Instructions for Paper #1
Reaction to an International Public Health Current Event

DUE Wednesday, February 12th via hardcopy at the beginning of class

Objective: To become familiar with current international public health news events and learn to think critically about how they are reported

Assignment
Your assignment is to find a news media report (print or electronic) of a current international public health event. Then, you will write a 3-page reaction to the current event. The first part of your reaction paper should clearly identify what the news event is, where it is occurring, for whom it is an issue and explain why it is a public health (as opposed to a clinical medicine) issue. The second part of your paper should present your critical analysis of the event coverage – how credible is the source, is the information slanted (if so, in what ways), is essential missing (if so, what), is the information clearly presented (if not, how not) etc. – especially in light of the cross-cutting themes of health indicators, inequalities, systems, and funding discussed during the first module of the course.

Please staple a copy of the news media article (e.g., newspaper, web article) to the back of your paper!

Logistics
- *International* means outside the U.S.; *current* means within the past 6 months (August 2012-now)
- One citation of an international public health current event.
- Additional citations welcome but not required, e.g. about the broader health situation in the country.
- References in APA (parenthetical by author’s last name) or AMA (sequential number) format.
- Three pages in length plus a list of cited sources with the full references and a copy of the news article.
- Typed with the paper titled
- 11 or 12-point font
- Double-spaced
- 1-inch margins
- Stapled
- Pages numbered

Grading Rubric
- Selection of an appropriate current event: 10
- Identification of the issue, where, why and for whom it is a problem: 25
- Use and relevance of references cited: 15
- Analysis of the event coverage: 35
- Readability (cohesiveness, follows instructions, minimal typos, etc.): 15
- **TOTAL:** 100