



Syllabus & General Course Information

ENTOM/ENVIR ST 205 - Our Planet, Our Health Fall 2025

3 Credits

Course Designations and Attributes

LAS, Breadth in Biological Science, Elementary

Course Description

An introduction to the multiple determinants of health, global disease burden and disparities, foundational global health principles, and the overlap between ecosystem stability, planetary boundaries, and human health. Explore the core fundamentals of global health scholarship, including but not limited to infectious disease, sanitation, and mental health, and consider ecological perspectives on these issues through the lens of planetary boundaries. Attention is placed on how human-mediated global change (e.g., climate change, biodiversity loss, land-use patterns, geochemical cycling, and agricultural practice) impacts human health and the ecosystem services we depend on. An overview of pertinent issues in sustainability science and planetary health discourse, including the 'Anthropocene' and resilience to understand and critically assess global trends.

Requisites

None

Meeting Time and Location

The course has both in-person meetings and asynchronous online components. In-person meetings will be on Mondays from 1:20 to 2:10 pm in **Humanities 3650**.

Canvas course URL: <https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/479481>

Instructional Modality

Hybrid

How Credit Hours Are Met by the Course

This class meets during the fall semester and carries the expectation that students will work on course learning activities for at least 127 hours, including in-person meetings, online lectures and videos, readings, studying, discussions, completing portfolio assignments, and quizzes. Accordingly, please take note that we expect that you will spend up to **9-10 hours each week** on this class and budget your time accordingly. The weekly list of topics and this syllabus include more information about expectations for student work.

Regular and Substantive Student-Instructor Interaction

Instructors provide direct instruction through weekly in-person meetings and office hours, weekly curation and creation of online resources, weekly updates about course content, and by facilitating weekly online discussion forums.

Instructors & Teaching Assistants (TAs)

Professors

Professor Susan Paskewitz (Ph.D.), Faculty Director CALS (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences) Global Health Undergraduate Programs, Co-Director CDC (Centers for Disease Control) Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector-borne Disease, Department of Entomology. smpaskew@wisc.edu

Professor Jonathan Patz (Ph.D.), Department of Population Health Sciences, SMPH; Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. patz@wisc.edu

Professor Linda Oforka (Ph.D.), Teaching Faculty, Department of Entomology. oforka@wisc.edu

Teaching Assistants

For students whose last name begins with A-M, your first point of contact for general problems/issues should be Seth Arnold. If your last name begins with N-Z, then contact Nicole Weber.

Seth Arnold (sparnold@wisc.edu)

Nicole Weber (nsweber@wisc.edu)

Instructor and TA Availability

OFFICE HOURS: Office hours are a terrific way to get your questions about the course answered but you can also drop by to discuss current events, non-classroom opportunities, and events on campus, or career tracks. Think of this as a “tea or coffee time” rather than a formal meeting. We recommend requesting an in-person meeting or one-on-one Zoom meeting to discuss concerns or personal issues. Note that you are not required to attend office hours, but we strongly recommend that you do.

Dr. Paskewitz will have drop-in hours every week on **Wednesdays** from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Her office is in room 739 Russell Labs. She is available for Zoom meetings by request.

Dr. Patz’s office hours will be on **Tuesdays** 1:30-2:30 pm every week at 258 Enzyme Institute Building. He is available for Zoom meetings by request.

Dr. Oforka’s office hours will be on **Fridays** from 11 am to 12 pm every week at 246B Russell Labs. She is available for virtual meetings via Zoom or Microsoft Teams by request.

Teaching Assistants (TAs)

Seth Arnold will hold office hours on **Wednesdays** from 10-11 am using Zoom on Canvas or by request. Nicole Weber will hold office hours on **Mondays** from 11 am to 12 pm using Zoom

on Canvas or by request.

Information about specific topics for office hour meetings for the Teaching Assistants or Professors will be found in the Announcements at the Canvas course site.

Instructor and TA Email/Preferred Contact

Your first point of contact for course-related issues is your Teaching Assistant (TA). For students whose last name begins with A-M, your first point of contact for general problems/issues should be Seth Arnold. If your last name begins with N-Z, then contact Nicole Weber.

When emailing **PLEASE include “ENTO 205” in the subject line** so we do not miss seeing your email.

