

## **Global Health Politics**

Course Number: 08-350-M6-3

Tuesdays, 10:15–11:45 h, Online

### **1) Aims**

In most countries of the Global North functioning health systems and access to medicines is taken for granted. But in large parts of the Global South health systems depend on donor funding and access to medicines is still an unsolved problem with grave social consequences. The causes for this problem are manifold and include poverty, limited governance capabilities, lack of infrastructure, and global trade rules that create additional obstacles to the availability of affordable medication. The course has two objectives.

- 1) It will provide a broad perspective on Global Health. It will introduce important institutions, actors and areas of conflict and will look at the structure of health systems in the Global North and the Global South in comparison.
- 2) In the second half of the course students will do independent research on health systems in Africa.

### **2) Course Requirements**

For the **first objective**, students are expected to read the required literature, as it builds the basis for collective (online) discussion in the course.

Every week you will have to complete varying tasks at the e-learning platform StudIP. In particular you will have to post in most of the weeks at least one answer/comment to a question about the required reading and one reply to other students' comments.

#### **Deadlines for comments and replies:**

**Until Friday evenings:** post at least **one comment** to a question about the required reading

**Until Monday mornings:** post at least **one reply** to another student's comment.

Please observe that in some weeks there are also other tasks to be completed!

For the **second objective**, students will each pick one African country and **prepare a country report** on the history and the current state of this country's health system.

### **3) Course Schedule**

#### **1 21.4.20 Introduction**

*Required Reading*

- Haunss, Sebastian (2013): Conflicts in the Knowledge Society. The Contentious Politics of Intellectual Property, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Ch. 5: Access to Medicines.

## 2 28.4.20 Global Health Governance

*Required Reading* • Hein, Wolfgang, and Lars Kohlmorgen (2008): Global Health Governance: Conflicts on Global Social Rights, in: *Global Social Policy* 8(1): 80–108.

- World Health Organization (1978): Declaration of Alma-Ata, International Conference on Primary Health Care, 6-12 September 1978, Alma-Ata, USSR.

*Additional Reading* • Koplan, Jeffrey P. et al. (2009): Towards a common definition of global health, in: *The Lancet* 373(9679): 1993–1995.

- Fried, Linda P. et al. (2010): Global health is public health, in: *The Lancet* 375(9714): 535–537.

- Lee, Kelley (2009): Understandings of Global Health Governance: The Contested Landscape, in: Adrian Kay and Owain David Williams (eds.), *Global health governance: crisis, institutions, and political economy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 27–41.

## 3 5.5.20 Global Health – Issues

*Required Reading* • World Health Reports 2000–2013

*Reading*

## 4 12.5.19 Structures: Health Systems

*Required Reading* • Böhm, Katharina et al. (2013): Five types of OECD healthcare systems: Empirical results of a deductive classification, in: *Health Policy* 113(3): 258–269.

*Additional Reading* • Mills, Anne (2014): Health Care Systems in Low- and Middle-Income Countries, in: *New England Journal of Medicine* 370(6): 552–557.

## 5 19.5.20 Structures: Health Politics in Africa

*Required Reading* • Béland, Daniel, and Valéry Ridde (2016): Ideas and Policy Implementation: Understanding the Resistance against Free Health Care in Africa., in: *Global Health Governance* 10(3): 9–23.

*Additional Reading* • Azevedo, Mario J. (2017): *Historical Perspectives on the State of Health and Health Systems in Africa, Volume II: The Modern Era*, Cham: Springer International, Chapter 2 (p. 1–73).

## 6 26.5.20 Research on Health Systems in Africa

- *Time for independent research*

## 7 2.6.20 Actors: International Organizations

*Required Reading* *WHO:*

*Reading* • Lee, Kelley (2009): The World Health Organization (WHO), London; New York: Routledge, Chapter 2 (pp.25-45).

*World Bank:*

- Harman, Sophie (2009): The World Bank and Health, in: Adrian Kay and Owain David Williams (eds.), *Global health governance: crisis, institutions, and political economy*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 227–244.

Additional *IMF:*

- Reading • Buckley, Ross P., and Jonathan Baker (2009): IMF Policies and Health in Sub-Saharan Africa, in: Adrian Kay and Owain David Williams (eds.), Global health governance: crisis, institutions, and political economy, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 209–226.

## 8 9.6.20 Research on Health Systems in Africa

- *Time for independent research*

## 9 16.6.20 Actors: Charities

- Required Reading • Birn, Anne-Emanuelle (2014): Philanthrocapitalism, past and present: The Rockefeller Foundation, the Gates Foundation, and the setting(s) of the international/global health agenda, in: Hypothesis 12(1).

*Gates Foundation:*

- McCoy, David, and Linsey McGoey (2011): Global Health and the Gates Foundation — In Perspective, in: Simon Rushton and Owain David Williams (eds.), Partnerships and Foundations in Global Health Governance, International Political Economy Series, Palgrave Macmillan UK, pp. 143–163.

Additional *Global Fund:*

- Reading • Hanvoravongchai, Piya, Busaba Warakamin, and Richard Coker (2010): Critical interactions between Global Fund-supported programmes and health systems: a case study in Thailand, in: Health Policy and Planning 25(suppl\_1): i53–i57.
- Rudge, James W. et al. (2010): Critical interactions between Global Fund-supported programmes and health systems: a case study in Papua New Guinea, in: Health Policy and Planning 25(suppl\_1): i48–i52.

## 10 23.6.20 Actors: NGOs and Humanitarian Organizations

- Film: Living in Emergency (2008), Regie: Mark N. Hopkins

**Attention: The film contains graphical scenes of medical emergencies and violence in wars**

- Additional Reading • MSF: Fox, Renée C. (2014): Doctors Without Borders: Humanitarian Quests, Impossible Dreams of Médecins Sans Frontières, Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press.
- HAI: Health Action International (2006): Fast, Furious and Flexible. The story of Health Action International (HAI) 1981–2006 with special focus on Health Action International Asia Pacific (HAIAP), Colombo: Health Action International.

## 11 30.6.20 Research on Health Systems in Africa

- *Time for independent research*

**12 7.7.20 Health Systems in Africa I**

- Presentation of country reports

**13 14.7.20 Health Systems in Africa II**

- Presentation of country reports

*Required Reading* • Jamison, Dean T. et al. (2013): Global health 2035: a world converging within a generation, in: The Lancet 382(9908): 1898–1955.