

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
College of Health Science
Health Science Program
HSCI 3308 CRN 18470 –Disease Characteristics, Prevention, and Control
Fall 2016
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PURPOSE:

This syllabus is considered a contract between you and the professor. It is an agreement that includes the "rules" to be observed during the course, both by students and the instructor. Although this syllabus can change, no changes will be made without a class discussion and agreement.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide an introduction to the study of the nature, prevention, treatment and control of common communicable and non-communicable human diseases; examination of cultural, social, behavioral, biological, and environmental factors involved in promoting health and preventing disease.

This course is offered as a full, online course, meaning that no traditional classroom face-to-face meetings will take place during the semester. **Time commitment is essential to complete the course requirements;** you are expected to complete all online materials and assignments. For some this could be convenient since you can access the course either in or off campus, thus you can work on your own. However, if this is the first time you are considering enrolling in an online course, we recommend before making a decision, that first you visit and review UTEP's Instructional Support Services' "Prospective Online Students" website and complete the "Self-Evaluation for Potential Online Students" survey which is also directly available at:

<http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/selfEval.asp>

IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU COMPLETE THIS SELF TEST ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS, before making a decision to continue with the course. You do not need to submit the results, they are for you to evaluate and consider.

Even though this is an online course, learning techniques will emphasize a critical thinking approach to learning. A critical thinking approach takes the view that a student's knowledge is not passively absorbed from the instructor. In contrast with other learning techniques, critical thinking assumes students will create knowledge in their own mind by actively thinking about

the material. It is going to be crucial that you prepare for each lesson, reading and reviewing the material before engaging in lessons and assignments. Still not quite certain about what critical thinking really is? Visit then the “The Critical Thinking Community”, they’re website is available at:

<http://www.criticalthinking.org/pages/defining-critical-thinking/766>

Using this, students will apply the gained knowledge to solve common and practical problems related to the research process. **Because the course is designed to challenge you intellectually, you may be required to cover additional materials and conduct activities to complete assessment and assignment.** Additional readings and assignments will be used as a springboard for activities and discussions, and ALL course materials are testable. Additional, but not all resources, course material, readings, etc. will be made available through UTEP’s Blackboard’s learning management system.

RESTRICTIONS:

Students wanting to enroll in this course must complete first BIOL 2313 (mandatory prerequisite). No exemptions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify major theories of disease causation (past and present)
2. Describe disease agents involved in the pathology of infectious and chronic disease and conditions.
3. Discuss the role of immune response in human health and illness.
4. Identify biologic, physical, and social factors in the environment that influence the occurrence of disease.
5. Explain the classic and advanced epidemiologic triangle of disease.
6. Define the chain of transmission and its relevance with respect to disease prevention and control.
7. Identify the characteristics, transmission, symptoms, treatment, prevention, and control for infectious and chronic illnesses of public health importance and according to the national objectives of Healthy People 2020.
8. Explain the importance of vaccination in maintaining adequate herd immunity in human populations.
9. Discuss the positive and negative effects that lifestyle behaviors have on an individual’s susceptibility to illness.
10. Describe the disease processes present in chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, stroke, cancer, and arthritis.
11. Identify major modifiable and non-modifiable risk factors associated with infectious and chronic conditions.
12. Effectively communicate health information to lay and professional audiences in oral and written form.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

You will require the following textbook:

Introduction to Human Disease: Pathophysiology for Health Professionals

By Agnes G. Loeffler & Michael M. Hart (2015 Edition)

Jones & Bartlett Learning International

All chapters will be covered although some topics will be viewed superficially. Students will be required to complete read all of them, and also required to go over and read all posted materials.

Depending on the number of students registered, groups will be formed during the first week of the course, and will be an integral part of the course. During this time period students will be given the option of freely assembling and joining one until a set deadline; however, if a student does not join a group by the set date, the instructor will assign the student at random to a group. More details on group work can be found in the **Grading Criteria** section.

