Why Global Health Matters

The world is economically, politically, culturally, and technologically connected and interdependent with increasingly mobile populations seeking economic opportunity, security, and safety as a result of civil unrest, regional conflicts, diminished natural resources, poverty, and disease.

Some health problems and issues remain isolated and contained to certain locations or populations, but more and more health matters transcend geographic boundaries. Consequently, the solutions and approaches must also take a global approach, and individuals with these perspectives will be in high demand.

Certificate Overview

An undergraduate certificate in Global Health provides students with knowledge of:

- the global burden of disease
- the social determinants of health in a global context
- the principles, language, and measurement tools used in global health
- ethics and global health
- the global cultural, religious, and historical contexts of health, disease, and health care

Paired with a related major, the Global Health Certificate prepares students to work in changing environments and with diverse populations. Students will be able to respond competently to the challenges presented by permeable geographic and cultural boundaries.

There are many complementary majors to the Global Health Certificate including nursing, biology or biochemistry on a pre-med track, conservation and environmental science, geography, global studies, political science, religious studies, and many more.

Career Opportunities

Careers in global health require skills for working internationally as well as within globally-focused organizations based in the US. Certificate students gain competence in identifying and analyzing the factors that generate disparities in health status, health resources, and access to health information and health services. In particular, certificate holders have a thorough understanding of how global health issues impact ethnic minorities and other marginalized and vulnerable population groups.

Depending on their major, students with this skill set will find varied opportunities to act as agents of change for disease prevention and health initiatives domestically and abroad in developing nations. Students with a medical-oriented major may work for government or nonprofit agencies developing programs and providing on-the-ground access for areas dealing with infectious and tropical diseases. Students with a major in the social sciences may find work with organizations dedicated to mental illness and the health consequences of war or instability. A strong background in different cultural and religious practices combined with this certificate can prepare students for work in preventative maternal and
child healthcare programs, a high priority need in the developing world. Business-oriented majors might enjoy the essential financial and management work needed to establish a strong healthcare infrastructure where one currently does not exist.

The overall job outlook in global health is excellent. The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts high demand for skilled worker in the global health field through 2022.

Courses

Student must complete, with a minimum grade point average of 2.50, at least 21 credits in approved Global Health courses, of which 12 must be earned in residence at UWM.

Of these 12 residence credits, nine must be taken at the 300-level or above. A minimum of 6 credits must be taken in the College of Letters and Science. A minimum of 6 credits must be taken in the College of Nursing. No more than 9 credits from any one department may count toward the certificate. A maximum of 6 credits of independent study may count toward program requirements, and courses for the certificate may not be taken on a credit/no credit basis.

Required courses are:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH 101</td>
<td>Intro to Public Health (3 cr.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurs 110</td>
<td>Introduction to Global Health (3 cr.)</td>
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<td>ONE of the following (3 cr.):</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthro 104</td>
<td>Lifeways in Different Cultures: A Survey of World Societies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geog 110</td>
<td>The World: Peoples and Regions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hist 132</td>
<td>World History since 1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pol Sci 106</td>
<td>Politics of the World’s Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soc 103</td>
<td>World Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 credits of fieldwork. Students are required to do an internship, self-designed research project, or study abroad in the field of global health to gain practical experience.</td>
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Capstone course: Nurs 475 | Global Health: Ethics and Human Rights (3 cr.)

At least 6 credits from the following:

| Africol 329 | Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa (3 cr.) |
| Africol 351 | Sex, Marriage, and Health Care in the Afroworld (3 cr.) |
| Anthro 102 | Introduction to Anthropology: Culture and Society (3 cr.) |
| Anthro 439 | Culture and Global Health (3 cr.) |
| Anthro 440 | Medical Anthropology (3 cr.) |
| Anthro/Global 443 | Medicine and Pharmaceuticals in the Golden Age (3 cr.) |
| Anthro 447 | The Global Politics of Human Rights (3 cr.) |

- The risk of a child dying before their fifth birthday is 8 times higher in the African Region than a child in the European Region.
- Nearly 800 women die every day due to complications in pregnancy and childbirth.
- More than 2.5 billion people worldwide are estimated to be at risk of dengue infection.
- In 2012, more than 140 000 people in high-income countries had pertussis (whooping cough), a serious disease in infants that is preventable by vaccination.

Be part of the change. Learn more about Global Health.