TAs

Seth Arnold (sparnold@wisc.edu)

Nicole Weber (nsweber@wisc.edu)

Instructors

Professor Paskewitz: smpaskew@wisc.edu

Professor Patz: patz@wisc.edu

Professor Oforka: oforka@wisc.edu

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Use a local-to-global perspective to assess the historical, current, and future trends in human health and well-being
2. Describe the use of planetary boundaries to measure Earth system sustainability and the potential impacts of instability in these systems on global health and human well-being
3. Describe current primary global health challenges, their distribution, and prevention strategies
4. Analyze global health disparities through a social justice and human rights lens
5. Analyze ecological perspectives on the connections among human health and well-being, animal health, and ecosystem health
6. Assess and reflect on the successes and failures of global health interventions and become familiar with current events and current literature that describes these efforts
7. Demonstrate a basic understanding of contemporary issues, problems, and controversies in global health through an interdisciplinary perspective that recognizes the complex relationships between social, economic, political, and environmental systems.
8. Reflect on personal goals, objectives, and role as a global citizen and future professional or researcher

Grading

- Grading is on the A-F scale.

- Consistent participation is a critical part of the grading and will be assessed through weekly assignments (e.g. participation in asynchronous discussions)
- Grades will be based on the following:

#	Assessment type	Grade
1	Online Discussions: 12 discussions worth 4 points each (Note: we will drop the lowest two scores, meaning that 10 discussions will contribute to your final grade; $10 \times 4 = 40\%$ of the grade)	40%
2	Online Quizzes: 8 worth 4 points each (Note: we will drop the lowest two scores, meaning that 6 quizzes will contribute to final grade; $6 \times 4 = 24\%$)	24%
3	Attendance checks: 8 worth 1 point each (we will drop the lowest two scores; $6 \times 1 = 6\%$ of grade)	6%
4	Portfolio Assignments: 4 worth 7 points each (28% of grade)	28%
5	Portfolio 2 group progress assignments: 2 worth 1 point each (2% of grade)	2%

- Note: There is no weighting, so each point = 1 percentage point of the total grade. Additional information about these assignments can be found below in this syllabus.

- Final Grades will be assigned as follows:
100-94 = A
93.9-90 = AB
89.9-80 = B
79.9-70 = C
69.9-60.0 = D
Below 60.0 = F
- Final grades are not curved and there is NO extra credit
- There is NO Final Exam
- **Monday in-person** meetings will not be recorded

Course Website, Learning Management System & Digital Instructional Tools

We will use the University's learning management system, [Canvas](#), for course content and other university instructional tools or platforms (e.g., Zoom) for office hours and meetings with

students. It is strongly suggested that students explore and become familiar not only with Canvas' site navigation but with the content and resources available for the course. The link to the Canvas site is: <https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/479481>

In-person meetings

Our class will have a regular in-person meeting on Mondays from 1:20-2:10 in **Humanities 3650**. If you become ill with a respiratory infection during the semester, we strongly recommend you wear a mask during this in-person meeting to protect the safety of others in the room and of those they may contact. **Monday in-person class attendance is strongly encouraged and we will be doing attendance checks for credit at some meetings. These will not be announced in advance.**

We will use Monday meeting times for lectures, to share the work of the discussion groups, review upcoming assignments, and discuss current news events. We will also invite guests to join us for expert presentations. Monday meetings will not be live-streamed or taped to protect student privacy. Topics covered during Monday meetings that are outside of the Canvas module content may still be used as the basis for quiz questions. If you absolutely cannot come to class, you will need to get lecture notes from someone.

Mondays: We may arrange multiple sessions where we host one or more experts who will talk about their work and take your questions. The schedule is in progress so please **do not schedule conflicting events for the Monday 1:20-2:10 time slot.**

Discussion Groups

Staying engaged with coursework, with everything happening in the world, can be challenging. We are going to help you to keep up with the course material and get to know some of the other students in the class using discussion groups. Discussion group activities will count for a significant portion of your grade.

You will be randomly assigned to a small group during the first week of class. Discussions will be online and will be done **asynchronously**, meaning there will be no specific time that you need to be online each week. However, there is a requirement for participation on multiple days every week. More information about your responsibilities for the small discussion groups will be provided below in the "Discussions, quizzes, portfolios, and other major graded work" section and on Canvas.

