

POPH90244 Global Health and Human Rights

Credit Points:	12.5
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2015, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: June, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 30 contact hours over five days in intensive format. Total Time Commitment: 170 hours
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	<p><p>For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry.</p> <p>It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and Student Equity and Disability Support: http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability</p></p>
Coordinator:	Assoc Prof Tilman Ruff
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Subject Overview:	<p>This interdisciplinary subject is designed to provide grounding for students of public health on the normative content and interpretations of the right to health (and supporting rights), and on the meaning of a rights-based framework for health in practice.</p> <p>The conceptualisation of health as a human right can be traced through the formation of the United Nations, the World Health Organization Charter, and the Alma Ata Declaration on primary health care. More recently, it underpinned the social mobilisation for the rights of people living with HIV and AIDS. The thread is also observable in current discourse on the social determinants of health, health equity and the ethics of human subjects.</p> <p>This subject explores the principles and practical applications of a rights-based framework for the health needs of populations. It engages with contemporary debates and critiques on the credibility, relevance and utility of human rights for health policy and program decisions. It also explores the confronting linkages between rights violations and health harms, as well as rights infringements that improve public health.</p> <p>The subject includes case studies drawn from case law, empirical studies and civil society reports on issues including sexual and reproductive health, tobacco control, obesity, violence (especially against women and children), access to medicines, nuclear disarmament, and harmful practices. The subject concludes with an examination of the frontiers of the research and programming agenda, to inspire students on the possibilities for further investigation, action and advocacy to advance health rights.</p>

Learning Outcomes:	<p>On completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Demonstrate an understanding of the content, obligations and interpretations of the right to health. # Identify the structural causes of ill-health and health inequities relating to discrimination. # Critique applications of a rights-based approach to health by public health, development and legal actors. # Evaluate the contribution and limitations of a rights-based approach for addressing health inequities. # Frame an argument for or against a public health initiative on human rights grounds. # Utilise human rights law to protect public health and justify interventions. # Respond to priorities for further theoretical and empirical research.
Assessment:	<p>Oral group presentation of 20 minutes held on the final day of teaching (20%) Critical analysis of 1000 words due 2 weeks after final day of teaching (20%) A 3000-word essay due 6 weeks after final day of teaching (60%) Hurdle Requirement: Attendance at a minimum of 80% is required to pass this subject.</p>
Prescribed Texts:	<p>A full set of prescribed readings and resource materials will be provided prior to the commencement of the subject.</p>
Breadth Options:	<p>This subject is not available as a breadth subject.</p>
Fees Information:	<p>Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees</p>
Generic Skills:	<p>Knowledge</p> <p>On completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Articulate the ways in which human rights relating to age, gender, ethnicity and Indigenous status, society and culture influence health and public health practice; # Identify and discuss current public health challenges in global, Indigenous Australian and non-Indigenous Australian communities with reference to human rights. # Discuss and reflect on how a human rights approach can facilitate effective communication and decision making occur across public health organisations. <p>Skills</p> <p>On completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Reflect on personal attitudes and beliefs and consider how these impact on decision-making in research and public health practice; # Describe how the concepts of human rights, equity and ethics apply to public health practice; # Communicate findings from an analysis of public health and human rights evidence, and use these findings for advocacy; # Explain and/or plan strategies, informed by a human rights approach, to prevent disease and injury and to protect and improve health (i.e. legislation, policy, and community development). <p>Application of knowledge and skills</p> <p>On completion of the subject, students will be able to apply a comprehensive knowledge of human rights to develop solutions to complex public health problems.</p>
Related Course(s):	<p>Master of Public Health</p>