

ANTH390

GOOD INTENTIONS, UNCERTAIN OUTCOMES: Cultural Approaches to Global Health and Humanitarianism

Description: This class will focus on existing inequities that underpin global health and humanitarian industries: how global health and humanitarian projects sometimes contribute to perpetuating health disparities instead of mending them. We will consider how feminist approaches to global health policy and data collection hold the potential to foster greater equality within healthcare systems and result into better health outcomes for underprivileged and marginalized groups. We will address existing power dynamics in creation and implementation of global health and humanitarian projects, outlining the ways to mitigate discrimination and create more responsive policies that aim to enhance the well-being of all individuals. We will look at how different ways of gathering health data impact what we know about health and the policies we design. Importantly, we will consider the points of convergence between global health and humanitarianism and explore how good intentions often end up doing more harm than good.