4-5

Jack Chow, "Health and International Security," *The Washington Quarterly* 19, no. 2 (Spring 1996): 63-77

**April 7**

**Limits of Securitization of Health**

Stefan Elbe, "Haggling over viruses: the downside risks of securitizing infectious disease," *Health Policy and Planning* 25 (2010): 476-485.

Orin Levine and Laurie Garrett, "The CIA's vaccination ploy," *Washington Post*, July 30, 2011. For more discussion, see Emily Rauhala's blog.

Yanzhong Huang, "The 2009 H1N1 Flu Pandemic and the Policy Response in East Asia," in Robert M. Hathaway and Michael Wills, eds., *New Security Challenges in Asia* (Washington, DC: Woodrow Wilson Center Press/Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013), 121-43.

\*\*\*Blog piece due\*\*\*

**April 14**

**Student Presentations**

**April 21**

**Easter Monday, Class Cancelled**

**April 28**

**Student Presentations**

**May 5**

**Student Presentations and Course Wrap-up**

National Intelligence Estimate, *Strategic Implications of Global Health*, ICA 2008-10D, December 2008

Elbe, Chs. 6

Price-Smith, Conclusion

\*\*\*Take Home Final due on Monday, May 12\*\*\*