

COURSE NO: SM 640 WORKERS' HEALTH IN INDIA

Scant attention is paid in India to the subject of work and its impact on health. This Course on Work & Health is meant to be an initial step in the direction of creating more awareness and knowledge base among public health students on nature and organization of work in contemporary societies, and its impact on health, and to engage with questions of how to direct such knowledge to better work and working conditions so that they do not harm health.

The Course will introduce students to the idea of Work as a Social Determinant of Health, as a key social dimension affecting population health and well-being. We will look at the nature and organization of work in contemporary society, and the impact of modern working practices and working conditions on workers, specifically their health and safety implications, and engage with questions such as which sections of working people are most affected, why so and how.

The objectives of the course are:

- A. To discuss and understand work as a social determinant of health, associations between work-related factors and health, specifically
 - significance of employment/working condition for health of workers and their families, hence for health of populations.
 - impact of workplace environment on health of workers.
- B. To guide students to search for, compile, assess and critically interpret relevant scientific and epidemiologic, theoretical, methodological, and empirical knowledge on workers' health issues in India.

Number of Credits: 2

PROPOSED COURSE OUTLINE

Theme I

Significance of 18th-19th century - of Industrial Revolution and Urbanization for public health - work of medical practitioners and others documenting relation of work and health – Origin of modern public health measures and legislation regulating work and working conditions to protect health – of welfare measures

Theme II: Work & Health

Importance of perspectives and theoretical frameworks – Epidemiology – “Uses” of Epidemiology – Eco-Social Epidemiology – Social Determinants of Health

Employment Conditions and Health - The concept of “decent work” introduced by the International Labour Organization; theoretical frameworks/models to understand pathways by which work affects health; links between employment relations, conditions and health of workers

and their families, between employment conditions and health inequalities – WHO-EMCONET (Employment Conditions Knowledge Network); Terms and methodologies used – Data sources

Theme III - Workers' Health & Safety in India

- i) Different sectors of Work – Traditional sectors of Production
Mines-Agriculture-Construction-Industries-Docks/Ports-Plantations – Industries and Sub-sectors of Industries – Chemicals-Pharmaceuticals-Textiles-Motor Vehicle-electrical and so on
Newer Sectors: in Manufacturing - Garments, Electronics, etc., and the Service Sectors – Transport-Urban Sanitation-Hospitals-Security-ITES(Business Process Outsourcing), etc
- ii) Working Population in India –Distribution across sectors- condition of workers in these – men-women-child labour-bonded labour-
- iii) Employment Relations, Employment Conditions, and Working Conditions in different sectors in India since 1947: 1970s – 1990s – to present;
- iv) Profile of Work-related/Occupational diseases, accidents, injuries and health status of working population in India; Status of protective measures and policies; data regarding health of working population – available data and gaps – Macro-picture and micro-level analysis -
Selected Sectors to be studied in depth, special attention to women workers in these-
- v) Protective Measures: Legislation – Focus on Health Services – General & Workers' Health Services

Method of Conducting the Course

- Lectures
- Reading and Discussion (Tutorials)
- Field Visits to Industrial Sites in NCR ?
- Group Activity – Documentation of Workers on Campus??

Evaluation: Term Papers, Presentation and Viva-voce.