Additionally, all students are required to:

- Have access to a computer that connects to the Internet and a working e-mail account (miners.edu account). Other e-mail systems should not be used for this course. If you do not own a computer, you can make use of several computer labs on campus.
- Be able and have the means of accessing the online course by way of Blackboard. The course is only accessible online by logging in to your “My UTEP” portal at <http://my.utep.edu> and accessing the Blackboard Learn platform that will show your entire course list. For information on how to log in you can contact the UTEP Help Desk at (915) 747-5257, or check their information page at <http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=63402>.
- Have some abilities in using a mouse and keyboarding, and how to use a Web browser to access the internet, email and Blackboard.
- Be able to perform Internet searches, use e-mail, chat, and discussion boards.
- Be able to study independently, be self-disciplined, and have good study and time management skills.
- Have knowledge of how to use word processing, spreadsheet, visual media software, as well as capability to open pdf-type files. Usually, on-campus computers will provide the necessary software and connectivity. However, if you plan not to work on campus, it is your responsibility to make sure you have the software and connectivity requirements.
- Have the means to store all assignments and if necessary turn them in electronically (disks, flash drives, etc.).

GRADING CRITERIA:

Completion of course will require that the student fulfills the following:

- a) Attendance (see correspondent sections for details).
- b) Completing quizzes by the end of each week (see correspondent sections for details).
- c) Completing one main writing assignment – **Written term paper project based on Literature Review** - (see correspondent sections for details).
- d) Extra-credit: content and high-quality discussion entries (see correspondent sections for details).

Attendance

The student must comply with at a minimum of 80% attendance translated as weekly participation in asynchronous online discussion. Refer to the attendance criteria on “COURSE POLICIES” section for details. **This policy will be strictly enforced.**

Writing assignment: Paper Based on Literature Review

An additional **100** points can be granted by completing a paper to describing a chronic disease/health problem affecting the US-Mexico border using an epidemiologic approach. It will be required to complete and submit a **paper based on a literature review** report, which will be worth 0-100 points, which it must adhere to APA writing style format. The topic has to be related to a chronic disease/public health issue/problem affecting the US-Mexico border regions, and included in Healthy People 2020 objectives (<http://www.healthypeople.gov>). Furthermore, to complete it, students will search from resources available at UTEP’s library, or other valid academic resources. Selected research articles should have been published after 2011. Take note that this term paper is not a summary of the papers you have read. Completing the paper can give a student a maximum of 100 points. Refer to the “Written Term Paper Based on Literature Review - Guidelines” section for more details. The length of each report must be at least six pages but no longer than eight pages (Times New Roman 11 or 12-font; paper, 1-inch margins on all sides, **single-spaced**).

Quizzes

At least seven (7) quizzes will be scheduled during some course weeks, and worth 0-10 points each, thus you can obtain from 0-70. All quizzes and will be available through Blackboard® Learn platform on the scheduled dates (see Course Module Schedules). You will usually be given a limited time (not to exceed 60 minutes) to complete them depending on the number and type of questions. Scores will be automatically posted on Blackboard® Learn Grade Center once graded. No re-scheduling or re-taking of quizzes and other assessments will be allowed without a University approved excuse.

Important:

- ***Quiz’s availability is limited. Quizzes will open at 8:00 MTN on the scheduled day, and close at 23:59 MTN on the last day of the week. For example, if it opens on Tuesday at 8:30 hours, it will then be available until Sunday at midnight.***

Extra credit:

Extra credit will be awarded based on the number, content and quality of the weekly’s discussion posted comments. See “Discussion Participation Rubric” for further details.

- ***Important: Total cumulative extra-credit points are not to exceed 21 points, which is the equivalent to one full grade. For example, if you accumulate 25 total extra-credit points, this will be reduced to 21 which is the maximum allowable.***

Final grading

The total that can be earned taking on account the three examinations and group project in this course is **170 points** plus **21 potential extra-credit** points for content and quality of weekly entries in the discussion forums:

Type	Point value	Percentage
Quizzes and/or assignments (7 at 10 points max each)	0-70	0-41%
Written term paper project	0-100	0-59%
Extra credit (quality comments on weekly discussion)	0 - 21	0-12%
Total	0 - 191	>100%

The translation of points earned to a letter grade is defined as follows:

91% and above	A
81 – 90	B
71 – 80	C
61 – 70	D
60 or less	F

Student progress

Grades and feedback will be available through Blackboard ®’s Learn Grade Center; additional feedback may be sent from the instructor or TA by e-mail.

