The drivers of HIV prevalence and national policy responses to the epidemic vary across the world, including in Africa (the epicenter of the epidemic). The origin of AIDS in Africa and discovery in America has strongly influenced how the epidemic is perceived and the international response to it.

This course explores the behavioral, political and structural aspects of the epidemic, focusing on the hyper-epidemic countries of Southern Africa, but in a global context. Topics include the origins of HIV and people’s responses to it (including conspiracy theory); cultural, behavioral and economic drivers of HIV prevalence; demographic modelling of the HIV epidemic and related interventions, AIDS denialism in South Africa and its global linkages; and the political-economy of national policy responses.


[Also EP&E 365a, INTS 347a, GLBL 313a, and PLSC 417a]