

# The University of Iowa Global Health Studies Program (GHSP)

*Director - Christopher Squier, Ph.D., D.Sc.*

The Global Health Studies Program (GHSP) provides a broad choice of educational options to supplement and enhance students' interests and study in almost any conventional discipline.

For those interested in pursuing a career in or related to international health, the **Global Health Studies Certificate** is available. Admission to the Global Health Studies certificate program is competitive. Completion of the certificate requires a 3.0 G.P.A. in 11 semester hours (s.h.) of core requirements and 7 s.h. of electives (18 total s.h.), and an approved international experience (such as study abroad, service learning, an internship, or volunteering). The primary objectives of the Global Health Studies certificate program are to provide:

- An understanding of related global health phenomena including infectious and chronic diseases, nutrition, changing demographics, public health and health care systems, global climate change, natural disasters, and environmental and sustainability issues.
- An institutional focus where students and faculty from different departments, colleges, and disciplines can meet on the common ground of shared interests in global health.
- An introduction to the international field experience that is often needed to be competitive when seeking a career in global health.

## GHS Certificate Core Courses

GHS:3010	Identifying & Developing a Global Health Project (Offered fall semester)	3 s.h.
GHS:3020	Pro-seminar in Global Health (Offered before fall semester begins)	1 s.h.
GHS:3030	Global Health Conference (Offered every third semester)	1 s.h.
GHS:3720	Global Health Seminar (Offered spring semester)	3 s.h.
GHS:4210 (same as OEH:4210/ EPID:4210)	International Health (Offered fall semester)	3 s.h.

- Undergraduates may pursue a **Global Health Studies Minor** in conjunction with their other major areas of study. The minor requires at least 15 s.h. of coursework approved for the Global Health Studies Program. Students should choose coursework from at least two different departments, and they are strongly encouraged to include a core course from those listed under requirements for the Certificate in Global Health Studies. Students must earn a GPA of 2.00 or higher in all work for the minor and must complete at least 12 s.h. of upper level minor coursework at The University of Iowa (or through a UI study abroad program which is considered UI credit).
- Students may choose Global Health Studies as a track in the **B.A. in International Studies**. International Studies is an multidisciplinary undergraduate degree which combines the social sciences, humanities and the arts with world language study. The major may include a senior project or honors thesis, or experiential learning projects. Global Health Studies track students would complete 18 – 21s.h. of approved Global Health Studies coursework for the major.
- Global Health Studies is an emphasis area for the **B.A. in Interdepartmental Studies/Health Science**, which requires a minimum of 22 s.h. of Foundation Coursework in the general health sciences, and 15 s.h. in the Global Health emphasis area (37 total s.h.). Students are required to complete at least 15 s.h. of major coursework at the University of Iowa and maintain a 2.0 GPA.

The GHSP focuses not only on the manifestations of significant diseases and public health and health care systems but also on the underlying forces and institutions such as technology, politics, culture, legal structure, history and economics, which collectively influence patterns of health and disease. In this era of globalization, societies are rapidly becoming more interdependent on each other. In recognizing these trends, the University of Iowa has adopted a strategic plan underlining the importance of interdisciplinary thinking and international competency. The GHSP responds to this mandate and strives to ensure that students acquire the skills, experiences, and insights necessary to enable them to respond to this interconnected world.

**For more information, contact Karmen Berger (GHSP Academic Advisor) at 319/384-1328; 21 Schaeffer Hall; [globalhealthstudies@uiowa.edu](mailto:globalhealthstudies@uiowa.edu)  
<http://clas.uiowa.edu/global-health-studies>**