

Master of Science in Global Health

Head of Studies

Course responsables and student representatives from 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> semester



## MINUTES

25TH JANUARY 2024

**Forum** Evaluation at the MSc of Global Health 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> semester

STUDENT AFFAIRS

**Meeting held** 25th January 2024, 14:00 – 16:00.

**Place** CSS 9.2.22

BLEGDAMSVEJ 3

2200 KØBENHAVN N

**Minutes-taker** Jørgen Willadsen (JWI), AUS

DIR 45 35 32 74 92

## Present

**Student representatives:** 1<sup>st</sup> semester: Julie Bolø Nielsen and Clara Marlene Schweizer. 3<sup>rd</sup> semester: Amalie Roland Dons.

**Course responsables:** Dirk Lund Christensen (DLC), Karin Schiøler (KS), Jane Brandt Sørensen (JBS), Helle Samuelsen (HS), and Peter Furu (PF).

**Head of Studies:** Britt P. Tersbøl (BPT)

## Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction to the meeting by Head of Studies
2. Evaluation of Global Health and Diseases; Introduction and Major Challenges
3. Evaluation of Health Research Methodology
4. Evaluation of The Anthropology of Global Health
5. Evaluation of Drivers of Change in Human Health: Coping with population and environmental dynamics
6. Evaluation of Cardio-metabolic Diseases in Global Populations
7. Evaluation of the total semester
8. Other

**Ad 1)** Welcome and introduction to the meeting by Head of Studies

**Ad 2) Evaluation of Global Health and Diseases; Introduction and Major Challenges**

Course responsible: Jane Brandt Sørensen

**What worked well?**

- Course divided by themes
- The different lectures
- The unusual teaching methods and untraditional lectures, e.g. mental health week, discussion of documentary on maternal health.
- To go from a specific disease to a global perspective
- Students appreciated references in power points, made it easy to be able to go back and use it for exam preparation.

**Any need for adjustment (Content)?**

- Some readings seemed repeating and should be assumed known as basic knowledge
- Some lectures where in a rush
- A wish for more time for discussion. JBS: I am considering putting in time for discussion in lectures
- A wish for more varied literature, and by local researchers. Students missed the local angle. BPT: Students are welcome to search for literature and bring along other aspects
- One clinical lecture on child health did not work well. JBS will prepare the lecturer better for next time.

**Any need for adjustment (Planning)?**

- A request to inform lecturers that the group comes from different backgrounds. JBS: We focus on that, and many lecturers are coming back so it is surprising
- Avoid days without breaks and the moving from one room to another
- Would be nice with more cases and site visits because this was really appreciated
- See also 'The semester in total'.

**Ad 3) Evaluation of Health Research Methodology**

Course responsible: Karin Schiøler

**What worked well?**

- The group work was inspiring
- The setup of group assignment helped to get the sense of the course and worked as preparation of the exam. Made more and more sense during the course
- The peer feedback got more and more appreciated during the course. Good to get more and more tools to do peer feedback
- Cases about e.g. cholera and how to apply research
- To hear about lecturers' own research
- The qualitative part.

**Any need for adjustment (Content)?**

- A wish for a short introduction on how to give constructed feedback. KS: Maybe some online formats on how to do so students have the possibility to go back to it
- The quantitative part worked less well and lacked some structure. KS: The quantitative team was new as were several of the topics (e.g., Big Data) and teaching approaches. Adjustments will be made based on the experience gained- A request for more literature and feedback in mixed methods and a wish to call the team zoom sessions "presentation and feedback" instead of "presentation". KS: We will try to get the assignment advisors more involved.

**Any need for adjustment (Planning)?**

- See 'The semester in total'.

**Ad 4) Evaluation of The Anthropology of Global Health**

Course responsible: Helle Samuelsen

**What worked well?**

- The literature and how lecturers used the literature
- The topics made a lot of sense to Global health
- The work on cases, e.g. reproduction and teaching about concepts and how to apply them
- The interaction with other course.

**Any need for adjustment (Content)?**

- No comments.

**Any need for adjustment (Planning)?**

- The planning of the course. December was cramped with the

portfolio at the same time as normal classes. HS: We hope to change the exam format from next year. Originally, I liked the portfolio, but it doesn't make sense in such a compressed course. The new exam format will be an assignment in a group of four with group examination and with individual marks. Students will work on the assignment during the course, and hand it in after the course. We will have to see how we make the groups, if we do it randomly or whether we try to mix the groups based on the students' educational backgrounds

- See 'The semester in total'.

#### **Ad 5) Evaluation of Drivers of Change in Human Health: Coping with population and environmental dynamics**

Course responsible: Peter Furu

##### **What worked well?**

- The lectures were a good mix, very cohesive and built on each other
- The literature both the content and the amount. The literature on COP28 felt very present. The course leader was good to follow up with the newest literature
- To hear about the lecturers' own experience and research
- The lecture on health impact with maps was really hands on and a good exercise
- Wiki was great, it just took a while to see how it related to the course and the exam. A suggestion to do some activities that related to the wikis e.g. demographics to make student work with the wikis during the course. PF: I tried to give an overview in the beginning, and to prepare you on the wiki and why it is important for the exam e.g. collection of data
- The debate and role play were inspiring. A great exercise.

##### **Any need for adjustment (Content)?**

- The debate – a suggestion to make the roles more precise or give suggestions on how to fill in the roles to prepare better. Mark and advertise the debate as a highlight of the course and keep it in class and not change it into a public event.

##### **Any need for adjustment (Planning)?**

- A suggestion to have the debate earlier in the course. In January many students were still in holiday

- A wish not to have the classes from 13-17 on Thursdays; some students couldn't attend the late classes due to work. BPT: Ask the administration for a possible different time frame and coordinate with the course in anthropology.

**Ad 6) Evaluation of Cardio-metabolic Diseases in Global Populations**  
Course responsible: Dirk Lund Christensen

**What worked well?**

- A well-structured course, made it easy to prepare
- Interesting with the many guest lecturers
- A good learning environment due to the students' different educational backgrounds
- Good to address problems of earlier years so students were aware.

**Any need for adjustment (Content)?**

- The lecture/topic on race and ethnicity could be incorporated in more lectures.

**Any need for adjustment (Planning)?**

- A suggestion to maybe let students do presentations of literature or having some assignment to create more activity in class and maybe also more attendance by students. This could also serve as an introduction to the exam. DLC: As for the attendance – students work is a problem that we cannot take that into account. It is also difficult to align the time frame with other elective courses from different programmes. It is a problem with a small group, there is a minimum mass. Presentations will take time away from the lectures. We can try to do presentations in groups like a Journal Club when I'm teaching myself.

**Ad 7) Evaluation of the semester in total**

- For the courses in Global Health and Diseases and Health Research Methodology the topics could be more integrated and the literature more coordinated; otherwise, the two courses felt very connected
- A suggestion to have the teaching of the courses in Anthropology and Drivers of change spread better out over December and January.