About Textbooks, Software & Other Course Materials

Campus provides students with [technology guidelines and recommendations](#) for instruction. Students should consult these resources before the start of the semester.

Portfolio 2 will require the ability to create a narrated slide presentation. See the instructions for the Portfolio detailed in the course Canvas for more information.

There is no required textbook.

Homework & Other Assignments

- You are expected to complete all required readings and watch all videos and narrated lectures available on the Canvas site. (Some extra materials will also be provided on Canvas for advanced students and those who are interested. These will clearly be labeled as *Optional* and are not required. However, for students who

have already taken some Global Health coursework, these are important ways to continue to advance your knowledge.)

- Using online learning platforms can be challenging, and students often name procrastination as a particular struggle they want to address. We want to help you keep up and stay on task, so you get the most out of the course. We have firm deadlines for quizzes and assignments. **You are expected to meet these deadlines**, so please note them on your calendar and then submit your work on time. We will not be providing email reminders of deadlines after the first week of class.
- **IMPORTANT: Discussions are due twice a week and Canvas will only note the second due date. DO NOT rely on Canvas to remind you of the Tuesday deadline and don't expect to use this as an excuse for being late. You may also want to set a personal reminder for your Thursday response post because once you complete the Tuesday post, Canvas will take it off your to-do list which could make it easy to forget to post again for the response post. We have created Canvas calendar events to help remind you of the Tuesday primary post deadlines, but we STRONGLY RECOMMEND you set your own personal reminders for both Tuesday and Thursday discussion deadlines as well as all other assignments.**
- **IMPORTANT: Late quizzes and discussion contributions will not be accepted** (these receive a grade of 0) unless you have the permission of your TA or Professor Oforka **in advance of the deadline**. We don't accept "I forgot" or "I didn't notice the deadline" or "I rely on Canvas to tell me when work is due" or "I tried to put it in at 11:59pm but Canvas was closed" as excuses for late work. **Even if you are ill**, you need to send an email to your TA and Dr. Oforka to let them know you will need an extension before the portfolio deadline. For any unexcused late work, you will receive a 0 and will need to use your allowed drops of lowest scores (see above). **For portfolio assignments only, we will allow late submissions up to two days past the due date but apply late penalties. 20% of your grade on the portfolio will be automatically deducted for each day past the due date. See more information about late submission penalties in the next section.**
- In the event of an unforeseen emergency, please reach out as soon as you can to Professor Oforka and your TA.
- McBurney accommodations must be discussed with Professor Oforka during the first two weeks of class. **Note that there are no exams and extra time for quizzes is not provided since quizzes are open for at least 48 hours (about 2 days).** Deadlines will not be automatically extended for regular assignments; please discuss specific assignments with a TA or Professor Oforka in advance of the deadline and as soon as possible in the event of any emergency
- All assignments (portfolios, discussion posts, and quizzes) will be submitted via Canvas.

Discussions, Quizzes, Portfolios & Other Major Graded Work

- There are no EXAMS.
- QUIZZES will be online, open-book, **and cumulative**. You can use your notes and your electronic devices. However, you should not consult with other students as quizzes are examples of your own work. Sharing answers with other students or discussing answers before submitting your quiz is considered cheating (see the section on Academic Integrity below). Quizzes will be open for 60 hours and will be available beginning on Wednesdays at 12 noon and ending on Fridays by 11:59 pm **(except for the week of Thanksgiving and the week when finals start)**. There will be no make-

up quizzes, but **your 2 lowest quiz scores will be dropped automatically**. This will provide some flexibility if you are ill or have other issues that prevent you from completing a quiz on time. Quizzes are scheduled every **other week** beginning with Quiz 1 due **Sept 5**. Other due dates for quizzes are as follows (also listed on the course calendar on Canvas):

