The University of Texas at El Paso
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

Global Health, CEL**
ANTH 4346, CRN: 12614| SOCI 4346, CRN: 12617
TERM: Fall 2025, 8WB
Duration: August 25 – October 13, 2025
Delivery Method: Online (100% asynchronous)

Instructor: Dr. Silvia Torezani*
*Please use Blackboard Messages for course-related communication. Check for the link inside the course shell.
UTEP Email: satorezani@utep.edu
Ph: (915) 747-6829

Office Hours: email me via blackboard to make an appointment. When required, I can organize a Zoom meeting. Please email to organize a mutually convenient time and day.

T.A.: Vanessa Almada*
Email via Blackboard Messages

*The course preferred means of communication is Blackboard Messages.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Global processes —such as migration, urbanization, economic interdependence, communication, and environmental change— create the conditions for the rapid spread and increasing impact of many diseases, old and new. To deal with the complicated challenges this raises, new ways of thinking about health are demanded. Ways of thinking that incorporate all people across space and time. The course explores health and disease in global terms. It considers the many overlapping issues associated with variations in the health and disease of individuals and communities, ranging from poverty in the developing world to the most affluent areas of the industrialized societies. The course does, however, have a special focus on the most vulnerable groups, such as the poor, migrants, refugees, and minorities among others. Cross-cultural perspectives help us understand and address disease, the causes and consequences of massive health inequities in the world today, and the effect of global processes on local communities.

**The "CEL" designation for this course stands for "Community Engagement & Leadership" and is part of a new certificate program in the College of Liberal Arts (full details to be provided at the start of the online course). The purpose of this CEL course is to strengthen students' understanding of their role in society as engaged citizens and to build the knowledge and competencies that will enable them to be socially responsible and participating community leaders. Accordingly, course assignments and assessments are developed in line with the CEL program mission in Liberal Arts,

as well as within the broader framework and mission of UTEP's "Edge Advantages" goals.
Goals for the course are that you will (1) gain a theoretical and practical understanding of how social, cultural, ecological, biological, historical, and political-economic factors interact and underpin global health disparities; (2) develop a more sophisticated and engaged personal perspective on the issues of social justice and responsibility that are raised by our current global health challenges; (3) have an understanding of the connections between global and local processes in relation to health; (4) develop insights for producing responsible, creative and engaged responses to health-related community challenges.

There are four modules in this course. Each module lasts two weeks, and each week includes specific materials and assignments that students will need to cover carefully to understand the fundamental issues relevant to this class. A brief outline of the course follows:

1. Introduction to Global Health and Inequality
2. Health Paradigm Shift
3. Health and Culture
4. Comparative Health Models Research and Practicum

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND UNIVERSITY LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

Student Learning Objective	Outcome
Have a nuanced understanding of the interconnections between local and global-processes and their impact on health	Critical Thinking Skills
Compare and contrast health disparities across different social, cultural and geographic locations	
Identify key aspects of different health models around the world	
Understand the impact of urbanization, immigration, environmental degradation to health issues	Social Responsibility
Engage in producing local change through at the local level	
Articulate key learnings in written format	Communication Skills
Engage in meaningful and insightful discussions with peers on learned topics	Teamwork Skills

REQUIRED TEXTS

Students must **purchase two books** for this class. There will be also other texts and learning materials that you will be access via Blackboard.

1. Crisp, N. (2022). *Turning the world upside down: the search for global health in the 21st century*. **Second Edition**. CRC Press. ISBN-13: 9781000564457, ISBN-10: 1000564452.

2. Hamdy, S., & Coleman, N. (2017). *Lissa: A Story about Medical Promise, Friendship, and Revolution*. University of Toronto Press. ISBN 13: 9781487593476, DIGITAL ISBN-13: 9781487593490. ISBN-10: 1487593473

The above required books are available from the UTEP bookstore. You can also rent or buy them used from a variety of sources online.

Additional learning resources will be available for download in their corresponding module in Bb. See course schedule for more details.

ASSINGMENTS AND GRADING

Course Modules and Schedule

The course content lives in Blackboard Ultra and can be accessed via the "Content" tab on top of the home page. Inside the homepage, you will see the week's module. Hover your mouse over the module's image. You will see a small, dotted box appear on the left of the module's image (see picture below). Click on the dotted box to the left of the Module's image to expand and access its content. Each module lasts for two weeks, and each week within a module contains two folders, one for the required materials and instructions, and the other for all the week's graded assignments. All due dates are listed under the "Calendar" tab.

