



Carleton
UNIVERSITY



Department of
**Geography &
Environmental Studies**

GEOG 3206 Health, Environment, Society

Course instructor: Sarah Nelson

May-June, 2018

There are many health inequalities between different parts of the world today. What does this have to do with the places where people live, work, and make meaning of their lives? This course is concerned with how people influence places, and how places – including both natural and social environments – influence health. We will examine the links between societies, geographies, and health and disease, and how these relate to one another at different scales, from the global to the local.

It asks the following questions:

1. What are the geographies of health and disease? (in terms of place, location, scale, distance, or space)
2. How do natural and social environments impact the health of populations?
3. How do globalization, colonialism, and locality interact, and what are the subsequent effects on health and disease?
4. How have global patterns and understandings of health and disease changed throughout history, and what social and environmental processes are they linked to?
5. How is the geography of health and health care evolving and what are the roles of biomedical and alternative forms of health care?

Students will be guided in their exploration of these questions through a variety of readings in health geography, lectures and guest lectures, videos, and interactive exercises. We will cover topics including:

- Indigenous health,
- Disease ecology and disease mapping,
- Food security and food systems,
- How we conceptualize health in relation to the developed and developing worlds,
- The social determinants of health,
- Environmental justice, and
- The differing impacts of climate change, among others.

Lectures: Tuesday and Thursday, 6:05-8:55pm

Prerequisite: Third year standing.