Quiz 2-Sept 19

Quiz 3-Oct 3

Quiz 4-Oct 17

Quiz 5-Oct 31

Quiz 6-Nov 14

Quiz 7-Nov 26

Quiz 8-Dec 10

- **DISCUSSION GROUPS** will provide a venue for connecting with others in the class for in-depth conversations about the topics. This part of the class will build your ethical and critical thinking toolkits and provide opportunities for collaboration and leadership. You will be assigned to a Discussion group for the semester by the instructors. We will post guidance about discussion topics each week on Friday.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT for Discussion Groups: You are required to make **two posts** to your discussion group **each week**. By 11:59 pm on Tuesday, each student is expected to post a primary response to the topic we assigned the previous Friday (your Tuesday post is called the “primary response post”). On Thursday (by 11:59 pm), each student is required to have posted at least one response to another group member’s primary post (this is called the “response post”). Your response post can be on either Wednesday or Thursday. Both posts contribute to the weekly discussion grade. Posts must be entered on the right weekdays, or the grade is reduced (you cannot enter both your primary and late response posts on Wednesday or Thursday).

IMPORTANT: Canvas will not allow us to set 2 due dates for the Discussion posts. Therefore, we will manually check whether you posted on Tuesday by the deadline using the time stamp on your post and make note of it.

Discussions are due every week except the week of Nov 24 (Thanksgiving week) and the week of Dec 8 (final week of class). Week 1 is introductions, and these are ungraded. You are welcome and encouraged to post more than one “response post” and to engage in ongoing dialogue with your peers.

We will drop your two lowest discussion grades. **This will allow you some flexibility if you have a personal issue like illness or a technical problem or a particularly busy week.**

- **PORTFOLIO ASSIGNMENTS** will introduce tools for both critical and systems thinking. Additionally, they will emphasize communication skills. These assignments will vary. They will sometimes be associated with the discussion topic the following week, so your individual portfolio work may be shared with your

group. More information about these assignments can be found in Canvas under the assignments tab.

Portfolios are due on the following dates:

- Portfolio 1 September 12
- Portfolio 2 October 10 (Group project)
- Portfolio 3 November 7
- Portfolio 4 December 5

There will also be 2 assignments associated with project management for Portfolio 2. These will be due September 26 and Oct 3.

IMPORTANT: For all Portfolios, **there will be no drops** but to allow for some flexibility while maintaining accountability we will allow late submissions until Sunday after the Friday due date (up to two days after the due date) with penalties. Be aware that **late penalties will apply to late submissions**, that is, any submission from 12:00am Saturday to 11:59pm Sunday after the Friday 11:59pm due date.

LATE PORTFOLIO SUBMISSION PENALTY: For each day after the due date, **20% of your grade will be deducted for late submission**. For example, if you were graded the full 7 points on a portfolio but submitted on Saturday, Canvas will automatically apply the 20% late penalty and deduct 1.4 points (20% of 7) from your grade so your final grade for that portfolio will become 5.6 points (7 - 1.4 points). If you submit on Sunday, canvas will deduct another 20% of your grade. For example, if your grade was meant to be 7 points, your final grade for that portfolio will come down to 4.2 points (7 - 2.8 points). All assignments must be submitted through Canvas. Note that late penalties also apply to the two smaller portfolio assignments associated with Portfolio 2.

- **ATTENDANCE POINTS:** On 8 random Mondays, we will take attendance, and you will earn 1 point for each meeting. More information will be provided about how to take the “attendance quiz” in these classes. **You will be able to drop your 2 lowest attendance scores so this will provide some flexibility in the event you are ill or cannot attend class for other reasons.**

Teaching & Learning Data Transparency Statement

The privacy and security of faculty, staff, and students' personal information is a top priority for UW-Madison. The university carefully evaluates and vets all campus-supported digital tools used to support teaching and learning, to help support success through [learning analytics](#), and to enable proctoring capabilities. View the university's full [teaching and learning data transparency statement](#).

Privacy of Student Records & the Use of Audio Recorded Lectures Statement

See information about the [privacy of student records and the usage of audio-recorded lectures](#).

Lecture materials and recordings for this course are protected intellectual property at UW-Madison. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record our lectures without permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or have lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

How to Succeed in This Course

Success in this course requires that you spend time with the material on multiple days every week. You should read the Module information carefully, do the required readings, and watch all videos and presentations.

We want you to succeed, and we expect that everyone in this course is capable of receiving an A. However, not everyone will. **It is up to you** to keep up with the requirements, to schedule your time in anticipation of potential problems or conflicts, and to communicate with the instructors if you have issues that affect your performance.

