



# Harvard School of Public Health PROGRAM ON INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

## Program on International Health and Human Rights

Harvard School of Public Health

### Internship Program – Information and Application

Although the work is dynamic and fast-paced, the program is a flexible and casual place to be and we hope that interns find working here productive, fulfilling, and enjoyable.

#### Internship Description

Understanding “health” broadly as the physical, mental and social well-being of individuals and populations, the Program on International Health and Human Rights at the Harvard School of Public Health, brings a human rights framework to a range of health issues, concentrating primarily on the areas of HIV/AIDS, reproductive and sexual health, and child and adolescent health. The Program meets its objectives through several key guiding principles one of which is the training of new health and human rights professionals. The internship program aims to provide students and young professionals from various backgrounds the opportunity to learn and apply the basic elements of the international health and human rights field. The internships are flexible and are individually tailored, within the existing projects and activities of the Program, to fit the interns’ needs and expectations. Program activities include:

- Providing tools to incorporate international human rights norms and standards into health policies and programs.
- Supporting international human rights actors to better integrate health issues into their work.
- Translating governmental commitments into laws, policies, and programs.
- Applying the methods and insights of public health to standard-setting, assessment and implementation in the field of human rights.
- Enhancing the capacity of organizations, governments and professionals to develop and support health and human rights policies and programs.

#### Content and Scope of Work of Interns

##### *Graduate-level Interns*

The intern will be assigned to work on specific research projects with products/outputs expected at the end of the internship as agreed to by the supervisor and intern. Projects mainly involve conducting literature reviews and drafting research papers for publication, meetings and/or conferences; assisting in preparations of guidance and policy briefs for UN organizations; assisting in preparation of future project proposals; and other relevant projects. Some administrative work may also be required.

##### *Undergraduate-level Interns*

While undergraduate internships are more administrative and directed towards Program development in nature, substantive work will be assigned as it arises and matches the student's interests and abilities. Projects for undergraduate-level interns range from office database support, web-site maintenance and conference planning, to supporting Program staff with research, and drafting documents.



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### What you will gain:

- Gain first hand knowledge of the key international documents on health and human rights
- Attend seminars/lectures at the HSPH that are open to students and staff.
- Enhance individual performance and gain valuable job skills.
- Contribute towards production of innovative and important research documents and other scholarship.

### Qualifications

Applicants should be well-organized, self-motivated and reliable, with a strong interest in topics in public health and/or international human rights. Relevant coursework is highly desirable.. Applicants should have strong research and writing skills. Basic computer skills (i.e., Microsoft Office, Internet applications) are required, and knowledge of other applications such as Microsoft Access, Adobe Photoshop and Dreamweaver are a plus. We prefer it if interns can commit to at least 8 weeks of the summer, full-time, but can be flexible if this is not possible.

### Funding

Unfortunately, we have no funds to support interns and you will need to cover or fund-raise your own expenses for the time here.

### Orientation

The first day of your internship you will meet with Program staff. You will get an opportunity to discuss your expectations and goals for the internship and create a work plan and timeline for completion of your project(s). You are encouraged to discuss topics you are interested in and the type of research experience you are hoping to gain, and any specific requirements you need to fulfill your academic program. At the end of your internship you will be asked to write a short assessment of the time you spent here.

### Supervision

The type of supervision provided will depend on the type of project assigned and the number of people within the Program with whom you will be working on the project. You will have daily interactions with the staff person(s) with whom you are working, and interns are encouraged to participate in the overall meetings and activities within the Program.

### Application

To apply for an internship at the Program on International Health and Human Rights please send your **resume and cover letter** stating your preferred start and end-dates, interests and personal goals. Please be sure to list any human rights or public health coursework or experience and other skills (see qualifications section above). Also, please be sure to highlight your interest in the content of our work as well as your ability to contribute to the operations of the Program.

Please send a cover letter and resume to (e-mail preferred):

Ms. Riley Steiner  
665 Huntington Avenue, 1-1202  
Boston, MA 02115 USA  
e-mail: [rsteiner@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:rsteiner@hsph.harvard.edu)



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### Background Material

The following is a list of key documents and articles by Program staff and other general documents that will introduce you to the international health and human rights field. *Perspectives on Health and Human Rights* will give you the most comprehensive overview of work in the field of public health and human rights. Don't feel you have to read all the documents, this list is provided to help frame our work in a way that will best prepare you for your internship.

### General

- 1) Gruskin, Sofia, Grodin, Michael A., Annas, George J. and Stephen P. Marks eds. (2005). *Perspectives on Health and Human Rights*.
- 2) Gruskin, Sofia and Daniel Tarantola (2000). "Health and Human Rights." In *Oxford Textbook on Public Health*, eds. R Detels, R Beaglehole. Oxford University Press.
- 3) Roseman, Mindy (2003). Beyond Name and Blame. *Human Rights Dialogue* 2 (10).  
<http://www.ccea.org/viewMedia.php/prmTemplateID/8/prmID/1110>
- 4) Universal Declaration of Human Rights: <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>
- 5) WHO (2002). 25 Questions and Answers on Health and Human Rights:  
<http://www.who.int/hhr/activities/publications/en/>
- 6) The right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health - Report of the Special Rapporteur, Paul Hunt (2004):  
<http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu2/7/b/mhealth.htm>

### HIV/AIDS

- 1) Gruskin, Sofia, and Mindy Roseman (2005). HIV/AIDS and Human Rights in a Nutshell. (see Program web-site, under Resources and Publications).
- 2) Gruskin, Sofia and Daniel Tarantola (2001). "HIV/AIDS, Health, and Human Rights." In *HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Programs in Resource-Constrained Settings: A Handbook for the Design and Management of Programs*, eds P Lamptey, H Gayle, P Mane. Arlington: Family Health International.
- 3) The United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS. United Nations (2001):  
[http://www.unaids.org/en/events/un+special+session+on+hiv\\_aids/](http://www.unaids.org/en/events/un+special+session+on+hiv_aids/)
- 4) The UNCHR's HIV/AIDS and Human Rights website lists all security council and general assembly resolutions, and treaty bodies conclusions and recommendations related to HIV/AIDS: <http://www.unhcr.ch/hiv/documents.htm>

### Sexual and Reproductive Health/Rights

- 1) Gruskin, Sofia (2000). "The conceptual and practical implications of reproductive and sexual rights: How far have we come?" *Health and Human Rights – An International Journal* 4(2): 1-6.
- 2) Shepard, Bonnie (2000). "The 'double discourse' on sexual and reproductive rights in Latin America: The chasm between public policy and private actions." *Health and Human Rights – An International Journal* 4(2):110-143.
- 3) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women:  
<http://www.unhcr.ch/html/menu3/b/e1cedaw.htm>
- 4) International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) 1994 –Programme of Action Summary Report:, and ICPD +10: <http://www.unfpa.org/icpd/>

### Child and Adolescent Health/Rights



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- 1) Tarantola, Daniel, and Sofia Gruskin (1998). "Children confronting HIV/AIDS: Charting the confluence of rights and health." *Health and Human Rights – An International Journal* (3)1: 60-86.
- 2) The Convention on the Rights of the Child: <http://www.unicef.org/crc/crc.htm>

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