

POL 585 – Fall, 2009
Global Policy and Administration of Infectious Diseases
Internet Course

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The instructor reserves the right to amend the syllabus at any time.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the course is to examine public policy development using recent health threats as case studies of threats to public safety. First we will examine the broader techniques of policy development. Second, we will apply the techniques to the specific policy field of public safety, by examining emerging diseases. The A-H1N1 influenza virus has shown the world how difficult it is to contain a disease. Last, we will touch on bioterrorism.

There are assignments each week from the textbooks and several DVD's that need to be viewed. Because you miss some activities by taking an on-line class, I have added two to help you with the course. First, I will post a module on BlackBoard each week that add material that is not in the textbooks. You can consider the module material as part of the lecture material that you are missing by taking an on-line class. Second, I am requiring you will post PowerPoint presentations of your research so you can share that material with your classmates. If you were in a class you would make the presentation in person. I hope these PowerPoints will help you develop a deep respect for the diseases and the men and women that tirelessly have worked to combat them.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Regular Textbooks:

Brower, Jennifer and Peter Chalk. 2003. *The global threat of New and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases*. RAND. ISBN: 0833032933 or you can download it and print it from <http://rand.org/publications/MR/MR1602/index.html>

Cecchine, Gary and Melinda Moore. 2006 *Infectious Disease and National Security: Strategic Information Needs*. RAND. ISBN: 9780833039897 or you can download and print it from http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR405/

Kingdon, John W. 2003. *Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies*, 2nd edition. New York: Longman. ISBN: 0-321-12185-6

Qyah, Stella R. (ed.) 2007. *Crisis Preparedness: Asia and the Global Governance of Epidemics*. Brookings Institution. ISBN: 978-1-931368-09-4.

United Nations. UNICEF: n.d. *Africa's Orphaned and Vulnerable Generations: Children Affected by AIDS*. You can print this by downloading from http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_36587.html

REQUIRED DVDs

These are available through Amazon.com and they will also be on reserve at the Newton Gresham Library after my on campus class views them.

20th Century with Mike Wallace: Outbreak! The New Plagues. The History Channel

Influenza, PBS

Malaria: Fever Wars, PBS

The Next Plague: Avian Flu. The History Channel

COURSE DESCRIPTION: **POL 585 Public Policy.** This course involves the consideration of the process of public policy formulation, governmental planning, and administrative decision-making. Attention is given to the public administrator as a policy-maker and as one responsible for policy implementation. The course covers the relevant literature and engages students in appropriate research. Credit 3..

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The main objectives of the course will be

- **gaining factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends) through**
 - understanding the policy process through *Agendas, Alternatives and Public Policies* by John Kingdon

- **learning to *apply* course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)**
 - by applying Kingdon's model to a specific policy in your research paper.
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- **Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals In the field most closely related to this course**
 - by understanding that *timing* (as explained by Kingdon) is of prime importance to government officials.

- **Developing a skill in expressing yourself in writing**
 - by writing your own research report.

- **Acquiring an interest in learning more by asking your own questions and seeking answers.**
 - by researching what is *known* and *unknown about* a specific zoonose or pathogen (disease).

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

You are free to discuss the readings among yourselves. The papers, however, are not group projects. Please develop any written assignment or paper by yourself. The following is the university's definition of academic dishonesty.

This instructor takes academic dishonesty very seriously and will penalize students who engage in it. SHSU defines "cheating" as

“1) copying from another student’s test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs.

2) Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.

3) collaborating, without authorization, with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work.

4) knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test....

7) Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one’s own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm.

5.312 ”Plagiarism” means the appropriation of another’s work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one’s own work offered for credit.”

([Http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty](http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty))

Students engaged in any of the above will receive a grade of 0 on the examination or paper in question and be sent to the Dean of Students. Other academic sanctions including expulsion from the university are possible.

Religious Holidays:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious hold day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

“Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religious whose place of worship are exempt from property taxation under section 11.20, Tax Code.

Americans with Disabilities:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

Requests for disability accommodations must be initiated by the student. A student seeking accommodations should go to the Counseling Center and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in a timely manner. This instructor requires documentation from the Counseling Center in order to provide accommodations. Once documented, discuss with the instructor the best ways that she can accommodate your needs.

OVERVIEW:

Public policy, by itself, is a huge field and is, by definition, complex and convoluted.. This course is structured so you will have a background in how policy develops, primarily by reading the Kingdon book. We will move on to review public safety issues including emerging diseases, existing diseases, and bioterrorism, each of which is capable of becoming a pandemic. Last, you will transpose your understanding to a zoonose or pathogen (disease) by covering a disease that we will not cover in depth. I have included some web sites to get you started.

