

COURSE DETAIL

EPIDEMICS AND PLANETARY HEALTH: HISTORY, ECOLOGY, POLITICS

Country

France

Host Institution

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

Program(s)

Sciences Po Paris

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

History Health Sciences

UCEAP Course Number

107

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

EPIDEMICS AND PLANETARY HEALTH: HISTORY, ECOLOGY, POLITICS

UCEAP Transcript Title

EPIDEMC&PLANET HLTH

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the history of epidemics from the Neolithic period to neoliberal twenty-first century. It adopts an original angle: the perspective of planetary health, a recently emerged framework that proposes to address the interplay between health and disease, local environments, and the planetary crisis. The course engages simultaneously with the history of medicine (including the legacies of Hippocratic and medieval theories of epidemics), with global history (trade, war, colonialism, international governance), and with environmental history (emergence of pathogens, ecological transformation, multi-species histories, Anthropocene studies). Exploring examples including cholera, plague, Covid-19, and HIV-AIDS, it explores how epidemics are embedded within wider pathogenic ecologies shaped by political structures, planetary change, and human (in)action and ignorance. To do so, it follows a “place-based” approach, which avoids the repetitive and sometimes stereotypical genre of epidemic narratives. Focus is also placed on greater Paris as a region marked by the experience of epidemics and epidemic control.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

AHIS 25A15

Host Institution Course Title

EPIDEMICS AND PLANETARY HEALTH: HISTORY, ECOLOGY, POLITICS

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Core seminar

Host Institution Department

History

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