(Image: small, dotted box to the left of Module's image)

Course Work

Course activities will comprise working through a variety of learning materials, including readings, podcasts and videos, to complete the weekly assignments. It is expected that the course will require approximately 18 hours each week to complete all assignments. **Please remember that this is a compressed course** and is **twice as fast as a regular semester length course.** This is a full course.

From the start of the course you will be part of a team, which is a requirement for the completion

of your final project.

Graded Assignments

You can earn a maximum of 500 credit points in this class. The course graded assignments are:

1. Syllabus Quiz @ 5 points
2. Individual Learning Quiz: 6 @ 10 points = 60 points
3. Individual Module Discussion Posts: 3 @ 15 points = 45 points
4. Team Module Reflection Papers 2: @ 45points = 90 points
5. Individual Module Journal Entry: 3 @ 20 points = 60 points
6. Team Final Research Report: @ 120 points
7. Team CEL Comparative Health Infographic @ 120

Total points = 500 points

The detail for all assignments' guidelines and specific grading criteria can be found on Blackboard, inside each respective assignment's box.

Grading Criteria

The main grading criteria for all assignments, particularly your discussion posts and papers, are an obvious demonstration that you have covered all the assigned materials thoroughly and fully. It is important to cite concrete examples and the language relevant to each of the materials correctly for addressing each specific prompt. Work only from the assigned materials for each assignment. You will not receive a grade for assignments based on replacement (non-authorized) materials. In other words, assignments that use replacement materials will receive a grade of zero. There will be a couple of exceptions, where the assignment prompt explicitly requests that you search for a source independently. And of course, the final research paper will also require your independent research on relevant sources. Always cite your sources by indicating authors' last names, year and page number or location, such as minute in case of an audio file, for instance.

Discussion posts and papers with vague reference to the required materials will receive either a low or no grade.

Timely submission is also important. All quizzes (syllabus and learning tests) will not be available after their due dates. All assignments carry late submission penalty of 10% deduction per day up to a maximum of 3 days past the deadline (or 30%). After this period, assignments will not be graded.

If you are experiencing an extenuating circumstance, please contact me promptly -and preferably prior to the deadline, if possible. In very serious and justified cases, I will do my best to work with you.

Important: I use SafeAssign to check for plagiarism. So, if you plagiarize (copy from other sources, including books, internet, or other students) intentionally or unintentionally, you will be caught and referred to the Dean of Students. Revise that you have acknowledged and listed ALL sources before submitting your papers. Do not plagiarize!

I expect that the work you submit is genuinely yours and that you do not rely on AI for completing assignments. The use of AI is not allowed for this class.

Graduate Students can take this course upon completion of extra requirements. Their performance throughout the semester and for all assignments is expected to be at a consistent higher level (of B grades at a minimum). Their final paper will be between 15-20 page long. **Please note that it is your responsibility to inform me at the beginning of the semester if you are taking this course as a graduate student.** This will allow us both time to discuss your required extra work. I will **not** provide you with extra work at the end of the semester if you did not inform me at the start of the semester of your graduate student status.

Liberal Arts Honors Program [LAHP]. This class has been designated as a Liberal Arts Honors Program (LAHP) course. It has received this designation because it features at least five of the Honors course criteria, which include student leadership, advanced readings and/or reviews, opportunities for intensive writing, opportunities for intensive research, opportunities to use technology, extensively use campus resources, community-based experiences, pre-professional opportunities, and development of critical thinking. In broader terms, this course is honors-designated because of its creativity and/or intellectual rigor, both of which are integral components of the Liberal Arts Honors Program. No additional coursework is necessary for this course to count towards the LAHP Honors minor. If you are not a member of the LAHP, and are interested in the program, please visit the LAHP website at https://www.utep.edu/liberalarts/lahp/. If you join the Liberal Arts Honors Program, this course will count towards the LAHP minor!