Student Well-being Resources

We care about you as a human first and acknowledge that we learn as a whole person. It can be challenging to do your best in class if you have trouble meeting basic life needs, safe shelter, sleep and nutrition. If you have trouble accessing any of these things, we urge you to contact the [Office of Student Assistance and Support](#). Furthermore, please notify your instructors if you are comfortable in doing so, as we are here to help and make sure those needs are met.

Here are some additional links that might be useful for you.

- [University Health Services](#)
- [Undergraduate Academic Advising and Career Services](#)
- [Office of the Registrar](#)
- [Office of Student Financial Aid](#)
- [Dean of Students Office](#)

Digital Course Evaluation (HelioCampus AC)

UW-Madison uses a digital course evaluation survey tool called [HelioCampus AC](#) (formerly AEFIS). For this course, you will receive an official email two weeks before the end of the semester, notifying you that your course evaluation is available. In the email, you will receive a link to log into the course evaluation with your NetID. Evaluations are anonymous. Your participation is an integral component of this course, and your feedback is important to us. We strongly encourage you to participate in the course evaluation.

Students' Rules, Rights & Responsibilities

Students have privacy rights. Students have the right to inspect and review most education records maintained about them by the University of Wisconsin–Madison and, in many cases, decide if a third person can obtain information from them. Students may challenge information in their records that they believe to be inaccurate, misleading, or inappropriate. The procedures and policies regarding grievances and other rights and responsibilities can be found here: <https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#rulesrightsandresponsibilitiestext>

Diversity & Inclusion Statement

[Diversity](#) is a source of strength, creativity, and innovation for UW-Madison. We value the contributions of each person and respect the profound ways their identity, culture, background, experience, status, abilities, and opinion enrich the university community. We commit ourselves to the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, outreach, and diversity as inextricably linked goals. The University of Wisconsin-Madison fulfills its public mission by creating a welcoming and inclusive community for people from every background – people who as students, faculty, and staff serve Wisconsin and the world.

Academic Integrity Statement

By virtue of enrollment, each student agrees to uphold the high academic standards of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Academic misconduct is behavior that negatively impacts the integrity of the institution. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, or helping others commit these acts are types of academic misconduct that may result in disciplinary action. Examples of disciplinary action include but are not limited to, failure on the assignment or the course, written reprimand, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion.

Turnitin

Writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via Canvas Assignments either directly by you, or by your instructor on your behalf. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of your writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This report can help you discern when you are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively—skills essential to all academic work. We recommend that you submit your paper early enough to review your Turnitin report before the final due date. Then, if necessary, you will have time to ask for help from your instructors, from your TA, or from someone at the Writing Center.

Policy on Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology

We understand that generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, such as Microsoft CoPilot and Google Gemini, offer exciting possibilities when used thoughtfully in learning. In fact, UW-Madison provides [access to some AI technologies](#) to support teaching and learning in the campus community. On the other hand, research indicates that the use of AI can limit students' creativity and negatively impact learning. According to [an interesting opinion piece in the New York Times](#), AI "...also offers a malevolent seduction: excellence without effort. It gives people the illusion that they can be good at thinking without hard work, ... , but that's not possible." Thus, we will permit (but not require or encourage) only a minimal use of the AI tools approved by the university ([Microsoft CoPilot and Google Gemini](#)) in some circumstances and where necessary to support the course learning objectives. While we cannot cover all possible ways to responsibly use AI or not to use it in this policy, we have provided a few examples of allowable and non-allowable uses of AI in the course.

Examples of Allowable Use:

- Prompting AI to help hone an idea you have for a class assignment: AI may be useful in helping add nuance to your original idea, or to generate additional ideas for consideration. However, it is vital to start brainstorming on your own first, rather than letting AI do the initial work for you.
- Using AI for writing assistance: AI can be used to develop an outline based on your ideas from which you can build your writing. Be mindful when submitting prompts to AI tools so as to protect your intellectual ideas and privacy. In addition, be aware that assignment prompts and other instructor-created materials are protected intellectual property, **so do not submit these** to an AI tool.
- Prompting AI to summarize parts of written material to make it easier to understand: For example, AI can be used to generate note cards containing brief summaries of a lengthy reading. If you use AI this way, be sure to still read/review the full article or material after getting a summary overview from AI, so that you do not miss out on the opportunity to fully engage with the material and critically examine it yourself. Again, be mindful of the intellectual property of authors of written material (including those of instructors) if using AI.

