The focus of this online course is on recognizing health inequalities locally and beyond. Students will examine why communities in both, the Global North and South are not having equitable access to high-quality health services and most importantly what can be done to promote equity. Key topics include maternal and child health, infectious and chronic diseases, nutrition, sanitation and access to safe water, and environmental health. Class discussions and activities incorporate critical perspectives on social determinants of health in developing and developed countries.

Course objectives:

- **Human health & wellbeing:** Successful students will explore social, economic, political and environmental factors that affect how people experience health and have a major impact in their lives and wellbeing. The in-depth exploration will be done from a social justice and systemic perspective addressing access, or lack thereof, to opportunities.

- **On being educated global citizens:** Successful students will be interculturally competent global citizens who can engage with significant aspects of the human condition—in particular health, in local, state, national, and global settings.

- **Citizenship for a just and diverse world:** Successful students will examine notions of justice and inequities and analyze and critique how these interact with historically and socially constructed ideas of global citizenship and social justice in the US and beyond.

The instructor, an Industrial & Systems Engineer, brings her experience of working in Developing Countries to the classroom—she has been a researcher for the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and the World Health Organization. Dr. Brunette’s current work sits at the intersection of Global Public Health and Health Systems Engineering targeting the urban poor.