

Department.: Nursing

Course number: NURS 2175

Course title: Global Politics of Childbearing & Reproduction

Credits: 3

Contact Person: John McNulty

Course Information:

This course will enlarge the scope of understanding pertaining to maternal health and reproductive issues on a global scale. This course provides focused and sustained examination of the social, cultural, and political forces which organize childbirth and reproductive experiences.

Course Objectives:

- 1) Students will describe reproduction & childbearing practices within multiple social, historical, and political contexts.
- 2) Students will identify the political, social, and historical birth practices which affect global reproductive decisions and experiences.
- 3) Students will demonstrate understanding of the relationship between social and political understandings of the reproductive body and cultural representations thereof.
- 4) Students will describe how policies regarding birth and contraception influence women, and how such influences are mediated by class, race, location, sexuality, and access to resources.
- 5) The student will be able to evaluate the availability, access, and quality of reproductive medical interventions globally and transnationally.

Meets Goals of Gen Ed:

There are 7 possible components of general education courses. Below you will see the components specific to this course as well as a brief description of how the course meets the standard.

1. Become articulate

- This course encourages and requires both written and oral discussion. Students must internalize new content, synthesize the new information, and be able to discuss the content (written and oral) in terms of how it relates to social, political, geographic and healthcare issues.

3. Acquire critical judgment

- This is specifically met with the critical book review but will also be met in weekly discussion.

4. Acquire moral sensitivity

- Moral sensitivity is a necessary component of this course. The student will be stretched in their moral and ethical thinking. Many students will be confronted with moral and ethical dilemmas, as they explore cultures, social norms, and political systems vastly different than their own.

6. Acquire consciousness of the diversity of human culture and experience

- This course is founded on the expectation that students will acquire consciousness of cultural diversity, social norms, and individual experience. Students will be challenged to view childbirth and reproduction outside the lense of what is expected and experienced in the United States.

CA4-Int Criteria:

Content Area 4, Diversity and Multiculturalism, is met by centralizing consideration of childbearing experiences outside of the U.S. context. Specifically, this course will: emphasize the varieties of as well as the similarities between social experiences and values around childbirth; locate these varieties within their diverse social and cultural contexts; and incorporate a sustained examination of maternal health and the conditions for maternal health as a fundamental human right, including consideration of the multiple violations of this right globally as well as current efforts to protect and provide for adequate maternal health.

International:

Similar to Content Area 4, the international component, is met by centralizing consideration of childbearing experiences outside of the U.S. context. Specifically, this course will: emphasize the varieties of as well as the similarities between social experiences and values around childbirth; locate these varieties within their diverse social and cultural contexts; and incorporate a sustained examination of maternal health and the conditions for maternal health as a fundamental human right, including consideration of the multiple violations of this right globally as well as current efforts to protect and provide for adequate maternal health.