Course format:

I am handing this course as if it meets each Monday. Each Monday you will begin by reading a Module that I will post on BlackBoard. These modules will have your assignment for the week and some material that I have prepared for you to read. There will be four writing assignments, one PowerPoint assignment, and one evaluation. There will be one major research paper on a disease of your choice, chosen from the list presented below, a short paper on Swine flu, one book review from a list of books that I will post on BlackBoard, one PowerPoint presentation that you will post of BlackBoard for the other students to evaluate. Your PowerPoint will be a synopsis of your paper made as if you were making a presentation to the class. Finally, each student will evaluate the PowerPoint presentations of all other students. **Your research paper and book review must be turned in through BlackBoard Turnitin's assignment page. FYI – Turnitin examines papers for evidence of plagiarism. You can e-mal me your student evaluations of the PowerPoint presentations.**

Background:

I have become increasingly interested in the importance of disease in today's policy arena and have conducted research in Africa regarding HIV/AIDS. There are several items that come to mind that affect all levels of government, changes in antibiotics, emerging diseases, and bioterrorism. First, Brower and Chalk (2003) discuss some of these issues. Currently, medical science has "maxed" out the use of antibiotics. Many diseases that we once considered manageable have mutated to become resistant to the current range of antibiotics. Some of these diseases, like tuberculosis (TB), are making a nasty comeback among some immigrant and prison populations. The medical profession has not kept up with these mutations. Medical science has not produced a new antibiotic in 15 years. Thus, humankind is at risk of succumbing to mutated diseases.

Second, and more important, the "newer" epidemics, or emerging diseases, have demonstrated the interdependence of people and animals. We saw this earlier in the year when the A-H1N1 influenza virus, also known as swine flu, moved from swine to humans. I promises to become more problematic in 2010. All of the diseases listed below, except polio, are transferred from

animals to man, hence the term “zoonoses.” As the human population expands and encroaches upon wildlife habitats, more diseases are certainly likely to transfer to humans. Because these pathogens continuously mutate and adapt to their environment, there is an increased likelihood that they will survive and infect populations of animals and people. Thus, there is a need for public officials, public health officials, and politicians to be cognizant of health threats to their populations.

Third, the threat of bioterrorism demonstrates man’s inhumanity to his fellow man. These authors show the development of state sponsored bioterrorism. We assume that terrorists have now picked up the baton; however, the use of disease as a weapon is not an easy or sure achievement. The only disease on the research paper list that currently fits the terrorism model is Anthrax. Other diseases, like Smallpox, are considered potential terrorist weapons.

COURSE GRADING:

The course grades will consist of written assignments. The papers are due **ON TIME**, or the grade will be decreased one letter grade for each day late.

Grading is based on the following

Research paper	400 points
PowerPoint	100 points
Book Review	300 points
Student Evaluations of PowerPoints	100 points
<u>A-H1N1 Short Internet paper</u>	<u>100 points</u>
Total	1000 points

A= 900-1000, B=800-899; C=700-799, F=699 and below

Late papers will be penalized according to the following rubric

- Up to 24 hours late – 10%
- From 24-48 hours late – 20%
- From 48-72 hours late – 30%

Papers later than 72 hours will not be accepted unless the student has written permission from the professor. Special circumstances may require a late paper such as an SHSU sponsored activity or family or health emergencies. Students with such problems should contact the professor for an extension of the deadline. Proof of SHSU activities or emergencies must be submitted within 2 weeks of a student resuming class.

Research Paper:

You will write a research paper for this class on **one** of the following diseases, anthrax, avian (bird) flu, malaria, polio, SARS, smallpox, TB, and West Nile Virus. Each of these diseases has the potential for becoming a *pandemic*, so they are of great consequence to government. Most would agree that HIV/AIDS is already a pandemic in Africa. Polio and TB are the only diseases on this list that have not jumped from animals to man. However, I am including them because they are reemerging and have the potential to become a real health threat once again. **If your paper and topic seem appropriate, I will recommend that you submit a proposal to a**

conference. The Vice President of Graduate Studies has set aside money for conference participation for students.

The diseases fit into two categories—either they can be used by terrorists or not. Only anthrax and smallpox have terrorist potential. One of the major roles of government is to protect the health and safety of its citizens; thus, public health policy is of major importance regardless of whether the issue is containment of a major outbreak or bioterrorism. **Your job is to track the disease by giving a history of it and major outbreaks, and track government’s response to contain the outbreaks or prevent terrorist attacks.** There is a wealth of information on these diseases but I have listed you some web sites below to get your started.

In the cases of emerging diseases, there won’t be much published about the diseases in books but quite a bit on-line. Even for older diseases, like Polio, you will have to rely on the internet for material on recent outbreaks. The paper is due October 26, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. and should be submitted through BlackBoard assignments.

The research papers will be graded thus:

Identification of the problem	10%
Body of the paper	50%
Use of appropriate works (citations)	10%
Use of style (including headings and citations)	<u>20%</u>
TOTAL	100%

You should use at least 15 different sources. At least 10 of the sources should be from professional sources. Professional sources are government publications and professional journals. Examples would include an article available on-line from the CDC or an article from *Public Administration Review* (PAR). In some cases with more modern diseases, like SARS, you will have to rely heavily on on-line sources. Be sure you learn how to write those citations for the works cited pages. An example is shown below:

U.S. Department of Education. 2005. “Fact Sheet: NCLB Provisions Ensure Flexibility and Accountability for Limited English Proficient Students.” Available <http://www.ed.gov/print/nclb/accountability/schools/factsheet-english.html>. Accessed 26 January 2005.