Examples of Non-allowable Use:

- Prompting AI to write your assignments for you: The assignments in this course are intended to showcase your thinking and originality, and help you build skills. Using AI to write your discussion posts or other assignments impedes the learning goals of these assignments; therefore, it is not permitted.
- Modifying AI-produced text to make it appear as if you wrote it: This amounts to plagiarism and constitutes [academic misconduct](#).
- Copying AI-generated text (or relying heavily on AI text) and citing it as written by AI: Given that AI software was trained on copyrighted text and media scraped from the Internet without permission from the authors and artists, it will be unethical to cite AI as a source if used this way.

Our goal with this policy is to provide guidance in the best way to support your learning while avoiding negative consequences of AI use. It is therefore important that you are transparent and ethical if you use AI in any part of the assignments in this course.

If you choose to use any of the AI tools vetted by UW-Madison ([Microsoft CoPilot or Google Gemini](#)), you will need to provide a brief statement (in the form of a submission comment or at the end of your assignment as part of the references) describing when and how you have done so. You will need to specify the particular tool you used and the prompts you entered. If possible, save the responses generated in case requested by your instructors. See UW guidelines for citing generative AI [here](#). **Note:** We do not permit the use of AI tools not approved by the university, such as ChatGPT, because these are not secure in protecting data.

In addition, please be aware that you as a student are solely responsible for the quality and accuracy of all writing you submit, regardless of how it is produced. AI tools are notorious for producing misinformation and fabricated information, so it is your responsibility to verify the credibility, accuracy, and trustworthiness of any information you use from these tools. Any use of these tools other than where allowed with appropriate citation is a violation of this course's expectations and constitutes academic misconduct.

We are happy to talk further with you individually if you have any concerns or questions about using AI in this course that this policy does not address. Do not hesitate to reach out to your instructors! You can also review the University's policy on AI use [here](#).

Penalties for Academic Misconduct

Letter grade deductions and other penalties will work as follows:

First misconduct: all points lost for the assignment. Final letter grade drops an entire grade (A to B, B to C, C to D, D to F). This means that if your final point tally would have resulted in a B, you will receive a C because of the misconduct. No intermediate steps (no AB, BC).

Second misconduct: misconduct is reported to campus and disciplinary probation is recommended.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Statement

The University of Wisconsin-Madison supports the right of all enrolled students to a full and equal educational opportunity. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Wisconsin State Statute (36.12), and UW-Madison policy ([UW-855](#)) require the university to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities to access and participate in its academic programs and educational services. Faculty and students share responsibility in the accommodation process. Students are expected to inform faculty [Professor Oforka] of their need for instructional accommodations during the beginning of the semester, or as soon as possible after being approved for accommodations. Faculty [Prof Oforka] will work either directly with the student [you] or in coordination with the McBurney Center to provide reasonable instructional and course-related accommodations. Disability information, including instructional accommodations as part of a student's educational record, is confidential and protected under FERPA. (See: [McBurney Disability Resource Center](#))

Calendar of topics

Part I: Planetary Health and Global Citizenship

Week 1: Sept 3-5 (Complete Modules 0 and 1)

Module 0: Welcome and Introduction to the Class

(Online)

Topics:

Meet your instructors
Canvas navigation and key elements for this course
Course flow and assignments

Module 1: Developing a Global Perspective (Online)

Topics:

Getting Started
What is Health?
Global Citizenship

Graded Assignments for Module 0/1:

Quiz 1 due Sep 5

Also note these assignments:

UNGRADED: Discussion 1 (Introduce yourself to your group)
Coming up: Portfolio 1 - due next week

Part II: Planetary Health and Global Perspectives

Week 2: Sept 5-12

Module 2: Perspectives in Global Health

Topics:

The Anthropocene and Introduction to Planetary Health
From Health in All Policies to Environment in all Policies
The Sustainable Development Goals

First in-person meeting in Humanities 3650 on Monday Sept 8.

