

International Online Course Pandemics in History

Access to education and participation in academic dialogue have taken on an increasingly global dimension. Digitalization opens numerous opportunities for academic collaboration that far exceed the geographical, political, and social boundaries of traditional teaching and learning. In order to incorporate these aspects in their curriculum, partners from the University College and the Center for Medicine and Society at University of Freiburg (Germany) as well as Stony Brook University (NY, USA) developed a joint online course on “Pandemics in History”. The course is part of the [VirtualLAS](#) project at University College Freiburg and is sponsored as an [International Virtual Academic Collaboration](#) by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

Partners

Prof. Dr. Bettina Fries, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Stony Brook University
Prof. Dr. Axel Kroeger, Center for Medicine and Society, University of Freiburg
Dr. Simon J. Buechner, Major Life Sciences, University College Freiburg, University of Freiburg

In a joint credit-bearing course for up to 15 students the partners will develop a 360°-view of five different pandemics that occurred in human history and are still ongoing:

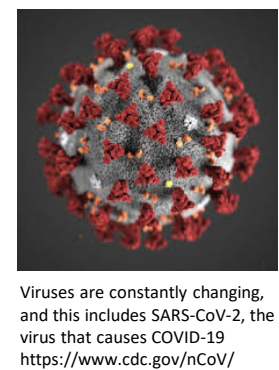
Dengue



Malaria



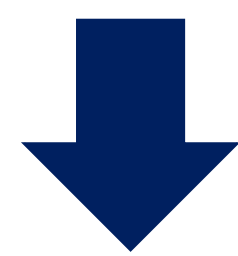
SARS/Covid-19



Tuberculosis



HIV-AIDS



A group of three students from the different partner institutions and with different academic backgrounds will explore one of the pandemics in a research-oriented way. They will be supervised by an expert from an internationally staffed panel. Each student group will analyze different aspects of one pandemic, for example, its pathology, related burdens and consequences as well as measures taken against it. The course will particularly deal with the fact that pandemics are of global concern, while measures against them are usually taken on a national level.



In addition, students will gain insights into the work of public health institutions such as:



Contact

- Dr. Simon J. Buechner
University College Freiburg
buechner@ucf.uni-freiburg.de
- Prof. Dr. Axel Kroeger
Center for Medicine and Society
axel.kroeger@zmg.uni-freiburg.de



Course platform

WS 20/21 - Pandemics in Human History

Content Info Settings Members Learning Progress Metadata Export Show Member View

Zoom Manage Sorting Custom Page

Selected object(s) moved.

Add New Item

Welcome to the course!

The University College Freiburg (UCF) together with the Center for Medicine and Society (ZMG) at the University of Freiburg, Germany and the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the Stony Brook University, USA are glad to invite you to apply for the International Virtual LAS Course on Pandemics in Human History.

The course will be online! It will be a unique opportunity for you to meet people from different academic backgrounds that will work together to discuss pandemics.

In a joint credit-bearing course 6 ECTS, 15 students from the three partner institutions will implement a 360°-view of five different pandemics that occurred in human history: Dengue, SARS/Covid-19, HIV-AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Each pandemic will be covered by one expert who also serves as a mentor for the students. Five international student groups (of 3 people) will each explore one pandemic and compare its consequences as well as measures taken against them in different parts of the world. In addition, students will gain insights into public health institutions (WHO, CDC, etc.).

Your Tutors:

- Jacqueline M. Achkar, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY
- Tsoma Callegas, emerit, staff member of WHO
- Bettina Fries, Stony Brook University, NY, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology
- Olaf R. Horststick, University of Heidelberg, Institute of Global Health
- Franco Pagnani, emerit, staff member of WHO, Global Malaria Program

The lifetime interactions are programmed to be in the **early afternoon Germany time**, which will be in the **early morning for Latin America and United States, late afternoon for Africa, or late night in Australia.**

You will be required to **actively participate** during the kick-off meeting, the mentoring and assessment phase. You will spend approximately **4 hours weekly** on self and group study from **February to March**. You are required to **read, present, and discuss academic articles** for the final Presentation and the Ted talk presentation.

MOST IMPORTANT DATES

RECORDINGS OF THE WEBMEETINGS

Communication

The forum is the main communication tools with your lecturers, tutors and fellow students. In the forum, you can ask all course related questions and discuss them. We will always have an eye on the forum.

Communication

Forum - Pandemics in Human History WS 20/21

Articles (unread: 2 (2)) New Articles: 1

Latest Article: Hi everyone, welcome to this internet... from Philipp Bucher (p1059@uni-freiburg.de), 29 Jan 2021, 10:49

Lectures

Lecture Slides

Introduction to pathogens, Prof. Dr. Bettina Fries pdf 10.4 MB 30 Jan 2021, 18:20 Page Count: 47

Pandemics, Basics, History and Transmission, Prof. Dr. Hajo Grundmann pdf 17.9 MB 30 Jan 2021, 20:49 Page Count: 64

Socio-economic impact of Pandemics, Prof. Dr. Axel Kroeger pptx 13.7 MB 30 Jan 2021, 20:58

Lecture Recordings

Zoom Recordings

On successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Describe the causes, intervention strategies, and consequences of one specific pandemic in its historical and geographical context.
- Summarize the most important aspects of the other pandemics covered in the course
- Compare public health measures taken by different institutions at different times and assess their effectiveness
- Determine biological and socio-geographical factors that foster a disease's development from an epidemic to a pandemic
- Develop a new approach to implement proposed solutions using digital skills based on interdisciplinarity, intercultural competencies and teamwork.

Pandemics

Pandemics

Dengue Dr. Olaf R. Horststick, University of Heidelberg, Institute of Global Health

HIV-AIDS Dr. Tsoma Callegas, emerit, staff member of WHO

Malaria Dr. Franco Pagnani, emerit, staff member of WHO, Global Malaria Program

SARS/Covid-19 Prof. Dr. Bettina Fries, Stony Brook University, NY (USA)

Tuberculosis Prof. Dr. Jacqueline M. Achkar, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY

Upload for Student Projects

Student Uploads

Student Projects

Upload for Student Projects

Student Uploads

Student Projects

Additional literature

Resources

Additional Resources

Course Organization

Course guidance

About VirtualLAS

VirtualLAS focusses on collaborative, digitally based teaching and student-instructor dialogue as well as intercultural competencies and team-working skills. The project is particularly suited to strengthen students' understanding of global responsibility, diversity, and interculturality. VirtualLAS ultimately aims to:

- expand internationalization endeavors into the virtual domain and to increase internationalization at home for our students;
- develop, pilot, and evaluate unique student-centered formats of virtual international learning together with our international partners;
- assess and document the results together with our international partners for consolidation;
- foster learning and transfer of these student-centered formats of virtual international learning to other courses