WINTER SEMESTER 2016

READING LIST I: SM 640 WORKER'S HEALTH IN INDIA ESSENTIAL READING

Conceptual/Reviews/Discussion Papers

1. Bambra, C. (2011) Work, worklessness and the political economy of health inequalities. *Journal of Epidemiology and community health*, 65 (9), pp 746-750.
2. Benach, J. and Muntaner, C. (2007) 'Precarious Employment and Health: Developing a Research Agenda', *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* 61: 276-7.
3. Benach, J., Muntaner, C., Santana, V. (eds) (2007) *Employment Conditions and Health Inequalities. Final Report to the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health.* EMCONET, WHO. Available at: http://www.who.int/social_determinants/resources/articles/emconet_who_report.pdf?ua=1
4. Benach, J., Muntaner, C., Solar, O., Santana, V., and Quinlan, M. (2010) Introduction to the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health Employment Conditions Network (EMCONET) Study, with a Glossary on Employment Relations. *International Journal of Health Services* Volume 40, Number 2, Pages 195–207.
(See this Issue for Special Section on Role of Employment relations in reducing health inequalities).
5. Chakravarthi, I. (2014) Work as a Social Determinant of Health: Joblessness and Informalization in India, Implications for Health. *Samyukta: A Journal of Women's Studies* (July) vol.14(2), pp 41-55.
6. Baxter, P. and Jack, S. (2008) Qualitative Case Study Methodology: Study Design and Implementation for Novice Researchers. *The Qualitative Report* vol.13(4), pp544-559.
7. David Rosner and Gerald Markowitz (1985-85) Safety and Health on the Job as a Class Issue: The Workers' Health Bureau of America in the 1920s. *Science & Society*, Vol. 48, No. 4 (Winter, 1984/1985), pp. 466-482.
8. Hamlin, C. (1995) "Could You Starve to Death in England in 1839? The Chadwick-Farr Controversy and the Loss of the 'Social' in Public Health". *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 85, No. 6, pp. 856–866.
9. Editorial (1987) Workers' Health. *Economic & Political Weekly* October 10, p 1717.
10. Editorial (1994) Workers' Health. *Economic & Political Weekly* August 13, p 2111.

11. Garrett D. Brown (2002) The Global Threats to Workers' Health and Safety on the Job. *Social Justice*, Vol. 29, No. 3 (89), *Global Threats To Security* (2002), pp. 12-25.
12. Bartley, M. and Ferrie, J. (2001) Glossary: Unemployment, Job Security and Health. *J. Epidemiology and Community Health*, **55**, pp 776–781.
13. Jhabvala, R. (1998) Minimum wages based on workers' needs. *Economic & Political Weekly* March 7, pp 500-2.
14. Michiel A.J. Kompier, M.A.J. (2006) New systems of work organization and workers' health. *Scandinavian Journal of Work, Environment & Health*, Vol. 32, No. 6 (December), pp. 421-430.
15. Putnam, S. and S. Galea. (2008) "Epidemiology and the Macro-social Determinants of Health". *Journal of Public Health Policy*, 29(3), pp 278-89.
16. Baum, F (1995) Researching Public Health: Behind the Qualitative-Quantitative Methodological Debate. *Social Science and Medicine* Vol. 40(4), pp 459-68.
17. Qadeer, I. and Roy, D. (1989) Work, Wealth and Health: Sociology of Workers' Health in India. *Social Scientist*, vol. 17, No. 5/6 (May – Jun), pp. 45-92.
18. Elling, R.I. (1989) The Political Economy of Workers' Health and Safety. *Social Science and Medicine* Vol. 28(11), pp 1171-82.

Empirical/Occupational Health

1. Jung, M. (2013) Health Disparities among wage workers driven by employment insecurity in Republic of Korea. *International Journal of Health Services* Volume 43, Number 3, Pages 483–49.
2. Zelnick, J.R., Gibbs, A., Loveday, M., Padayatchi, N., and O'Donnell, M.R. (2013) Health-care workers' perspectives on workplace safety, infection control, and drug-resistant tuberculosis in a high-burden HIV setting. *J. Public Health Policy*, vol. 34, pp 388–402.
3. Mohanakumar, S. and Singh, S (2011) Impact of the Economic Crisis on Workers in the Unorganised Sector in Rajasthan. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 46(22) pp 67-71.
4. Rice, J. (2011) The Global Re-organization and Re-vitalization of the Asbestos Industry 1970-2007. *International Journal of Health Services*, Volume 41, Number 2, pp 239–254.
5. Dalmia, A.J. (2012) Strong Women, Weak Bodies, Muted Voices: Women Construction Workers in Delhi. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 47 (26&27), pp 249-55.