Graded Assignments for Module 2:

Weekly discussion posts due Tuesday and Thursday
Portfolio assignment 1 due Friday,
Sept 12

Week 3: Sept 12-19

Module 3: Case Studies in Global Change and Human Health

Topics:

Land-use Change and Emerging Infectious Disease
Climate Change and Human Health

Graded Assignments for Module 3:

Tues/Thurs discussion posts
Quiz 2 due Friday Sept 19

Part III: Determinants of Health

Week 4: Sept 19-26

Module 4: Making Connections. Agriculture, Nutrition and Health

Topics:

Connecting Agriculture, Nutrition and Health
Health equity, environment, and development.

Possible Guest Speaker on Monday

Graded Assignments for Module 4:

Tues/Thurs discussion posts
Portfolio 2 Project Management Form (Due by Sep 26)

Week 5: Sept 26-Oct 3

Module 5: Epidemiology and Determinants of Health

Topics:

Key concepts in epidemiology
Estimating the burden of disease
The social-ecological model: social determinants of health

Graded Assignments for Module 5:

Tues/Thurs discussion posts
Quiz 3 (due by Oct 3)
Portfolio 2: Module Template Form (Due by Oct 3)
Coming up: Group Portfolio 2 due next week

Part IV: Communicable Diseases

Week 6 and 7: Oct 3-10 and Oct 10-17

Modules 6 & 7: The global burden of communicable disease

Topics:

The burden of communicable disease
Case studies of communicable diseases

Graded Assignments for Modules 6 & 7:

Weekly discussion posts (*both weeks*)
GROUP Portfolio Assignment 2 (by Oct 10)
Quiz 4 (by Oct 17)

Part V: Noncommunicable diseases and mental health

Week 8: Oct 17-Oct 24

Module 8: Noncommunicable

disease Topics:

Cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and injury

Connecting noncommunicable disease and resource consumption

Graded Assignments for Module 8:

Weekly discussion posts

Week 9: Oct 24-Oct 31

Module 9: Global mental health

Topics:

The burden of mental health conditions

Deaths of Despair: alcohol, drugs, suicide

Guest speaker: nisch neupane (Outreach program manager, Loka Initiative)

Graded Assignments for Module 9:

Weekly discussion posts

Quiz 5 (by Oct 31)

Coming up: Portfolio 3 due next week

Part VI: Urban, Rural, and Environmental Health

Week 10: Oct 31- Nov 7

Module 10: Case studies in urban and rural health

Topics:

The geography of health

Case Study: Urban design and chronic disease

Health in rural communities

Medicine on Main Street. Health disparities affect millions in rural U.S. communities.

Possible Guest Speaker on Monday

Graded Assignments for Module 10:

Weekly discussion posts

Portfolio 3 (by Nov 7)

Week 11: Nov 7-14

Module 11: Connections: water and human wellbeing

Topics:

Water for life

Oceans and human well-being
Threats to freshwater sources

Graded Assignments for Module

11: Weekly discussion posts
Quiz 6 (by Nov 14)

Part VI continued: Environmental Health

Week 12: Nov 14-21

Module 12: Air quality and environmental toxins

Topics:

How experts assess risks
The air we breathe: air quality, ozone, and pollution
Environmental toxins: pesticides and human and animal health

Graded Assignments for Module 12:

Weekly discussion posts

Week 13: Nov 21-26 (short week; Thanksgiving holiday Nov 27-28)

Module 13: Health systems

Topics:

Defining Health Systems, frameworks and Universal Health Coverage
Health Systems in High-income vs Low-income countries
Thinking about health systems and planetary health

Possible Guest speaker

Graded Assignments for Module 13:

Holiday & short week: No discussion due
Quiz 7: Opens Fri 11/21 to Wed 11/26
Coming up: Portfolio 4 due next week

Part VII: A Vision for the Future

Week 14: Nov 28-Dec 5

Module 14: Visions for the Future

Topics:

Perspectives and innovative ideas

Graded Assignments for Module 14:

Weekly discussion posts
Portfolio 4 (due Dec 5)

Week 15: Dec 5-Dec 10 (short week)

Module 15: What can you do

Topics:

Taking action

Graded Assignments for Module 15:

Quiz 8 (Opens Mon 12/8 to Wed 12/10)

Please complete the Course Evaluation survey

NO FINAL EXAM