Grading Scale
Students may check their grades in the Gradebook on Blackboard. The grading scale is as follows,

500-450 = A | 449-400 = B | 399-350 = C | 349-300 = D | 0 - 299 = F

Supporting Material for the Course
Modules 1 to 3 contain instructions on how to use the various resources enclosed and a reading/study guide, which functions as a "lecture." Read all instructions and reading guides carefully. Make the most of them! The final module provides you with lists of resources and the final assignments' instructions, as this is a module where you will develop your final team research report and infographic.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS AND PROBLEM SOLVING
• Course announcements should be the first thing you see when you log onto the course website. Please read these and keep up to date--important information will be communicated to you through these announcements.

• Dr. Torezani can be contacted v**ia Blackboard messages (within the course)**. Only if there

were technical issues with Bb, try the step email: satorezani@utep.edu. But use Bb. Email in the first instance, always. You should allow 24 to 48 hours for response to an e-mail during weekdays and 72 hours for a response to e-mail over the weekend or public holidays. Please e-mail the instructor only about content questions or personal matters that affect a student's ability to complete coursework (such as illness).

Dr. Torezani **cannot** provide technical help. For technical help, see the next section.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. **Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser**. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office. If you do not have a word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP's Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about Microsoft Office 365 and follow the instructions.

Technology Support Help Desk

Phone: 915.747.4357 (HELP) | Email: helpdesk@utep.edu | Website: helpdesk.utep.edu
Students can also email blackboard@utep.edu for help.

If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP Help Desk as they are trained specifically in assisting with the technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of help. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

Plan and Prepare ahead of Time

Because of the time delay in responding to e-mails, especially over weekends, it is important for the student to examine content (readings, paper assignments, etc.) well in advance of due dates and promptly send e-mails to the instructor. The instructor will monitor discussion areas once each weekday, but normally will not intervene or comment unless needed.

COURSE POLICIES

Scholastic Integrity: Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any

academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

AI prohibited: Use of AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as ChatGPT or DALL-E, is ***not allowed*** for assignments in this class. Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas. Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).

Copyright Statement for Course Materials. All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

Language of Papers. While all discussion postings must be in English for everyone to be able to understand and benefit from these exchanges, the weekly papers and final paper can be submitted in Spanish or English to your professor.

Citing and Referencing. ALL your assignments (papers AND main discussion posts) should contain a full acknowledgement of the sources used, including in-text citations and references. You need to cite in-text the page numbers, whenever possible, following this pattern: (author/s, year, p.#). For example, for a single author cite: (Farmer, 2008, p. 34). For two authors, cite: (Kleinman & Watson, 2010, pp. 19-20). When using an ebook that does not have page numbers, cite the location instead -i.e., (Farmer, 2005, loc#). If citing content from an audio/visual resource, indicate the minutes and seconds. A more extended guide is available inside the course in Blackboard. For the references list at the end of your papers and main posts, follow the APA 7th style. For guidance and examples, consult https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html You do not need to format your entire papers in APA 7th, just your references list.

"Attendance" / Participation in an Online Course. While the course will be largely conducted in an asynchronous mode (students can participate and submit work from anywhere at any hour of the day), it is not a self-paced course. The course schedule will be strictly adhered to, both in the activities for each unit and in the submission of work. Students are responsible for reading all instructions and assignments carefully, and for paying special attention to due dates.

Attendance in an on-line course consists of prompt fulfillment of all class activities. Students are responsible for reading all assignments in the time frame indicated and completing all activities (discussions, papers) within the announced time span. Exceptions will be made ONLY for **documented medical emergencies**.

Due dates and Late Submission Policy. All deadlines are on the course schedule. Late

submissions will incur a deduction of 10% per each day they are late up to a maximum of 30% or 3-days. After that, your submissions will not be graded. Please plan your work schedule carefully. The course computer will mark submissions as "late" once passed their due times. And I use this as a reference. Therefore, submit your work with time to spare. Do not wait until the last minute. Any extra credit points offered must be submitted by or before the deadline. No extra credit is graded past the deadline, no exception.

Course Drop Out. I do not drop students from the class. Students need to be aware of course withdrawals due dates. You can find the information at the Registration and Records office. If you do not, you are at risk of receiving an "F" for the course.

Accommodations and Auxiliary Services. The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Students who become pregnant or have parenting responsibilities may also request reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. The UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) will process requests for accommodations based on a disability, pregnancy, or parenting. Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

COURSE RESOURCES. Where you can go for help.
UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Please refer to the QR code below for a listing of campus resources or visit https://www.utep.edu/advising/student_resources/student-success-resource-hub.html.