



GHP 544

Winter session Mexico

**Health System Futures
for Mexico**



Canada

USA

Mexico

Brazil

Chile



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USA

Mexico

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Objectives

- **Examine** the **public debate** and **political proposals** in an **electoral year** about **improving the performance of Mexico's health system** with attention to the **public health, political, and economic implications**.
- Learn about the **heterogeneity** and **complexity** of the **Mexican health system**, with Mexico City and in other parts of the country.
- **Contribute to program design, monitoring, and evaluation** for one of three selected **projects** with **partner institutions** through a three-week group project of applied research.

Venue

Mexico City



Activities

Week 1

Mexico City

Seminars and site visits

Week 3

Mexico City

Seminars and site visits

Final presentation

Pre-departure

Readings on the Mexican health system

Week 2

Mexico City

Seminars and site visits

Reflection paper

Follow up

Boston

Mexico Conference at Harvard (February)

Present a poster at Harvard

Seminars with key actors and organizations



Julio Frenk

President of the University of Miami

Former Minister of Health of Mexico



Olivia López Arellano

Minister of Health of Mexico City



Ruy López-Ridaura

Director General
National Center for Preventive
Programs and Disease Control



**Salomón Chertorivski
Woldenberg**

Congressman from
Movimiento Ciudadano



**Alma Rosa Marroquín
Escamilla**

Minister of Health of Nuevo
León

A typical day in Mexico City

8:30 – 9:30

Morning seminar

17:30 – 18:30

Afternoon seminar

10:00 – 17:00

Work with host organization

Site visits



Weekends in Mexico City

The image shows the exterior of the Museo Frida Kahlo in Mexico City. The building has a vibrant blue facade with two large, dark-framed windows. The windows are set within red-painted architectural frames. To the right, there is a green door with a yellow handle. Above the door, a sign reads "MUSEO FRIDA KAHLO". A tree is visible in the foreground, and a stone wall with a metal railing runs along the base of the building. The sky is clear and blue.

Museo Frida Kahlo

Weekends in Mexico City

An aerial photograph of the Palacio de Bellas Artes in Mexico City. The building is a grand, classical-style structure with a prominent, multi-colored dome (yellow, orange, and red) topped with a blue eagle sculpture. The facade features large arched windows and a central portico with columns. The building is surrounded by a large, paved plaza filled with many people. In the background, the city of Mexico City is visible, with various buildings and a hazy mountain range under a blue sky with light clouds.

Palacio de Bellas Artes

Weekends in Mexico City



Teotihuacán

Potential topics for projects

- State-level health reform plans
- Federal primary health care attention model
- Access to effective and timely breast cancer treatment
- Reproductive health

Site visits

- **Tertiary care hospital**
 - Hospital General de México
- **Secondary care hospital**
- **Primary care clinic**
- **Clinic adjacent to a private pharmacy**

Costs

- **\$250 contribution per student for jointly shared costs** (bus transportation as a group, collective dinners, etc.).
- Students receive **25% of the economy round-trip airfare (as funded by the Office for Student Services)** up to a set limit
 - Based upon the airfare between Boston and the location of travel, regardless of where the student originates the trip.
- Chan School students may also receive a **modest contribution towards per diem expenses**, based upon the length of the trip and will be determined by available funds.
 - In past years, the contribution has hovered around **\$75 to \$100 per week of travel**.

Student profile

- Interest in **Latin American health systems**
- Interest in the **Mexican health system**
- **Technical capacities** relevant to health systems (for example, students from GHP 200)
- **Experience** with health program design, implementation, and evaluation
- **Research interests** related to the potential topics for projects
- Speaks Spanish*

*Speaking Spanish is not necessary but is preferred.

Comments from past participants

This was a really amazing and exciting learning experience! Definitely my favorite course! Thank you so much for all the people who are involved with this field trip! For those who are not good at Spanish, never mind! Everybody is trying to help you and you will learn a lot.

It is a great way to know Mexico's health system from two perspectives. First, experiencing how care is provided in frontline services, and then listening to the experiences and knowledge from decision-makers.

This course is a great opportunity to know firsthand the challenges that decision-makers must face in order to implement policies or programs. Challenges that we will not find in the books, but through the shared experiences of those who have been in the arena.

Teaching team



Michael Reich

Taro Takemi Professor Emeritus
at the Harvard T.H. Chan School
of Public Health



Martin Lajous

Adjunct Assistant Professor
of Global Health and Population
Researcher at the National
Institute of Public Health



Andrea Luviano

Ph.D. Student in Health Policy in the
Decision Science track, G3