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Diplomacy Syllabi

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Fall 2019

## DIPL 4277 AA Global Health, Bioterrorism, and International Security

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*Seton Hall University*

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The School of Diplomacy and International Relations  
Seton Hall University

**GLOBAL HEALTH, BIOTERRORISM, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

DIPL 4277AA  
T 2:00-4:30pm

Fall 2019  
Stafford Hall 208

Dr. Yanzhong Huang  
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Office hours: T 10:00am - noon or by appointment

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**Course Overview**

Global health issues have affected world history more extensively than most of us can imagine. In today's world, international trade and travel threaten transborder epidemics by transporting and spreading diseases globally at jet speed. The growing risk of exposure to infectious disease, coupled with the threat of bioterrorism, creates a situation in which health and security are interacting with greater frequency and intensity. This development parallels efforts to redefine the concept of security to encompass new global challenges. How did epidemics function as agents of historical change? What are the major linkages between health and security? Should new global health challenges such as non-communicable diseases be framed as problems that require response from the national security community? How does the "securitization of health" affect the governance of particular health problems? Conversely, how do the discussions and debates on health security transform our understanding of security?

This interdisciplinary course focuses on global health security. It has four main content objectives: 1) to examine the historical impact of infectious disease; 2) to clarify the processes by which health problems function to threaten human, national or international security; 3) to evaluate emerging global health challenges and their security implications; and 4) to explore the pros and cons of securitizing global health challenges. By the end of the semester, students should have acquired knowledge and understanding of key concepts, theories, and debates involved in the study of global health security. Students should have also developed the skills to analyze complex situations and synthesize information, and to communicate effectively using oral and written forms.

**Textbooks**

Andrew Price-Smith, *Contagion and Chaos: Disease, Ecology, and National Security in the Era of Globalization* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2009).

Stefan Elbe, *Security and Global Health: Toward the Medicalization of Insecurity* (Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2010)

**Student Responsibilities**

Reading Requirements and Class Participation

*It is your responsibility to be in class, on time, each day.* Attendance is essential for class participation. Your final grade will be lowered by one-half letter grade for each absence beyond **two** (e.g., If your grades average to “B+,” your final grade, with one absence beyond limit, will be reduced to “B”). The instructor makes no distinction between excused and unexcused absences.

Students are expected to complete all the required readings prior to coming to class. Students who fail to read will have trouble keeping up with the class. Moreover, meaningful and lively discussions depend on completion of the readings before the class period in which they will be discussed. Your performance in completing assigned readings and participating in class discussions will be an important component of your “participation” grade.

#### Late Work Policy

All assignments and exams should/must be completed by the scheduled time. Late assignments will not be accepted unless you have a proven excuse. If for some substantial reason you cannot turn in your assignment or make a presentation at the scheduled time you must/should contact me *directly* prior to the scheduled date to avoid the penalty.

#### Policy on Incompletes:

Incompletes will be given only in exceptional cases for emergencies. Students wishing to request a grade of Incomplete must provide documentation to support the request accompanied by a Course Adjustment Form (available from the Diplomacy Main Office) to the professor *before* the date of the final examination. If the incomplete request is approved, the professor reserves the right to specify the new submission date for all missing coursework. Students who fail to submit the missing course work within this time period will receive a failing grade for all missing coursework and a final grade based on all coursework assigned. Any Incomplete not resolved within one calendar year of receiving the Incomplete or by the time of graduation (whichever comes first) automatically becomes an “FI” (which is equivalent to an F). It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have completed all course requirements within the timeframe allotted. Please be aware that Incompletes on your transcript will impact financial aid and academic standing.

#### **Citation Formats**

Papers should utilize one of the Chicago Manual of Style citation formats: Author-Date or Notes and Bibliography. The guidelines for these formats are on the course Blackboard page.

#### **Grading**

Your grade for this course will be based on the following:

1. A blog-style short piece on global health security issues: 20%
2. Oral presentation: 20%
3. Take-home final: 35%

4. Class participation, including attendance and in-class discussions: 25%

### **Grading Scale**

A	94-100%	A-	90-93%	B+	87-89%
B	83-86%	B-	80-82%	C+	77-79%
C	73-76%	C-	70-72%	D+	67-69%
D	60-66%	F	59% and below		

### **About the Syllabus**

In view of the progress of the course, the instructor may modify the course contents and schedule. Every effort will be made to notify the class should such a deviation become necessary.

### **Academic Integrity & Dishonesty**

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible dismissal from the School of Diplomacy. See University and School standards for academic conduct here: <https://www.shu.edu/student-life/upload/Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf> and <http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>

### **Disability Services Statement**

It is the policy and practice of Seton Hall University to promote inclusive learning environments. If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in compliance with University policy, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and/or the New Jersey Law against Discrimination. Please note, students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To request accommodations or assistance, please self-identify with the Office for Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67 at the beginning of the semester. For more information or to register for services, contact DSS at (973) 313-6003 or by e-mail at [DSS@shu.edu](mailto:DSS@shu.edu).

