

Department of International Health

Integrated Writing Strategy for Global Health

Practitioners in the field of Global Health employ many approaches to writing for various professional objectives. During their four years of study at Georgetown University, students in Global Health will be exposed to, learn about, and practice the various forms of writing expected of them as professionals in the workplace as well as in graduate school. The following section mentions the predominant forms of writing in Global Health along with illustrative examples:

Programmatic

- Project reports
- Minutes of meetings and workshops
- Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis
- Strategies / Operational Plans and Budgets
- Public Service Announcements (PSA)
- Q&A fact sheets
- Advocacy materials

Business Development

- Research proposal
- Project proposal

Policy

- Policy briefs

Scholarly:

- Literature reviews (from unstructured to systematic)
- Primary and secondary data analysis for research papers (qualitative, and quantitative)
- Annotated bibliographies
- Scientific posters
- Commentaries and opinion pieces

In addition, professionals will be increasingly expected to master communication skills in various social media, including Websites, Twitter, Facebook, blogs, etc.

Writing Intensive Courses

All GLOH courses require students to produce written work as well as oral presentations and most of the formats above are reflected in the student assignments as part of the International Health core curriculum. The department

has identified several writing intensive courses, which place special emphasis on the development of writing skills.

Among the core courses, these are:

- GLOH 140 – Introduction to Global Health
- GLOH 303 - Research Methods in Global Health
- GLOH 202 – Maternal and Child Health in Developing Countries
- GLOH 220 - Population, Demography and Development
- GLOH 360 - Comparative Health Systems

Among the department’s elective courses, the following courses are designated “writing intensive” courses, which provide particular attention to writing in global health:

- GLOH 406 - Disease Control Programs
- GLOH 420 - Global Mental Health
- GLOH 440 - Urbanization, Health and the Environment
- GLOH 442 - Global Consequences of Food and Nutrient Insecurity

The following table maps current GLOH courses (as of fall 2018) and their respective assignments, and notes where specific in-class instruction on writing is given.

The courses designated as “writing intensive” courses are marked by a *. It should be noted though that most of the higher-level classes are asking students to write extensively:

Table 1: Mapping Writing in GLOH courses

Course	Assignment	Specific writing instruction given
CORE COURSES		
* GLOH 140 - Introduction to Global Health	- Journal clubs - Presentations	Students are introduced to the art of formulating questions, finding information, and evaluating different sources of information (with input from library staff). Instruction is given on oral presentations (with input from NHS communications director)
* GLOH 202 - Maternal and	- Book review paper - Policy brief	For the book review, students are given instruction on how to synthesize

Child Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oral presentation 	<p>information from multiple sources and build a perspective grounded in the academic literature.</p> <p>For the policy brief, students are taught how to prepare a short informational paper as well as a 1-page distilled summary for decision making</p>
GLOH 177 – Epidemiological Approaches to Population Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blogs - Paper reviews 	<p>Students are given instructions in how to critique a research journal article and summarize the strength and weaknesses in its study design and causality arguments.</p>
*GLOH 220 – Population, Demography and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data analysis research paper incorporating policy implications 	<p>Students are given a one-page handout outlining the requirement and giving tips on how to prepare a good research paper.</p>
GLOH 260 – Political Economy of Health and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essay on an economist’s contribution to the field - Secondary data analysis research paper - Presentations 	<p>Students receive guidance on writing style from Strunk & White, pp. 66-85; twenty-one writer recommendations; Assemble and assess importance of data</p>
GLOH 281 – International Health Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Needs assessment - Health promotion materials: PSA, posters, advocacy materials - Project proposal 	<p>Instruction provided on designing posters and developing radio PSAs with support from the Gelardin Media Center.</p> <p>In class instruction given on developing log frames for program planning.</p>
* GLOH 360 – Comparative Health Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary data research + analysis - Calculating rates with comparative analysis - Three mini-essays (500 words) - Term paper 5000 words - Team paper 10,000 words and oral presentation - Final exam: 	<p>Guidance is given on how to write a research paper.</p>

	analytic essay	
* GLOH 303 - Research Methods in Global Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research proposal - Primary data analysis research paper - Scientific poster presentation 	In class instruction on how to conduct a literature review based on a research question; how to use reference manager software to create bibliographies for proposals and publications; how to write a research proposal, data report, and IRB forms. Instructions are also provided on how to create a scientific poster and to present it effectively.
GLOH 356 – Globalization and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation - Commentary/ opinion piece 	In class instruction on how to write opinion pieces.
GLOH 392- Internship Abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literature review - Study report 	
GLOH 393 – Internship with International Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project proposal - Presentations - Blogs - Reflection paper on organizational development issues 	
ELECTIVE COURSES		
GLOH 270 – HIV&AIDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literature research paper - Essay exams 	Guidance is given on the preparation of a final ‘research paper’.
GLOH 292 – Community Organizations Internship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizational analysis/ research paper - Presentation 	Writing exercises in spring 2014 included preparing a proposal for additional finance for the community organization
GLOH – 380 Historical Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historical institutional analysis paper - Study design methodology paper - Policy brief 	Course emphasizes three types of writing: historical analysis, articulating methodologies, and a policy brief.
* GLOH 406 - Disease Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scholarly paper 	
GLOH 408 – Access to Pharmaceuticals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literature research paper - Presentation - Essay exams 	

*GLOH 442 Global Consequences of Food and Nutrient Insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reaction/reflection papers from assigned articles - Final group project paper with presentation 	Template and direction given on writing research papers. Students do a project simulation where every step from the outline to the final draft is handed in for a grade. Five reflection papers further require proper formatting and referencing with an emphasis on reflection not reporting.
*GLOH 420- Global Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literature review - Opinion piece 	Students are given instruction on how to develop writing for two different purposes: literature review and opinion piece. Detailed feedback on writing skills given, with class review of common pitfalls in the writing assignments.
*GLOH 440 – Urbanization, Health and the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literature research paper - Presentation - Reading Reflections - Essay exam 	

Writers' Workshop

In addition to in-class instruction on writing in our discipline, Global Health students will participate in a writers' workshop during the fall semester of freshman year. This workshop will teach basic writing and editing skills for writing in global health and development. The workshop will take place over two regular class sessions and will be planned and executed in conjunction with the GU Writing Center.