

Medicine and Climate Change I

Seminar

Winter Semester 2024/25

Tuesday, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, Room 3.31 Prieserstr.
Lecturer: PD Dr. Carmen Jochem

Description: In this course, students will develop a deeper understanding on the multiple interrelationships between climate change and human health and specifically, on country-specific climate change associated health effects.

Objective: At the end of this course, the students will have acquired fundamental knowledge about climate change associated diseases and health-related consequences. Students will be able to present country-specific data on climate change associated health effects and on existing policy measures and recommendations.

Structure: The course is structured in three parts:

- 1) **Reflection on health concepts and determinants of health:** In the first three seminars, students will develop a deeper understanding of the underlying concepts of health (from an individual to a planetary health perspective), including the determinants of health. In addition to the facts learned in the corresponding lectures, students will critically and creatively reflect on and discuss their understanding of health and illness as well as of planetary health. They will search and present data of regional trends of selected determinants of health.
- 2) **Literature research and data presentation of country-specific data on climate change and health:** In six seminars, students will acquire knowledge on country-specific data on climate change and health. Specifically, they will search data on health, demographics, climate change for a specific country, as well as on country-specific data on climate change associated health effects. In addition, they will search for national guidelines / recommendations on health-promoting and sustainable diet or active transportation and for existing country-specific policies / policy recommendations targeting climate change and health (e.g. heat action plans). Country-specific data and information will be presented to and discussed with the audience. Based on the data collected, students will prepare and finalize their posters.
- 3) **Poster presentation:** In groups of two students, a poster is presented to the audience. Time for poster presentation should not exceed 8 minutes. The poster should contain country-specific information on the following aspects:
 - country-specific data on health, demographics, climate change
 - current country-specific challenges in the context of climate change and health
 - existing national guidelines / recommendations on health-promoting and sustainable diet or active transportation
 - existing country-specific policies / policy recommendations targeting climate change and health (e.g. heat action plans)

A peer-to-peer feedback method will be used to provide feedback on poster presentations. Based on the feedback and pre-defined evaluation criteria, three posters will be awarded with a poster prize.

Date	Seminar
Part 1	Reflection on health concepts and determinants of health
22.10.2024	Our understanding of health and illness: discussion and group work
29.10.2024	Determinants of health: literature research and data presentation of regional trends
05.11.2024	Planetary health: creative reflection and discussion
Part 2	Literature research and data presentation of country-specific data on climate change and health (including preparation of the posters)
12.11.2024	Country-specific data on health, demographics, climate change: group work and presentation
19.11.2024	Country-specific data on climate change associated health effects: group work and presentation
26.11.2024	Country-specific data on climate change associated health effects: group work and presentation
03.12.2024	Country-specific data on climate change associated health effects: group work and presentation
10.12.2024	Country-specific guidelines / recommendations on health-promoting and sustainable diet or active transportation: group work and presentation
17.12.2024	Country-specific policies / policy recommendations targeting climate change and health (e.g. heat action plans)
07.01.2025	Finalization of the posters
Part 3	Poster presentation
14.01.2025	Poster presentation I
21.01.2025	Poster presentation II
28.01.2025	Poster presentation III

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