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Global Health and Epidemiology

Prof. Stefania Boccia, Prof. Maria Luisa Di Pietro, Prof. Walter Ricciardi, Dr. Stefano Vella, Dr. Jovana Stojanovic

OVERVIEW

Area: Health Sciences

Dates: 10 - 21 June (2 weeks)

Campus: Rome

Course Number: HL/PP300su

Term: Summer 2019

Credits: 6 ECTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

One of the overall goals of the course is introducing the students to the concepts and definitions of global health as well as global health challenges and global health governance. The course will enable students to understand the tools for measuring global health burden and major determinants of disease. Moreover, an overview on ethical issues raised in the field of global health will be provided, covering a wide-range of global bioethics topics and human rights issues. One part of the lessons will be focused on infectious diseases and outbreaks, but will also cover the topics of vaccination policies around the world. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) will be explored, placing particular focus on the global epidemic rise of these conditions and preventive measures. The increase in population movement has substantial public health implications, thus, the course will provide an overview of global migration and international experiences when addressing the health needs of migrants and refugees. Finally, the course will cover one of the major global emergencies related to environmental exposures and their profound impact on the population health.

The course will use an interactive teaching approach, covering lectures, practical exercises, open discussions, and group analyses.

TOPICS

- Globalization and global health
- Ethical challenges in the context of global health
- The global burden of disease and the use of epidemiological indicators
- Vaccination policies



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- Migration and health
- Global environmental health

FACULTY

Faculty	Hours
Prof. Stefania Boccia	10
Prof. Maria Luisa Di Pietro	12
Prof. Walter Ricciardi	3
Dr. Stefano Vella	12
Dr. Jovana Stojanovic	7

TEACHING METHODS

- Lectures, team working and in class discussion, site visits, role playing and case studies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understanding the principles of global health, major challenges and global health governance
- Ability to understand the measurements of global health burden and major determinants of disease
- Understanding global bioethics topics and human rights issues
- Acquisition of an international perspective of vaccination policies around the world
- Understanding global environmental exposures as well as the impact on population health



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EVALUATION

- Assessment of in class participation (30%)
- Group assignments (case studies presentation) (30%)
- Final exam, Individual assignments (multiple choice test) (40%)

READINGS

- Selection from: Charles Guest, Walter Ricciardi, Ichiro Kawachi, and Iain Lang (2013) Oxford Handbook of Public Health (5 ed.), OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
- WHO: World health statistics 2018: monitoring health for the SDGs, sustainable development goals (2018)
- WHO: guidelines on ethical issues in public health surveillance (2017)
- WHO: Global Vaccine Action Plan Report (2017)
- Selection of reading from individual faculty members

RULES OF CONDUCT

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory and no absence/s will be excused. Please consider that Field Trips are considered equal to regular classes and indeed you are expected to attend the visits. Unexcused absences will not be accepted. An excused absence will only be granted if you are seriously ill and can support your claim with a local doctor's certificate dated the day you missed class (therefore you must go to the doctor that same day) that has to be delivered to the Professor or to UCSC International Office. Any other absence will not be excused and will result in not being admitted to the final exam, which corresponds to a 0 (zero) in the final exam.

Exam Date: The exam date cannot be re-scheduled. Should the dates of the final exams be moved for force major reasons, UCSC International Office and the Professor will promptly inform you in class and/or via e-mail on the new date agreed. Unexcused absences to the exams will result in a failing grade in the course.

In cases of unforeseeable circumstances such as illness or injury on the day of the exams, you must submit a medical certificate and communicate your absence to the Professor and UCSC International Office via email prior to the exam. If the student does not justify his/her absence through sufficient documentation and with adequate notice before the final test, you will receive an automatic Failed. Absences for other unforeseeable circumstances will not be accepted and will result in a failing grade.

