RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

| Supervisor:          | Dr. Jyothi Thrivikraman  
|                     | Dr. Sarah Hinman-Doe  
|                     | Dr. Josien de Klerk  
|                     | Dr. Min Jung Cho  
| Title of clinic:    | Decolonising Public Health and Global Health:  
| Number of students: | Up to 8  
| Major (if applicable and approved by the Major Convener): | GPH  
| (Pre)requisites (if applicable): | At least 1-100 level course in the major  
|                                                   | Must not be graduating in Winter 2021

Research context

Disease control and public health programs expanded alongside colonial expansion. Recognizing the colonial origins of the discipline, efforts at decolonialisation have centred on name changes: tropical medicine to international health to now global health. But power relations, focal points of health actions and methodologies have not fundamentally altered. With this backdrop, this research clinic will examine two questions: what does it mean to decolonise public health? And what does it mean to decolonise global health? In summary, how can and where should the LUC Global Public Health major move away from (neo)colonial dynamics that underpin our discipline? The research clinic will take place in blocks 2 and 3 of the 2020-2021 academic year. Specific tasks and activities are detailed below. This research clinic is being hosted in the context of the “Decolonisation Working Group”, as part of a bigger project to decolonise education at LUC.

Students’ tasks and activities

Please specify the tasks and activities, timeline, the learning aims and how they are assessed, i.e. what the deliverables will be.

1. Block 1
   While the core activities will take place in Blocks 2 and 3, starting in Block 1, the Decolonisation Working Group (DWG), will be hosting a speaker series. It is recommended that students in the GPH research clinic attend these lectures to understand the current debates about decolonising learning more broadly

2. Block 2
   The first task will be to read the general decolonising policy brief developed by Dr. Densua Mumford’s WP Research Clinic. This brief provides an overview of what is meant by decolonising and such efforts globally. Students will then be divided into two groups to examine decolonising public health and global health. This will involve
   a. Review of the literature on what this could mean for the major and specific courses (i.e. social determinants of health, epidemiology, health systems, ethics global health policy)
   b. Investigate how decolonising public/global health has been implemented in other higher educational institutes. This will also involve understanding the leading thinkers in this area.

3. Block 3
   This block will shift to examining decolonising methodologies and research design within the major. At the end of the block students will be assessed on the following outputs:
   a. Presentation of decolonising global health to students and staff in the major. Presentation should include key discussion points and specific recommendations for how to decolonise the major.
   b. Website/online platform to serve as an online resource to provide updated information on decolonising global public health. This will serve as a centralised repository for articles and key scholarship to enable students to remain updated on the concepts and discussions in this area. Current research clinic students will begin initial design; mechanisms for institutionalising updates and managing the website/platform will be discussed during the presentation referenced in point a.
   c. Personal Reflections on participating in this clinic.