

**American Medical Student Association  
AMSA Academy**

**Partnering with New York Medical College**

**Global Health Scholars Program**

**2017-2018**

**Tuesdays 8PM EDT/EST**

**Professor:**

Ira Bedzow, Director of the Biomedical Ethics and Humanities Program, NYMC

**Course Directors:**

Alex Coward, MPH, MBBS Candidate '18, St. George's University of London Medical Programme

Callie Horn, MD Candidate '19, New York Medical College

**Course Email:** [ghsp@amsa.org](mailto:ghsp@amsa.org)

## **I. Course Description**

Global health addresses the key tenets of health care on a global scale. Complex interdependent relationships of health systems that transcend national boundaries are of special interest in sustaining global health initiatives within and between countries. The current definition proposed by Koplan et al. defines global health as “an area for study, research, and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving equity in health for all people worldwide. Global health emphasizes transnational health issues, determinants, and solutions; involves many disciplines within and beyond the health sciences and promotes interdisciplinary collaboration; and is a synthesis of population-based prevention with individual-level clinical care.” Continuous shifts in the global economy and population dynamics have dramatically increased the demand for healthcare professionals with global health expertise. By delivering lectures from top leaders in the field, the Global Health Scholars Program (GHSP) will encourage scholars to drive change and make positive impacts in underserved communities worldwide.

## **II. Course Objectives**

By the end of this Scholars Program, scholars will be able to:

- Identify key concepts and methods used to analyze global health issues.
- Discuss and examine different approaches to health policy and advocacy.
- Analyze epidemiological factors related to specific diseases and potential means for prevention.
- Practice interpersonal communication and demonstrate respect for cross-cultural perspectives in the healthcare field.

- Describe the framework and structure of healthcare systems.
- Engage and critique global health topics with fellow scholars and speakers.
- Research and reflect upon current literature addressing global health epidemics and write a literature review on topic of choice.

### **III. Format and Procedures**

#### ***Course Schedule***

- The course will run from October 2017 to March 2018.
- Webinars will be held on Tuesdays at 8PM EDT/EST.
- Exact dates and topics are listed in the calendar below.

#### ***Course Website***

- The course will be administered through an online platform.
- The course will largely be conducted via webinar using an online-based web conference platform. You will need access to either a phone or a computer equipped with audio.
- The web platform will serve as the main platform for all assignments, discussions, resources, and progress tracking.

#### ***Attendance and Participation***

- Attendance is mandatory for all webinars (see exceptions below).
- Attending AMSA's National Convention in March 2018 will be highly encouraged and allow scholars the opportunity to showcase the work they have conducted throughout the Scholars Program.

#### ***Grading and Course Credit***

- The course is offered to audit through AMSA's Scholars Program or for graduate credit through New York Medical College.
- Those choosing to audit the course will not be required to complete the final project, however, attendance and participation are required for the AMSA Scholars Program Certification of Completion.
- A separate grading scale is applicable to those participants taking this course for graduate credit provided through New York Medical College.
  - The grading for the graduate credit will be Pass/Fail. However, to successfully complete the class for graduate credit, the following proportions would apply for grading:
    - Class Attendance - 30%
    - Participation - 30%
    - Final Paper - 40%

### **IV. Expectations of Scholars**

Scholars are expected to:

- Complete assigned readings prior to live discussion webinar.
- Depending on the speaker, either watch the 30-minute pre-recorded webinar prior to live discussion webinar or be present for the 1-1.5 hour live lecture and actively participate in the discussion forum.

- Reflect and respond to discussion questions posed by speakers in an open discussion with fellow scholars for each webinar.
- Notify the course directors in advance if they are unable to complete the activities associated with each webinar or are unable to attend a webinar.
- Evaluate course curriculum and expectations in surveys provided by course directors.
- Those taking the course for graduate level credit must complete a final literary review addressing a specific global health topic of choice.
- Actively participate in all course discussions with respect and consideration for their fellow scholars and speakers.