Group work

Nowadays, collaboration is a highly regarded skill. However it is not mandatory and you may select to work on your own. Pair groups will be formed during the first week of the course. During this time period students will be given the option of freely assembling and joining one until a set deadline; however, if a student does not join a group by the set date, it will be interpreted as a decision to work independently and thus assigned as a single-member group. Single-member groups are expected to comply with the same amount and level of work as paired-member groups. The maximum number of members allowed in each group is two (2). Blackboard’s group sign-in section is set to not allow going over this number.

Although group work should be equally distributed, each pair will appoint a “Group Leader” who will be the liaison between the group and other groups and the instructor. This does not apply to single-member groups. When completing a group assessment, the score will be the same for all members; however, at the end of the course, each group member may complete a peer evaluation in which students will evaluate, and rank member’s participation to receive proper merit in the form of extra credit points.

- *Changing groups, dropping or joining others are allowed only until the end of the second week of the course. **NO CHANGES WILL BE ALLOWED AFTER 10/30.***

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

The course week goes from Monday through Sunday. Attendance is mandatory and an important component of this course. In this regard, online courses are no different than other face-to-face traditional courses; however attendance must be considered differently. For this course

attendance will be comprised of active participation during the course which will be directly monitored by login on and completing other activities in the course's UTEP's Blackboard® Learn management system shell. The requirement for weekly attendance can be documented by any or all of the following methods: **participation and entering comments in weekly discussions**, tracking records in Blackboard® Learn; submission/completion of assignments; and communication with the instructor. If a student does not log on to the course within the drop/add period for the course he/she will be dropped from the course.

The instructor and/or TA can tell if students are visiting the course site. Failing to maintain active weekly participation in this online course (not login on, not completing and/or submitting assignments, not participating in posted activities, no contact with the instructor) can and will be also defined as an absence.

In order to get attendance, students **MUST** actively participate in the scheduled discussion/question forum (available at Blackboard® Learn platform). Each student will be required to enter a **minimum** of three (3) comments related to the topic at hand, according to the following:

- First entry comment: 150 word-minimum
- Second entry comment: 50-word minimum response to colleagues posting
- Third entry comment: 50-word minimum response to colleagues posting

Important for entries in discussion forums:

- ***Availability to enter comments is limited. Forums will open at 8:30 MTN on Monday and will close at 23:59 MTN on Friday. NOT AVAILABLE DURING WEEKENDS.***
- ***Complying with the above entries will only grant you attendance for the specified week period.***
- ***NOT complying with at least the minimum required entries as specified, will be translates as an ABSENCE for that discussion and the week.***
- ***Extra credit will be granted to all those entries in the discussion forum that comply with the minimum and observe quality criteria as specified in the "Discussion Participation Rubric".***

Absences will affect your final score/grade. You required at least an 80% attendance (5 out of 7), including the first week of class. **You are allowed two excused absences; a third absence means that you will automatically receive an "F" grade regardless of performance and scores on tests, quizzes and assignments, even if the third absence occurs in the final week of class. Excused absence requires the need to provide adequate, written proof of the justified reason for absence.** Such exceptions will be made in the case of University excused absences (sponsored activities approved by the Dean of students). You will only be able to make up for activities, exams, or assignments (scheduled or unscheduled) in the case of University excused absences (sponsored activities approved by the Dean of students). No attempts to provide proof of absence will be accepted after 12/4/2016.

Remember that this course requires you to make a time commitment, so plan ahead because you will need additional time to learn and practice your skills. It is estimated that you will at least

commit 18 to 24 hours per week to this course, mostly to be spent working with your computer. It is your responsibility to cover all materials and assignments while working online. **Assignment due dates are subject to change**, so check the online schedule in Course Materials frequently. If you miss a due date, complete missed assignments as soon as possible to lessen its impact on your scores.

Communication and Feedback Plan

This section includes how you and your students are expected to communicate during the course. When can students expect feedback from you? (I.e. within 24-48 hours) What tools can they use to contact you? UTEP email is the preferred method; send all emails to gabmejia@utep.edu. Additionally, emails can be sent to the courses' appointed teaching assistant at eechaib@miners.utep.edu. Occasionally, a Skype® session can be scheduled – if set up with previous time. Your instructors Skype® ID is gabboim61. If the student can attend the University's main campus, a meeting can always be schedule during instructor's office hours. Additionally, there it the option to communicate with your instructor through Facebook® (look up as Gabriel Mejia), or Twitter® (Gabriel Ibarra or @gabbomejia); however this is voluntary since you will be sharing some personal information.

