

India

Health and Human Rights

Explore the links between public health and human rights, with a focus on women, children, tribal, and other marginalized and vulnerable populations in India.

Coursework

Health and Human Rights Seminar

ASIA 3000 / 6 credits / 90 class hours

An interdisciplinary course conducted in English with required readings and relevant educational excursions. Students consider specific case studies that illuminate the problems, prospects, and potential methods of promoting health. Advocacy efforts for health and human rights on national and international levels are also examined, including relevant international declarations. Lecturers include nationally prominent academics and experts in the fields of health and human rights.

Seminar topics typically include:

Introduction to India and Its Healthcare Systems

Introduction to a general understanding of India; the public healthcare system in India; health financing; health planning and management.

Traditional and Modern Healthcare Systems

Traditional (Ayurved, Amchi, Unani, and Siddha) and modern (allopathic) medical systems; health tourism; privatization of medical education.

Healthcare Issues

Malnourishment and other severe threats to healthcare; mental health: issues and challenges; social determinants of health; major disease challenges: tuberculosis (TB), malaria, and polio; reproductive health and HIV/AIDS; chronic disorders.

Health and Social Justice

International principles of public health and human rights; access to healthcare; health equity and disability; debates over health policies from advocacy perspectives; public health environmental issues; impact of globalization on public health.

Educational Excursions

Students are exposed to different public healthcare systems across India. The program visits university hospitals, nongovernmental

organizations (NGOs), academic and research institutes, and primary- and secondary-level hospitals in urban and rural areas. Excursion destinations may include Aligarh, Jamkhed, Chittorgarh, Rishikesh, Udaipur, and Varanasi (Benares).

Internship with an Indian NGO

Students spend a week interning with a local organization or individual actively working for public health and positive change in India. This provides an opportunity to examine health-related work firsthand and to have practical experience in the field in preparation for the Independent Study Project.

Intensive Language Study: Hindi

HIND 1000–2500 / 4 credits / 60 class hours

Emphasis on beginning speaking and comprehension skills through classroom and field instruction. Based on in-country evaluation, including oral proficiency testing, students are placed in beginning or intermediate classes.

Field Study Seminar

ANTH 3500 / 2 credits / 30 class hours

A course in the concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience. Introduction to the Independent Study Project. Topics include cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; project selection and refinement; appropriate methodologies; field study ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy; developing contacts and finding resources; developing skills in observation and interviewing; gathering, organizing, and communicating data; maintaining a work journal. The Field Study Seminar will examine public health indicators and help students understand why some indicators are selected or important.

Independent Study Project

ISPR 3000 / 4 credits / 120 class hours

Conducted in north India or in another appropriate location. **Sample topic areas:** international, national, and regional responses

Credits 16

Duration Fall/Spring 15 weeks

Program Base New Delhi

Language Study Hindi

Homestay New Delhi, 9 weeks

Rural Visit/Homestay Remote villages of the Udaipur district in Rajasthan/Jamkhed in Maharashtra, 1 week (optional)

Other Accommodations NGO guest houses, hostels, educational institutions, or small hotels

Independent Study Project 4 weeks

Prerequisites None

to epidemics and pandemics; health equity and disability; major public health challenges of diseases such as TB, malaria, and polio; access to reproductive and children's healthcare; health financing; impact of globalization on public health; health planning and management; privatization of medical education.

Please note: This program will have credit distribution and/or other curriculum changes beginning in the fall 2012 semester.

Please visit www.sit.edu/INH for details.

