Development Policy and Health
IPBH 3005 (3 credits / 45 class hours)

SIT Study Abroad Program:
Switzerland: Global Health and Development Policy

PLEASE NOTE: This syllabus represents a recent semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester. Please do not assume these are the exact lectures and readings for any subsequent semester.

Course Description
The course explores how development policy impacts international and local health policy as well as the effects of such policies on local realities as they relate to the health sector in the developing world. The course reviews the roles of national and international agencies, as well as non-governmental agencies, in public health. The course examines critical aspects of development, such as microfinance, nutrition, migration, and access to clean water. Students learn how international organizations work at the policy level to affect change in the health sectors.

Expected Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course, students should be able to:
- Assess the impacts that development policy has on public health and health status;
- Understand the ways in which development health policy is informed and formulated;
- Discuss in detail how development policy impacts the health sector;
- Critically analyze the roles of international organizations and NGOs in development policy and health;
- Identify the obstacles the public health sector faces in the developing world;
- Illustrate the potential impacts of development projects on health under different scenarios.

Language of Instruction
This course is taught in English, but students will be exposed to vocabulary related to course content as well as the nuances of global health and development through in-country expert lecturers and field visits to a wide range of venues and regional locales.
Course Schedule

Class time will include lectures, case studies, briefings at international organizations and NGOs, and class discussions. Participation is expected in the form of questions and discussions pertaining to the class content and reflections/comparisons with reading material. Course evaluation includes quizzes, a final exam, and participation in group discussions.

Course modules

Module I: Introduction to International Development Policy

“Introduction to International Development Policy I: Theories and Frameworks”

“Introduction to International Development Policy II: Actors and Stakeholders”

Required Reading:

“Introduction to International Development Policy III: Development and Health”

Required Reading:

Module II: Health Policy in the Developing World Today

“Health Policy in the Developing World I: An Historical Backdrop”

“Health Policy in the Developing World II: Regional Trends”

Required Reading:

“Health Policy in the Developing World III: Problems and Perspectives”

Required Reading:

Module III: Development Policy and Health in a Local Context (Morocco case study)

This module is carried out during the excursion to Morocco. Lecturers can change depending on the availability of local professors and specialists.

“Public Health in Morocco”

Required Reading:
“The Role of Local and International Health NGOs in Morocco”
Required Reading:

Visit to two NGOs in Rabat
Visit to a sustainable development project in a rural community in Morocco

Module IV: Selected topics in Development Policy
“Water and Health in a Developing World Context”
Required Reading:

“The Future Challenges of Microfinance in Development”
Required Reading:

“Infant Nutrition and Development Policy”
Required Reading:

Evaluations and Grading Criteria
Description of Assignments:
Course evaluation includes quizzes, a final exam, and participation in group discussions.
- **Exam**: will consist of a series of short answers and essay questions
- **Group project**: will be a collaborative effort in a small group. Students will research either health policy in a particular country, a specific topic in development health policy, or a special topic of the group’s choice with prior approval by the Academic Director. Additional details of the project will be provided during the orientation period.
- **The excursion paper**: will be developed during the excursion to Morocco and upon the group’s return to Geneva.
- **Participation**: entails completing the reading material before class, interacting with the lecturers and classmates, demonstrating critical thinking about the subject matter, flexibility, and culturally sensitive behavior.

More detailed instructions about each evaluation component are provided in due time during the course.
Assessment:

- Exam: 30%
- Group project: 30%
- Excursion paper: 30%
- Participation: 10%

Grading Scale

- 94-100% A Excellent
- 90-93% A-
- 87-89% B+
- 84-86% B Above Average
- 80-83% B-
- 77-79% C+
- 74-76% C Average
- 70-73% C-
- 67-69% D+
- 64-66% D Below Average
- below 64 F Fail

Expectations and Policies

- **Show up prepared.** Be on time; have your readings completed and points in mind for discussion or clarification. Complying with these elements raises the level of class discussion for everyone.
- **Have assignments completed on schedule, printed, and done accordingly to the specified requirements.** This will help ensure that your assignments are returned in a timely manner.
- **Ask questions in class. Engage the lecturer.** These are often very busy professionals who are doing us an honor by coming to speak.
- **Comply with academic integrity policies** as specified in the SIT Study Abroad Student Handbook:
- **Respect differences of opinion** (classmates’, lecturers, local constituents engaged with on the visits). You are not expected to agree with everything you hear, but you are expected to listen across difference and consider other perspectives with respect.

Please see the SIT Study Abroad student handbook for policies on academic integrity, ethics, academic warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment, and the academic appeals process.

Please note: the syllabus, course content, lecturers, and readings may modified by the Academic Director in order to better suit the needs of the course and its participants. Should any change of class topics or lecturers be necessary, students will be promptly notified.