



CIEE in Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Course name:	Dutch Public Health
Course number:	PUBH 3001 NETH
Programs offering course:	Social Sciences + Business & Culture
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2018
Office address:	CIEE Amsterdam Study Center, Roetersstraat 8HS, 1018 WC Amsterdam
Office hours:	By appointment

Course Description

The Netherlands, as many other Western countries, is facing today's challenges of rising health care costs and an ageing population. In this course students will develop a better understanding of the Dutch approach to norms and standards in today's public health and health care system. The course will touch upon culturally sensitive issues such as euthanasia, public insurance, and home birth, as well as global issues such as elderly care and children's health. Through a series of thematic lectures, including guest lectures from professionals in the field, and guided site visits, students are able to place these challenges in a specific context, critically analyzing and comparing them to other countries.

These are the course themes:

- History of Dutch Public Health
- Politics, costs & insurance matters
- Primary & secondary care
- Euthanasia
- Maternal & Child health
- Elderly care
- Psychiatry
- Drugs, alcohol & tobacco
- Ethnicity in healthcare
- The General Practitioner



Learning Objectives

The course aims to motivate students to develop leadership on matters critical to health and to form ethical and evidence-based policy opinions by looking at public health care through a Dutch lens.

The course will run for one semester, meeting twice a week. The course will start with a general overview of public health in the Netherlands in order to provide a broader context in which students can better understand the themes at hand. Each unit following the introduction will focus on specific themes related to public health with readings related to each topic. In turn, these themes will be reflected in guided site visits. The course will be concluded with a final exam.

Course Prerequisites

No prerequisites

Methods of Instruction

- The course meets twice a week for the full semester.
- Each theme will include a two-hour introductory lecture. Some of these themes will be supplemented with guest speakers who are professionals in that specific field.
- In the free time students are given time to study and prepare their presentations and papers on their theme of choice.
- At the end of the course student will have to do a final exam
- The course is worth 3 US credits/6 ECTS

Assessment and Final Grade

Participation	10%
Presentation	20%
Paper 2x	40% (each paper counts for 20%)
Final Exam	30%

Course Requirements

Participation = 10%

Each student is required to attend all sessions of the course and to participate actively in class discussions and during guided site visits.



Presentations 20%

The course encourages students to do presentations through the eyes of the discipline in which they are majoring. For example, if a student is discussing the theme of drugs: the sociology major could approach the issue by looking at the reasons that addicts as a social group resort to drug abuse. The psychology major could approach this by looking at the effects of drug abuse on the individual and the psychological effects.

Students must conduct a 15 minute presentation on a public health theme of their own choice and may use other audio visual equipment such as a film if this a way the student is used to expressing himself/herself. Examples of topics that can be covered within the presentation are the effectiveness of the policies or the effect they have on the image of Amsterdam. **This presentation is to be done in pairs.**

Papers = 2x20% = 40%

During the course students have to complete two papers about public health in general, in the context of the discipline students are majoring in. The papers must have about 800-1000 words and must contain a list of references of at least three scientific sources.

Final Exam = 30%

The final exam will have both essay and multiple choice questions about the topics being discussed in the readings, lectures and site visits.

Note about all assignments: Late assignments will be marked down with 1 point off. Assignments more than 3 days (72 hours) late will not be accepted.

Attendance and Class participation

Each student is expected to attend all sessions of the course and to participate actively in class discussion and during field trips. Attendance will be taken every week by the course instructor. Participation will be assessed according to the CIEE Amsterdam attendance policy:

1x absence = ok

2x absence = extra assignment (1 page in consultation with the professor)

3x absence = 1 point off final grade

4x absence = fail the course

- If a student comes in 15-30 minutes late to class, this counts as a ½ absence.
- At all times the student needs to inform the professor before the start of class in case of an absence. Failure to notify the teacher regarding an absence in advance will result in an extra assignment.



Students who make active connections to the concepts from the reading materials in class discussions, students who actively ask questions, and students who actively reflect on out-of-class experiences in class will receive extra points for participation. Participation points will be deducted when students do not participate in class or who have not read the materials before coming to class.

Important: please note that in case you cannot attend a graded examination or assignment (e.g. midterm exam, final exam, presentation, graded fieldtrip) because of illness, it is required to hand in a written doctor's note with your teacher.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1: Introduction + history of Dutch public health + evolution of the health care system

Week 2: Obesity and nutrition + an ageing population

Week 3: Sexual health

Week 4: Drugs and substance abuse + student presentations

Week 5: Minority health disparities + prescription drugs

Week 6: Primary and secondary healthcare + euthanasia

Week 7: Women and children's health + preventive healthcare

Week 8: Review session + final exam

Readings

The course will use a compilation of articles and statistics taken from academic articles and other journalistic sources (together referred to as the course reader). The articles will be sent to you at the beginning of the course via WeTransfer.

Required reading:

- Healthcare in the Netherlands
- A healthier Netherlands
- Brochure GGD
- The national immunisation programme in the Netherlands (Comprehensive summary)
- Lancet euthanasia 1 en 2
- How does legal regulation of cannabis compare to that of other illicit drugs? The merit of health arguments in the legalization debate
- Medicalization can only be part of the solution
- A.C. Schrier, J.K. Ujcic-Voortman et al, 'Ethnic differences in the association between cardiovascular risk factors and psychological distress in a population study in the Netherlands', BMC Public Health 12 (2012) 1090-1097.
- Bringing care closer to home
- Swan E et al 2015 Profiling Healthy Eaters
- Cornerstones of mental health
- Morbid obesity in Dutch, Turkish and Moroccan Children