International Health Seminar: History of International Health and Development

Instructor: Randall Packard  
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Time: Wednesday 1:30-3:20

Place: Seminar Room, 3rd Floor Welch Medical Library

Course Description

The course examines the history of western efforts to promote health and nutrition in the "developing world" from the beginnings of tropical medicine and colonial health services to more recent efforts at disease eradication, the development of alternative health delivery systems (basic health services, primary health care and selective primary health care); population programs, to child survival and global immunization programs. It will also examine the history of various international health and development organizations, including the Rockefeller Foundation, WHO, UNICEF and the World Bank. These developments will be examined within the wider context of colonial and post-colonial development in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. By doing so, the course will explore the various economic and political interests, as well as the cultural assumptions, that have shaped the development of ideas and practices associated with international health in "developing" countries.

Recommended Books to Purchase

- Randall Packard: Making of a Tropical Disease, A Short History of Malaria (Johns Hopkins Press, 2007)
- Nancy Stepan, Eradication: Ridding the World of Disease Forever, Reaktion Books, 2011
- Judith Justice. Policies, Plans and People: Foreign Aid and Health Development,

On-Line Reserves @ Welch Website

Course Organization and Requirements

The seminar will meet once a week on Wednesday from 1:30 to 3:20 pm and discuss the readings assigned for each session. Evaluation will be based on class participation; three reflection essays (3-5 pages) and a final take home final
essay exam. Graduate students in the History of Medicine will write a research paper in lieu of the final exam.

January 23 **Introduction:**

Jan 30 **The Imperial Origins of International Health**

Nancy Stepan, *Eradication, Ridding the World of Disease Forever*, 35-103


Randall Packard: *Making of a Tropical Disease, A Short History of Malaria*. 111-149

Sunil Amrith, *Decolonizing International Health* (Cambridge, 2006), 21-46


**Recommended:**

Steven Palmer, *Launching Global Health: The Caribbean Odyssey of the Rockefeller Foundation*

John Farley, *To Cast Out Disease*

Warwick Anderson, *Colonial Pathologies*

Feb 6: **WHO, Postwar Development, and the War on Disease**

Packard: *Making of a Tropical Disease*, 150-176

Amrith, *Decolonizing International Health* 47-71, 99-148

Stepan *Eradication*, 185-223


**Recommended:**

Sanjoy Bhattacharya, *Expunging Variola*

Marcus Cueto, *Cold War, Deadly Fevers: Malaria Eradication in Mexico, 1955-1975*
Feb 13 **Population Control to Family Planning**


**Recommended:**
Matthew Conneley, Fatal Misconception
Caroline Bledsoe, Contingent Lives

Feb 20 **From Primary Health Care to Selective Primary Health Care**


Recommended:
William Muraskin, The Politics of International Health
Nitsan Chorev, The World health Organization Between North and South

Feb 27: **PHC and the Politics of International Development**

Justice, Judith. Policies. Plans and People: Foreign Aid and Health Development

March 6 **Return to the War on Disease: AIDS and Malaria**

Randall Packard, Malaria: The Making of a Tropical Disease, Chs 7&8

March 13: **The New Global Health**


Andrew Lakoff, “Two Regimes of Global Health” Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development, 1, 1 (Fall 2010), 59-79

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/01676296


Sarah Wallace, “Global Health in Conflict:Understanding Opposition to Vitamin A Supplementation in India,” AJPH, May 17, 2012,