## **COURSE TOPICS AND READINGS**

- Aug. 27**      **Introduction**  
Elbe, Ch. 1
- Sept. 3**      **Epidemics in Historical Perspective**  
  
“Deadly Diseases: Epidemics throughout history,” CNN.com  
  
Price-Smith, Ch. 2
- Sept. 10**     **Case Study: The 1918 Spanish Influenza**

Ashley Halsey III, "The flu can kill tens of millions of people. In 1918, that's exactly what it did," *Washington Post*, January 27, 2018

Richard Gunderman, "Ten Myths About the 1918 Flu Pandemic," January 12, 2018

John M. Barry, *The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History* (New York: Viking Penguin, 2004), Ch. 32

Price-Smith, Ch. 3

**Sept. 17**

**Biological Weapons and Biological Warfare**

John Steinbruber, "Biological weapons: A plague upon all houses," *Foreign Policy*, Winter 97/98

Laurie Garrett, "Biology's Brave New World," *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 2013

W. Seth Carus, "A century of biological-weapons programs (1915–2015): reviewing the evidence," *The Nonproliferation Review* 24, no. 1-2, 2017, 129-153, DOI: [10.1080/10736700.2017.1385765](https://doi.org/10.1080/10736700.2017.1385765)

**Sept. 24**

**Bioterrorism and Biosecurity**

Department of Homeland Security, Biological Attack Fact Sheet: Human Pathogens, Biotoxins, and Agricultural Threats

Elbe, Ch. 3

Laurie Garrett, "The Nightmare of Bioterrorism," *Foreign Affairs*, Jan/Feb 2001, pp. 76-89

Philip Alcabes, "The Bioterrorism Scare," *The American Scholar* 73, Spring 2004

Tim Newman, "Bioterrorism: Should we be worried?" *Medical News Today*, 28 February 2018

**October 1**

**Video Session**

**October 8**

**HIV/AIDS and Security**

Price-Smith, Ch. 4

P.W. Singer, "AIDS and International Security", *Survival*, 44 (1), Spring 2002, pp. 145-158.

Colin McInnes and Simon Rushton, "HIV, AIDS and Security: Where are we now?" *International Affairs* 86, no. 1 (2010): 225-245

Alexandra Ossola, "How HIV became a matter of international security," May 16, 2017

**October 15** **Fall Break; No Class**

**October 22** **Pandemic Flu and Security**

Elbe, Ch. 2

Price-Smith, Ch. 6

Christian Enemark, "Is Pandemic Flu a Security Threat?" *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy* 51, no. 1 (Feb-March 2009): 191-214.

**October 29** **Noncommunicable Diseases and Security**

Elbe, Ch. 5

*The Emerging Global Health Crisis: Noncommunicable Diseases in Low- and Middle-Income Countries*, Council on Foreign Relations Independent Task Force Report, December 2014

**Nov. 5** **Limits of Securitization of Health**

Stefan Elbe, "Haggling over viruses: the downside risks of securitizing infectious disease," *Health Policy and Planning* 25 (2010): 476-485.

Yanzhong Huang, "The 2009 H1N1 Flu Pandemic and the Policy Response in East Asia," in Robert M. Hathaway and Michael Wills, eds., *New Security Challenges in Asia* (Washington, DC: Woodrow Wilson Center Press/Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013), 121-43.

William Aldis, "Health security as a public health concept: a critical analysis," *Health Policy and Planning* 2008;23: 369-375

\*\*\*Short piece due\*\*\*

**Nov. 12** **Pros and Cons of Securitization: The Case of Ebola**

Charlotte Sagan, "Ebola: A threat to security?" *Stanford Journal of Public Health*, May 1, 2015

Yanzhong Huang, "The Downside of Securitizing the Ebola Virus," Council on Foreign Relations Expert Brief, November 25, 2014

Adam Kamradt-Scott, Sophie Harman, Clare Wenham and Frank Smith  
III, *Saving Lives: The Civil- Military Response to the 2014 Ebola outbreak  
in West Africa*, University of Sydney, October 2015

**Nov. 19 Student Presentations**

**Nov. 26 Student Presentations**

**December 3 Course Wrap-up**  
Elbe, Chs. 6

Price-Smith, Conclusion

Kenneth Bernard, "The White House signals that bioterrorism and disease  
don't matter — again," *Washington Post*, May 22, 2018

**December 10 Reading Day**

**\*\*\*Take Home Final due on Tuesday, December 17\*\*\***