6. Shyam Sundar, K.R. (2012) Industrial Violence and Labour Reforms. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 47 (41), pp 35-40.
7. Vishwa Bharati (2011) Indebtedness and Suicides: Field Notes on Agricultural Labourers of Punjab. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 46(14), pp 35-40.
8. van der Hulst M. 2003. Long work hours and health. *Scan J Work Environ Health* 29: 171-188.
9. Anonymous (1988) Dying to keep the city sewers clean. *Economic & Political Weekly* October 1, pp 2046-48.
10. Chowdhary, A. and Taishete, S. (2014) Safety of Healthcare Workers from Occupational Exposure to Infections. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 49(51), pp 62-66.
11. Dhara, S. (1990) Shop Floor Safety in India: Report of Public Interest Action. *Economic & Political Weekly*. November 24, pp M-194-199.
12. Gothoskar, S. (1997) Women, Work and Health: An Interconnected Web Case of Drugs and Cosmetics Industries. *Economic & Political Weekly*, Vol. 32, No. 43, pp: WS45 – WS52.
13. Jagdish and Vijay (1985) Carbide Workers: Farce of Rehabilitation. *Economic & Political Weekly*, December 15, pp 2199-2200.
14. Joshi, T.K. and Gupta, R.K. (2004) Asbestos in developing countries: magnitude of risk and its practical implications. *Int. J Occup. Med. Environ Health* 17(1), pp 179-85.
15. Mukul (1997) Polluting Industries, Environment and Workers' Health: A Case for Intervention. *Economic & Political Weekly* August 30, pp L37-L44.
16. Murlidhar, V. and Kanhere, V. (2005) Asbestosis in an asbestos composite mill at Mumbai: A prevalence study. *Environ Health*. 2005; 4: 24. Downloaded from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1289287/>
17. Nihila, M. (1995) Industrial Pollution and Workers' Health. June 24, pp 1484-85.
18. Padmanabhan, V.T. (1986) The Number Game: Occupational Health Hazards at Indian Rare Earths Plant. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 21(10&11), pp 443-52.
19. Pate, G.A., Pichholiya, K.R. and Gopinath, C. (1980) Farm Labour: Health Hazards of Plant Protection. *Economic & Political Weekly*, March 1, pp 464-65.
20. People's Union for Democratic Rights (2012) Bitter Aftertaste: Exploitation of Workers in Almond Enterprises in Delhi. Delhi, PUDR. Available at: <http://www.pudr.org/sites/default/files/badam%20report%20final%20.pdf>
21. People's Union for Democratic Rights (2012) Working Against Odds: Condition of Workers in Cement Industry in Chhattisgarh. Delhi, PUDR. Available at: <http://www.pudr.org/sites/default/files/cement%20report%20final%20pdf%20web%20site.pdf>

22. International Commission for Labour Rights (2013) Merchants of Menace: Repressing Workers in India's new Industrial Belt. ICLR, New York. Available at: www.laborcommission.org.
23. People's Union for Democratic Rights (2013) Driving Force: Labour Struggles and Violation of Rights in Maruti Suzuki India Limited. Delhi, PUDR. Available at: <http://www.pudr.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/driving%20force%20for%20web.pdf>
24. PERSPECTIVES and People's Union for Democratic Rights (2015) Tailor-Made Lives: Accidents and Discontent among Garment Industry Workers in Udyog Vihar, Gurgaon. Delhi, PUDR. Available at: http://www.pudr.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Eng_Report_Udyog%20Vihar_4th%20June_Final.pdf
25. Ramachandran, G. and Sigamani, P. (2014) Occupational Safety and Health in India: The Need for Reform. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 49(47), pp 26-28.
26. Remesh, B.P. and Vinod, C.P. (2010) Radiation Incident in Mayapuri: Disquieting Signals to Labour. *Economic & Political Weekly* vol. 55(30), pp 16-18.
27. Klumb PL, Lampert T. (2004) Women, work, and well-being 1950-2000: a review and methodological critique. *Social Science & Medicine* 58: 1007-1024.

