



# The Global Politics of Health

# About me: Dr Anne Roemer-Mahler



I am originally from Germany and I came to the UK on a Rhodes Scholarship to study for a MPhil at the Oxford Department of International Development. I stayed there for my doctoral research that looked at how pharmaceutical companies from India and the US tried to influence the global governance of intellectual property rights. After my doctorate, I worked as a Research Fellow at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), where I was involved in a project on transformations in global health governance.

Since 2013, I have been here at Sussex, at the Department of International Relations and the Centre for Global Health Policy. My research interests are in the global governance of health and health security. I have a particular interest in the issue of antimicrobial resistance, and the regional focus of my current work is Africa. Currently, I am leading two research projects, one on of the recently created Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), and one on AMR responses in Egypt. In both projects, I am working with colleagues from a wide range of countries and academic disciplines, including microbiology, public health, anthropology, and political science.

# What is the module about?

Global health is a rapidly expanding issue, not only in the discipline of International Relations but also in the policy world. Globalisation is driving the spread of diseases that states, international organisations, NGOs, and philanthropic organisations are trying to address.

This course begins by theorising the ways in which health and globalisation are becoming increasingly linked, and analyses the various economic, political and security challenges that diseases pose for contemporary world politics and global governance. The course then evaluates different approaches to studying world politics, paying particular attention to how they conceptualise the problems posed by global health issues and explain global politics responses.

The module is taught through ten three-hour workshops. The workshops begin with a lecture, in which I outline some of the key issues and debates linked to the topic of that session. The remainder of the session will be divided between class discussions, small group activities, and individual and group presentations.

The workshops are designed to be as interactive as possible: an opportunity for us to discuss the readings set for that week and the issues arising from them. It is therefore essential that you have done at least the essential reading – and I will assume that everyone has.



# Weekly Topics and method

1. Why Study Global Politics
2. Global Health Governance I – States and International Organisations
3. Global Health Governance II – NGOs and philanthropic Organisations
4. Global Health Governance III – Commercial Companies
5. Health and Development
6. (Re-) Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Rise of
7. Global Health Security
8. Global Health Security – Consolidation and Limitations
9. Non-Communicable Diseases
10. Antimicrobial Resistance

## Assessment:

- A 3,500 word essay (70%)
- 1000 word written submission (20%)
- 10 min Group Presentation (10%)

## Teaching:

- Classes consist of one 3 hour workshop per week

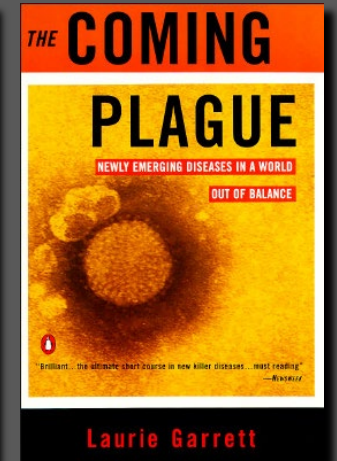
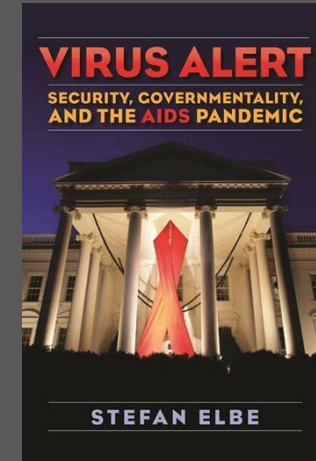
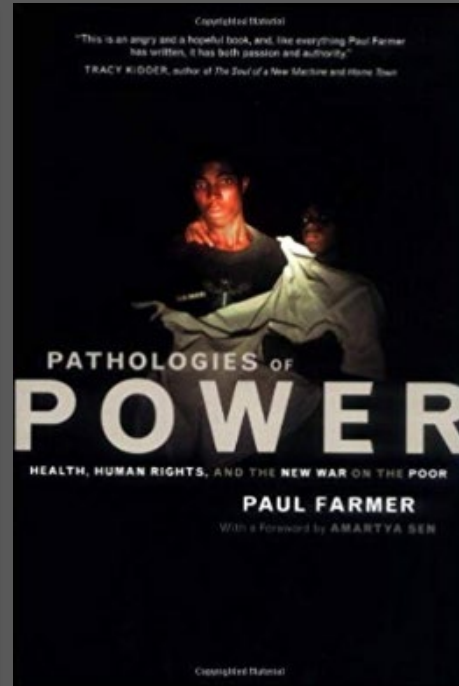
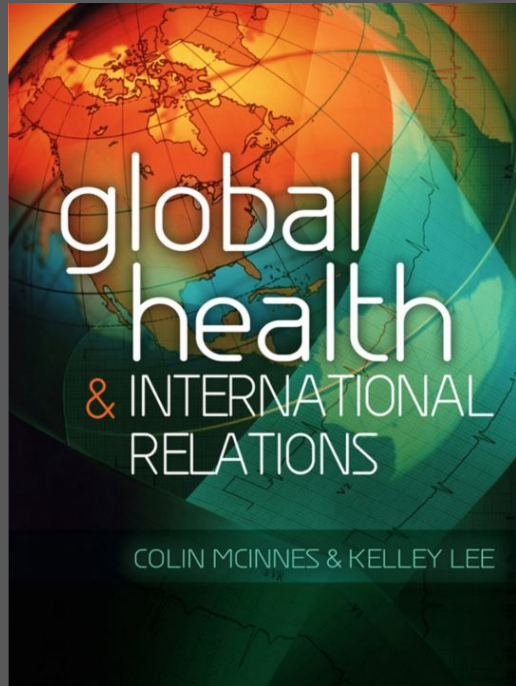


# Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module students who take The politics of Global Health will be able to:

- Demonstrate empirical and theoretical knowledge and understanding of how global health problems have been linked to processes of globalisation;
- Apply your knowledge and understanding of core concepts from mainstream and critical theories of International Relations to critically analyse global governance responses to contemporary global health problems;
- Identify practical, political and moral challenges facing policymakers and practitioners addressing global health challenges.

# Indicative Reading



These have all been on the reading list for the 18/19 academic year.