BIOGRAPHIES

WALTER RICCIARDI:

Walter Ricciardi is Professor of Hygiene and Public Health at UCSC, Rome, Italy. In August 2015 he was appointed the President of the Italian National Institute of Health. He manages several undergraduate



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and postgraduate teaching activities including a Master of Science programme and International Courses in Epidemiology. In the period 2010-2014 he was elected President of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA). He is appointed Member of the Steering Committee of the Center for Global Health Research and Studies of the Medical School and Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Policy, Governance and Leadership at the Institute of Public Health, UCSC, Rome. In 2011 he was appointed Member of the European Advisory Committee on Health Research to the WHO European Regional Director. He has been recently elected as the VP-president of World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA), and will continue his contributions as president from May 2020. Prof. Ricciardi is Editor of the European Journal of Public Health, of the Oxford Handbook of Public Health Practice and Founding Editor of the Italian Journal of Public Health and of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Public Health.

STEFANIA BOCCIA:

Stefania Boccia is a Professor at the Institute of Public Health at UCSC, Rome, Italy. Her main areas of interest are epidemiology and prevention of tumors, epidemiological methodology, health services research, genomics in public health, hospital hygiene, and environmental hygiene. She has published more than 217 scientific papers and 17 books/book chapters. Since 2006, Professor Boccia has been successfully leading around 25 national and international research projects. She is a Scientific Coordinator of the Horizon 2020 project "Personalized Prevention of Chronic Diseases (PRECeDI)". She also has large teaching experience with an average value of 237 teaching hours per year. Prof. Boccia is the Editor in Chief of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Public Health, and Associated Editor of European Journal of Public Health and European Journal of Epidemiology.

MARIA LUISA DI PIETRO:

Maria Luisa Di Pietro is a MD specialized in Endocrinology and Legal Medicine. She is Associate Professor of Legal Medicine at the UCSC, docent at the Catholic University of Avila (Spain), Buenos Aires (Argentina) and Seoul (Korea), University San Toribio de Mongrovejo (Chiclayo-Peru) and Pontifical Institute John Paul II (Rome). She is Director of the Global Health Studies and Research Center, Vice President of the Ethical Committee of the Bambino Gesù Hospital (Rome) and member of the Healthcity Institute. She carries out research on issues related to social inequalities (access to food and health status of Italian children, health of unaccompanied foreign minors, accessibility and quality of health care for undocumented migrants), lifestyles (Project "Youth health" - lifestyles of university students in Italy), problems in the presence of infertility and inherited family cancer. She has published over 400 contributions such as monographs, collective works, articles in Italian and international journals.

STEFANO VELLA:

Stefano Vella, MD achieved specialty degrees in both Infectious Diseases and Internal Medicine. He is currently the Director of the Global Health Center of the National Institute of Health. Up until 2016 he was the Director of the Drug Department of the National Institute of Health. Dr. Vella is the former President of the Italian Drug Agency. His research group works and publishes extensively on various aspects of HIV pathogenesis, treatment and prevention, both in the North and the South of the world. Dr. Vella is currently the coordinator of the - European Commission funded - HIV Clinical Trials Network (NEAT) which includes 16 European countries. Dr Vella, has been invited as speaker in over 100



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International Conferences, is an article reviewer for numerous journals, including Science, Lancet, Journal of Infectious Diseases, AIDS, Journal of AIDS, and has published more than 200 articles in international journals. Since 1996, as Member of the Governing Council of the International AIDS Society [IAS] and subsequently as IAS President (2000-2002), he actively worked towards promoting access to treatment and care in the South of the World and moving the international AIDS conferences in the South of the World.

JOVANA STOJANOVIC:

Jovana Stojanovic, MSc Pharm and MSc, is a PhD candidate in Public Health at the at UCSC, Rome, Italy. Her research activities are mainly focusing on cancer epidemiology, health prevention and promotion, public health genomics and health technology assessment. Over the course of her PhD, she has been applying various research methodologies, implementing epidemiological studies, conducting pooled analyses, systematic reviews and meta-analyses. She has an extensive research track and has been actively presenting her scientific work at international conferences. From 2018, she has been nominated as the technical officer of the interest group on public health outcomes research within international HTAi society.