## V. Completion Requirements for Certification

Class Attendance:

- *Domestic Students and International Students in the Caribbean and the Americas:*
  - Must attend 80% of webinars
  - Can watch **up to two** recorded webinars and complete a reflection of the webinar to obtain make-up credit for attendance
- *International Students in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia*
  - Must watch 80% of recorded webinars within 48 hours of the original session
  - Submit a short reflection of the webinar to the co-Course Directors within 72 hours of the original session

Participation Policy:

- Scholars are expected to do the readings and post in the discussion forum **BEFORE** the start of the Tuesday night webinar.
- Scholars are expected to complete the post-session assignment before the next scheduled seminar.
- Active participation in seminars will be monitored by directors and scholars may be called on to comment or share their personal experiences during discussion forums or live lectures. (A working microphone for each discussion forum is required)

Final Project (for those who are taking the course for graduate level credit/optional for all other students):

- Scholars will write a 5-page literature review on a specific topic in global health.
- Timeline: All deadlines are listed below in the Course Calendar and will be posted on the course website.

### Guidelines for writing a literature review:

A literature review consists of a critical analysis of the different approaches that scholars took in examining a particular question. It is not a summary of articles that you read or a bibliography of what other people wrote. It can be either a stand-alone paper or to a theoretical framework and rationale for a research study.

To write a literature review, you should do the following:

1. Pick a topic that is relevant to global health. This topic should be specific enough of a question that people have tried to answer but not too specific that no one has engaged in it.
2. Identify the types of responses that the question demands. These can be different theories or schools of thought (sociology, anthropology, etc.) that looks at the topic.

3. Analyze the types of responses and organize them by theory or school of thought.
4. Evaluate which theory or school of thought is most productive to answer the question or how the different responses might complement each other for a holistic answer.

**For more information on literature reviews see the following:**

1. <http://www.duluth.umn.edu/~hrallis/guides/researching/litreview.html>
2. <http://guides.library.ucsc.edu/write-a-literature-review>
3. <http://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/literature-reviews/>

## VI. Inclusivity Statement

We understand that our members represent a rich variety of backgrounds and perspectives. The American Medical Student Association (AMSA) Academy is committed to providing an atmosphere for learning that respects diversity. While working together to build this community we ask all members to:

- Share their unique experiences, values and beliefs.
- Be open to the views of others.
- Honor the uniqueness of their colleagues.
- Appreciate the opportunity that we have to learn from each other in this community.
- Value each other's opinions and communicate in a respectful manner.
- Keep confidential discussions that the community has of a personal (or professional) nature.
- Use this opportunity together to discuss ways in which we can create an inclusive environment in this course and within the AMSA community.

## VII. Course Calendar (subject to change)

Date	Topic	Speaker	Literature Review Dates
October 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Introduction to Global Health & Cultural Competency	<b>Dr. Jessica Evert</b> Executive Director Child Family Health International	
October 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Health & Human Rights	<b>Dr. Padmini Murthy</b> MPH, FRSPH ,FAMWA, Professor & Global Health Director NYMC	Pick a topic
November 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	WASH	<b>Robyn Fischer</b> Senior Policy & Advocacy Officer WaterAid	

November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Maternal & Child Health	<b>Dr. Howard Herrell</b> Johnson City Medical Center Woman's Center of Greenville	
December 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Global Nutrition	<b>Dr. Dori Steinberg</b> Research Scholar and Faculty, Duke Global Health Institute	Submit a bibliography/works cited of 8-10 academic sources
January 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	HIV	<b>Dr. MarkAlain Dery</b> Medical Director, Tulane HIV Clinic	
January 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2018	Health Economics	<b>Dr. Kenneth. Knapp</b> Asst. Professor, Health Policy & Management NYMC	
February 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Global Surgery	<b>Dr. Steve Sparks</b> UC San Diego	
February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Sex Trafficking	<b>Gabrielle Thompson</b> Executive Director/CEO Free for Life International	
March 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Disease Outbreak & Response	<b>Dr. Susan McLellan</b> Tulane School of Tropical Medicine and Public Health	Submit Literature Review
March 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Military Medicine	<b>Dr. James Feeney</b>	Final feedback on literature review and resubmission if necessary.