Research Paper parameters:

The body of your research paper should be 20-25 pages. Please double space, use 12 point font, and Times New Roman font so I can easily read them. Your paper should include multiple **headings** to organize it and numerous parenthetical **citations**. You should not use footnotes or endnotes for citations. Usually there should be one citation for each paragraph. If using quotations, a page number is required in the citation. Use the **Chicago Style**, which is the style adopted by the Political Science Department. The Turabian text is your Bible for style. Be sure to consult it often.

BOOK REVIEW:

You will write a 6-8 page book review of a book from the book list that I will post on BlackBoard. Most of the books are about the history of developing treatments for diseases. Undergrad students who have reviewed these books for a different class liked them and found them interesting. Parameters for the book review will be posted on BlackBoard. **The book review will serve as your final examination.**

SHORT PAPER, A-H1N1 (Swine Flu) Using Internet Sources

This assignment will be a short paper which matches the effort to combat A-H1N1 Influenza (Swine Flu) using Kingdon's model for policy making and Quay's discussion on globalization (chs 1-2, and 6). You need to assess how well policy development for Swine Flu followed Kingdon's model. How did it become global (refer to Quay). Because of the newness of the topic you will have to rely on internet sources for this paper. Use 6-7 sources from the CDC, WHO, or serious press, i.e. New York Times, to fill you in on the timeline and actions taken to combat a world-wide pandemic. You should cite your sources. The paper should be about 5 pages of text, double spaced. It should also have a coversheet and reference section. **It is due September 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. You should send it through the assignment page of BlackBoard.**

POWERPOINT:

You will prepare a PowerPoint presentation as if you were making a class presentation on your research paper. These presentations should be done with at least a 24 point font and include graphics available on the internet. Try not to put too much information on one slide. Use two for a topic if you need to. The presentation should be done in a professional manor so no clip art is allowed. You should have 10-20 slides. I will give you a grade for the PowerPoint, and the other students will also do so; hence, the assignment is worth a total of 200 points. I will forward the students evaluations to the presenter.

PowerPoint presentations are due on BlackBoard November 9, 2009, by 6:00 p.m.

Student evaluations of the PowerPoints are due by November 16, 2009. You can e-mail them to me.

IMPORTANT WEB SITES TO GET YOU STARTED:**A-H1N1 Influenza**

US Center for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avian>

World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/crs/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

Anthrax

National Institute of Health: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/anthrax.html>

US Center for Disease Control: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/anthrax/>

Avian (Bird) Flu

US Center for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avian>

US Center for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/outbreaks/asia.htm>

World Organization for Animal Health: http://www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm

Polio

<http://www.polioeradication.org>

SARS

US Center for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/nicidor/sars/>

World Health Organization: <http://www.who.int/csr/sars/en/>

Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention:

<http://www.china.org.cn/english/features/SARS/60970.htm>

Smallpox

US Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.hhs.gov/smallpox>

CDC: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox/index.asp>

TB

WHO: <http://www.who.int/tb/en>

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/>

West Nile Virus

US Geological Survey: <http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/>

These maps are very cool! Check them out!

COURSE CALENDAR:

** some dates are in bold to show when assignments are due.

WEEK	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS
Aug. 24	1. Review of Syllabus Who are the important actors in Setting the agenda for international health policy?	Kingdon, chs. 1-5 Module 1
Aug. 31	2. Timing is Everything Why is timing important in policy development?	Kingdon, ch. 6-10 Module 2 Quay, ch. 6
Sept. 7	3. Introduction to Infections Diseases	Brower & Chalk, summary summary module 3 DVD: 20 th Century Outbreak!

Look at Top 10 causes of death, worldwide at
http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs310_2008.pdf

Sept. 14	4. The Effects of Globalization	Brower & Chalk, chs. 1-2 Quay, preface, chs. 1-2 Module 4
Sept. 21	5. Malaria Swine Flu paper due	DVD: Malaria: Fever Wars Module 5
Sept. 28	6. HIV/AIDS	Brower & Chalk, chs. 3-4 Module 6
Oct. 5	7. HIV/AIDS	Children Affected by AIDS Module 7
Oct. 12	8 HIV/AIDS	Quay, chs. 4 & 5 Module 8
Oct. 19	9. Avian Flu	DVD: The Next Plague: Avian Flu Module 8
Oct. 26	10 Malaria Research Paper Due by 6 p.m.	DVD: Malaria: Fever Wars Module 8
Nov. 2	11. Challenges of Infectious diseases	Cecchine & Moore, chs. 1-3
Nov. 9	12 U.S. Security and the Risk of Infections PowerPoints Due on BlackBoard	Brower & Chalk, chs. 5-6
Nov. 16	13. Assessing information PowerPoint Evaluations due by 6 p.m.	Cecchine & Moore, chs. 4-6
Nov. 23	14 International policy for disease control	Quay, ch. 7
Nov. 30.	15 Why things don't always work out	Quay, ch. 3
Dec. 7	16 Why should government protect us From disease?	
Dec. 14	17 Book Review (final exam) due	By 6 p.m.