SUGGESTED/ADDITIONAL READINGS

1. Kreiger, N. (2011) *Epidemiology and the People's Health. Theory and Context.* Oxford University Press, New York. Chapters 5,6,7, and 8.
2. Block, S. (2010) *Work and Health: Exploring the impact of employment on health disparities.* Working Paper, The Wellesley Institute, Toronto. Available at: http://www.wellesleyinstitute.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Work_and_Health.pdf
3. Lewchuk, W., Clarke, M. and de Wolff, A. (2008) Working without commitments: precarious employment and health. *Work, Employment & Society*, Vol. 22, No. 3 (SEPTEMBER), pp. 387-406.
4. Editorial (1994) Workers' Health. *Economic & Political Weekly* October 8, p 2638.
5. Raphael, D. "Social Determinants of Health: Present status, unanswered questions, and future directions". *International Journal of Health Services*, 36.4, (2006), pp 651-677.
6. Government of India (2007): *Report on Conditions of Work and Promotion of Livelihoods in the Unorganised Sector* (New Delhi: National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector NCEUS).
7. Quinlan, M. (2013) Precarious employment, Ill health, and Lessons from History: the Case of Casual (temporary) Dockworkers 1880-1945. *International Journal of Health Services* Volume 43, Number 4, pp 721-744.

8. Collegium Ramazzini (2010) Asbestos is still with us: repeat call for a universal ban. Archives of Environmental Occupational Health 65(3), pp121-6. Available at: [http://www.collegiumramazzini.org/download/15_FifteenthCRStatement\(2010\).pdf](http://www.collegiumramazzini.org/download/15_FifteenthCRStatement(2010).pdf)
9. Kazan-Allen, L. (2012) Who is driving Mexico's asbestos policy? International Journal of Health Services Volume 42, Number 1, Pages 109–118.
10. Saracci, R., and Simonato, L. (1982) Man-made vitreous fibers and workers' health: An overview of the epidemiologic evidence. Scand. J. work environ health 8, pp 234-242.
11. Lahelma E. 1992. Unemployment and mental well-being: elaboration of the relationship. *International Journal of Health Services* 22: 261-274.
12. Holmstrom, M. (1985) Industry and Inequality: The social anthropology of Indian labour. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. Published in India by Orient Longman, Hyderabad.
13. Naming the System: Inequality and Work I the Global Economy/ Michael D. Yates/ Cornerstone Publications , Kharagpur, India, 2003. (XB-284)
14. Gorman, Mark (2016): Commentary: Defining a minimum income for healthy living (MIHL): old age, England-a comment on implications for application in the developing world, International Journal of Epidemiology, January 12, 2016, pp: 1307-1308.
15. Bhandari, Amit K. and heshmati Almas (2006): Wage Inequality and Job Insecurity among Permanent and Contract Workers in India: Evidence from Organized Manufacturing Industries, Discussion Paper Series No-2097, IZA (Institute for the Study of Labor).
16. Comaru , Francisco & Werna Edmundo (2013): The health of workers in selected sectors of the urban economy: Challenges and Perspectives, Working Paper No-288, Sectoral Activities Department, International labour Office, Geneva.
17. Medico Friend Circle Bulletin, July 2012-February 2013, 352-354.

Relevant Materials from ILO, National Labour Institute and other Government of India sources

Government of India (2014) Indian Labour Statistics 2012 and 2013. Ministry of Labour & Employment, Labour Bureau, Shimla. Available at: http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/Report_ILS_2012_13.pdf

Government of India (2014) Statistical Profile on Women Labour 2012-2013. Ministry of Labour & Employment, Labour Bureau, Chandigarh. Available at: http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/Statistical_Profile_2012_13.pdf

Government of India (2012) Report of the Committee on Unorganised Sector Statistics. National Statistical Commission. pp 1-34. Available at: http://mospi.nic.in/Mospi_New/upload/nsc_report_un_sec_14mar12.pdf, 2.1.2016

Government of India (2009) Socio-economic conditions of women workers in Plantation Industry 2008-09. Ministry of Labour & Employment, Labour Bureau, Chandigarh. Available at:
http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/SECOWW_Plantation_200809.pdf

IMPORTANT WEBSITES FOR INFORMATION ON LABOUR IN INDIA

http://labourbureaunew.gov.in/UserContent/Reports_Archive_2014.htm?pr_id=G2nkTKyHcYM%3D

<http://india.gov.in/topics/labour-employment/unorganized-sector-workers>

Government of India (2011): Report of the Working Group on Occupational Safety and Health for The Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012 To 2017), Ministry of Labour and Employment, August 2011.

Government of India (2011): Report on working conditions of the contract workers in Petroleum Refineries and Oil Fields 2009-2011, Labour Bureau, Ministry of labour & Employment, Chandigarh.

Dissertations from CSMCH Documentation