

## Public Health Policy in Practice, Summer 2018, Session 3

**Credits:** 4

**Study Tour:** Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland

**Major disciplines:** Pre-Medicine/Health Science, Public Health, Public Policy

### Instructor



**Rachel Irwin**

PhD. Social Anthropology (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, 2014). MSc. International Health Policy (London School of Economics and Political Science, 2008). Postdoctoral research fellow in medical humanities at Lund University (2016-present). Researcher in global health at Karolinska Institutet (2014-2016) Researcher in health, development and security at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) (2011-2016). Research assistant in health policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science (2007-2011). With DIS since 2016.

### Course description

Sweden is facing a number of current challenges, including achieving cost-effectiveness in health care, and addressing public health concerns relating to migration and increasing inequalities. This course provides an overview of the Swedish health system, in relation to the broader welfare state, and in relation to other Scandinavian and European countries. Through a number of case studies, students will gain insight into how Sweden and other European countries, address public health challenges. Furthermore, students will explore, analyze, and discuss how public health policies are developed and implemented in practice.

### Expected learning outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze, explain and discuss the Swedish health care system and welfare state
- Compare the Swedish system with other European and high-income countries, such as the US and Canada
- Analyze, explain and discuss the impact of European Union (EU) policies on health
- Compare and discuss different policy options for addressing current public health challenges in Sweden and the EU
- Reflect on how policies are designed and implemented in practice
- Assess performance and quality across health systems

### Teaching methods

Different teaching formats will be used. The course may be a mix of interactive lectures, class discussions, group work, student presentations and peer feedback. A major part of the course will be based on debating issues, and students are expected to engage actively in oral presentations, discussions, group work and exercises.

### Field studies

Three field studies are being planned. 1) The first is a healthy cities walk around Stockholm, where students will approach public health policy in practice. Through a guided walk through neighborhoods of Stockholm, students will identify risk factors for health and public health responses for health promotion. (2) The second is to the European Centres for Disease Control to learn about disease surveillance and response. The third is to the (2) Spirit Museum, where students will investigate historical and contemporary approaches to alcohol control in Sweden. Further information regarding the visits will be provided as the dates approach. The field visit sites are subject to change.

## **Study Tour**

The Study Tour is an integral part of the course. We take the classroom on the road and see how theory presented in the classroom is translated into practice in the field. You will travel with your classmates and DIS faculty/staff on a weeklong tour to Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Expectations for study tours

- Participate in all activities
- Engage in discussions, ask questions, and contribute to achieving the learning objectives
- Respect the destination, the speakers, DIS staff, and your fellow classmates
- Represent yourself, your home university and DIS in a positive light

While on a program study tour DIS will provide hostel/hotel accommodation, transportation to/from the destination(s), approx. 2 meals per day and entrances, guides, and visits relevant to your area of study or the destination. You will receive a more detailed itinerary prior to departure.

Travel policies: You are required to travel with your group to the destination. If you wish to deviate from the group travel plans on the way back, you need approval from the assistant program director and the study tours office.

## **Evaluation and Grading**

To be eligible for a passing grade in this class all of the assigned work must be completed.

Late assignments will be accepted, but the grade for the paper will be reduced.

The factors influencing the final grade and the proportional importance of each factor is shown below:

Component	Weight
Participation and engagement	15 %
Quiz	15%
Group project	30%
Study tour reflection paper	15 %
Final paper	25 %

### **Participation and engagement**

Participation is measured in regard to both attendance and academic activity level during class and study tour.

### **Quizzes**

Students will take 1 lecture-based quiz during the course. Please see syllabus for the specific date.

### **Group project on health issues in the European Union**

In groups of 2-3, students will prepare a 10-minute presentation, comparing specific aspects of health policy in the US, Sweden and EU countries. Further details on the assignment will be given at the beginning of the course.

### **Study tour reflection paper**

Students will write a 1-2 page reflection (300-600 words) on their experiences during the study tour. Further details on the assignment will be given at the beginning of the course.

### **Final paper**

Students will submit a final paper, which will incorporate learning from the entire course. Students will be able to choose from three essay prompts, which will be provided during the first week of class. The paper should be approximately 2000 words.

