



# Bergen Summer Research School

> Global Development Challenges

**BSRS 2014: Governance to Meet Global Development Challenges**

**June 23rd to July 4th 2014**

## *PhD Research Course: Global Governance for Health*

### **Lecturers UiB**

**Karen Marie Moland (course leader)**, Professor, Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care, Centre for International Health, UiB

**Camila Gianella**, UiB Global, UiB

**Kristine Husøy Onarheim**, Medical student, UiB and Medical students research programme, UiB, Visiting Graduate Student Scientist, Harvard School of Public Health (2013)

**Johanne Helene Iversen**, Medical student, UiB, Visiting Graduate Student Scientist, Harvard School of Public Health (2013)

**Andrea Melberg**, Medical student and Medical students' research programme, UiB

**Astrid Blystad**, Professor, Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care, Centre for International Health, UiB

**Ole Frithjof Norheim**, Professor, Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care, Centre for International Health, UiB

### **Guest Lecturers**

**Marge Berer**, Founding editor of Reproductive Health Matters

**John-Arne Røttingen**, Professor, Department of Health and Society, UiO

Social, economic and political aspects of globalization are turning national public health challenges into global ones. One of the main lessons learnt by the attempts to reach global health targets the past decades is that challenges like climate change, pandemic flu, HIV/AIDS, the rise of non-communicable diseases cannot be addressed effectively



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without addressing the social, economic and political forces that shape the conditions for disease. Locating the Millennium Development Goals at the core, we will in this course explore the current global governance for health system and the dynamics between global policies and national governance, local health systems, individual health outcomes and public health.

### ***I. Brief course description***

This course will explore the expanding field of global governance for health and how global policies and priorities impact national priority setting and health systems, health financing, the health workforce, service provision and in the final instance, public health. The course will take a critical perspective on global health policies and Global Health Initiatives (GHI) and the ways in which these work to privilege certain areas of health care, diagnosis, health professionals and patients, and leave other areas marginalized. The lack of attention to varying national and local socio-economic context in implementation of globally defined programs and interventions will be examined. The health related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the progress towards their targets by 2015 will be used as an entry point to the study of global governance for health focusing not only on what has been included and achieved, but also on what has been ignored. Emphasis will be given to political theory, anthropological theory, health systems thinking and contextual issues related to acceptability, relevance and feasibility of particular interventions. The course will give the students insight into the multifaceted global health arena, the global–local linkages, relations and dynamics and the theoretical and methodological challenges involved in the study of these phenomena and processes.

### ***II. Aim and objectives***

This interdisciplinary course aims to provide doctoral students and young researchers from social- and health sciences with a space to discuss various ways of approaching the study of global governance for health. Through the course, we aim to foster critical thinking on the dynamics within and between sectors at local, national and global level, enabling the students to explore and analyze health challenges using appropriate theoretical and methodological approaches.

The course will provide a theoretical introduction to major public health challenges. The students will gain an understanding of the current functioning of the global health system and the governance architecture and how health and non-health factors influence health. Students will be equipped to identify and analyze major governance gaps and to evaluate possible tools and mechanisms addressing these challenges. They will be challenged to critically analyze how different institutions influence global and local health policies and their outcomes.

The overarching theme will be the history, acceptance and implementation of the MDGs, with a focus on global governance for health and health diplomacy. Specific examples will be explored through lectures, case studies, student presentations and discussions.

### ***III. Assessment***

Course participants are expected prepare before sessions, and to attend and take part in discussions and group work. Participation is also mandatory in the plenary events of the overall BSRS program.

Each student shall contribute to group work during the course, and will be evaluated through their class participation and the group work. 3 ECTS will be awarded upon successful participation and presentation of group work (oral presentation and memo to be handed in at the last day of the course).

Students may choose to write a paper on one of the topics discussed during the course or a predefined topic defined by the course leaders. This assignment should be submitted eight weeks after the end of the course. Students will be awarded 10 ECTS if the submitted paper is approved.