## Expectations of Students & Code of Conduct

- Laptops may be used for note-taking, fact-checking, or assignment in the classroom, but only when indicated by the instructor. At all other times laptops and electronic devices should be put away during class time.
- Reading must be done prior to the class session; a huge part of the class is dependent on discussions in class.
- Students need to be present and participating to receive full credit. The final grade will be affected by unexcused absences and lack of participation. Remember to be in class on time!
- Classroom etiquette includes being respectful of other opinions, listening to others and entering a dialogue in a constructive manner.
- Students are expected to ask relevant questions in regards to the material covered.

## Policies

**Disability and Resource concerns:** Any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Mark Peters ([mpe@disstockholm.se](mailto:mpe@disstockholm.se)) to coordinate this. In order to receive accommodations, students should inform the instructor of approved DIS accommodations within the first two weeks of classes.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all DIS classes when scheduled. If multiple classes are missed the Office of Academic Support will be notified and will follow-up to make sure, that all is well. Absences will jeopardize grades and academic standing at DIS. Allowances will be made in cases of illness, but in the case of multiple absences a doctor's note is required.

**Academic Honesty: Plagiarism and Violating the Rules of an Assignment** DIS expects that students abide by the highest standards of intellectual honesty in all academic work. DIS assumes that all students do their own work and credit all work or thought by others. Academic dishonesty will result in a final course grade of 'F' and can result in dismissal. The students' home universities will be notified. In such cases, DIS reserves the right to request that written student assignments be turned in electronically for subjection to plagiarism detection software. See the Academic Handbook for more information, or ask your instructor if you have questions.

## Additional contact info

Mark Peters, Academic Coordinator, [mpe@disstockholm.se](mailto:mpe@disstockholm.se)

Louise Bagger Iversen, Assistant Program Director, Science & Health Programs, [lbi@dis.dk](mailto:lbi@dis.dk)

Lisbeth Borbye, Director of Science & Health Programs, [lbo@dis.dk](mailto:lbo@dis.dk)

## Canvas

Canvas is a web-based system that allows you to access course resources and communicate with your classmates and faculty. To access Canvas, you can go to the DIS homepage and click the 'Canvas' link on the bottom of the website, or go to: <https://canvas.disabroad.org/login/canvas>. You can also download the Canvas App (By: Instructure) on iPhone and Android mobile smart phones.

## Readings

TBA

**Course Schedule (*subject to change*)**

Lect.	Date	Topic	Readings (TBA)
<b>Week 1: Health systems, financing and economics</b>			
	2 July (M)	Arrival workshop	
1+2	3 July (T)	Public health challenges in Sweden: Overview Welfare state models	
	4 July (W)	Field study	
3+4	4 July (W)	Health Organization & Financing Neoliberalism & New Public Management	
5+6	5 July (Th)	Overview of health economics Making health policy: evidence, values & economics	
	5 July (Th)	Quiz	
7	6 July (F)	Economic evaluation in health care (guest lecture)	
<b>Week 2: Health policy in the European Union</b>			
8+9	9 July (M)	Health policy in the EU Brexit and public health	
10+11	10 July (T)	Migration (double lecture)	
12+13	11 July (W)	Sexual health, abortion and HIV (double lecture)	
	11 July (W)	Field study	
14	12 July (Th)	Pharmaceutical policy	
15	12 July (Th)	Group presentations	
16	13 July (F)	Antimicrobial resistance (guest lecturer)	
<b>Week 3: Study tour Ireland &amp; Northern Ireland</b>			
<b>Week 4: Swedish responses to global challenges</b>			
17+18	23 July (M)	Human resources for health Road traffic accidents	
19	24 July (T)	Sweden and the World Health Organization (WHO)	
	24 July (T)	Study tour reflection paper due	
20+21	25 July (W)	Alcohol and tobacco Illicit drugs	
	25 July (W)	Field study	
22+23	26 July (Th)	Measuring performance and quality in health care (R) Course wrap-up and evaluation	
	27 July	Final paper due	