Being successful in an online class.

Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone's responsibility to participate as fully as they can so everyone can get the most from the experience. Here are some simple rules to follow to ensure your participation and engagement in the learning process:

- Ask questions: If you do not know the answer, someone else will.
- Reach out to others: Offer a fact, article, link or other item that can help others learn.
- Be appropriate: The online classroom is not the place for insulting or insensitive comments, attacks, or venting. Inappropriate behavior will usually subject to disciplinary action, as well.
- Be diplomatic: When sending messages on emotionally charged topics, make sure you write the message and then walk away for at least an hour before re-reading the message and then sending it. Re-reading emotionally charged messages ensures that they are constructive instead of destructive. Think of the person at the other end.
- Stay focused: Stay on topic to increase the efficiency of your learning.
- Take advantage of all the resources given to you to succeed in the class.

A “Discussion Board” area will be set up in the courses Blackboard shell to allow students to ask questions to each other. Make use of it, since your instructor can monitor your questions and provide feedback.

Effective electronic communication.

It is important to share a word of caution, so we can become wiser about interpersonal distance learning communications. When communicating electronically, many of the feelings or impressions that are transmitted via body language in face-to-face communications are lost. Consequently, interpreting emotions and innuendos is much more difficult. Only what is written, or drawn, carries the message. Often, excitement can be misinterpreted as anger or insult. It is important that we all keep this in mind as we communicate. Words in print may seem harmless,

but they could emotionally injure us when working at a distance. Hence, it is vitally important that we are conscious of how we communicate while working at a distance.

- For example, avoid the use of caps in your electronic messages, as wording in caps comes across as shouting.

The standard practice ("Netiquette") for participation in networked discussion requires that all participation be focused on the topic at hand, not become personalized, and be substantive in nature. (Translation: you may certainly disagree with others, but you must do so respectfully; you may express strong beliefs or emotions, but you may not get so carried away that you lose all perspective on the course itself.)

- More information on Netiquette, the etiquette of Internet communication, can be found at www.albion.com/netiquette.

Active participation

Students are encouraged to actively participate in the learning process during online discussions. A second component of active participation is asking questions for clarification of confusing information and expressing opinions by making use of email, chat, or online discussion groups for these purposes.

Policy on examinations

Exams will be accessible online using Blackboard® Learn platform and will be available on the scheduled day from 8:00 AM MTN and until midnight of due day. You may access it at any time; however, once you begin the exam you will have a time limit to complete it. You will not be able to start the exam, stop, and then re-start again. You will usually have a maximum of 60 minutes to complete a quiz depending on the number of questions, and up to 3 hours to complete the partial and final comprehensive examinations. There will be no retaking of missed quizzes and examinations unless proven Blackboard® platform failures.

Policy on late assignments

Attendance assignments must be turned in when scheduled in order get credit. No extensions are granted for scheduled discussions, quizzes or tests. A 10% deduction on graded score will be applied for every 24 hours an assignment is overdue, including weekends. No assignments will be accepted if submitted more than 1 week after the due date.

Notice on dropping the course, withdrawals, and incomplete.

Students may drop individual courses or completely withdraw from the University as described below. Refer to the on-line Academic Calendar at www.utep.edu/calendar or to the *Class Schedule* to identify the dates during which adds, drops, withdrawals, and pass/fail registration changes may occur.

a) Student-initiated Drops

It is the student's responsibility to officially drop a course that s/he no longer wishes to take. Failure to do so may result in a grade of "F" on the student's academic record. Athletes must receive permission from the Miner Athletic Advising Center before dropping a course. International students with F or J visas must receive permission from the Office of International Programs before dropping a course.

b) Administrative Drops

During registration periods for upcoming semesters, students will be dropped from registered courses for failure to meet prerequisites or co-requisites after final grades have been posted for the current semester and before the beginning of late registration for next semester. A student may petition the department chair of the course in question for a prerequisite or co-requisite waiver.

At the discretion of the instructor, a student may be dropped from a course because of excessive absences or lack of effort. Students may also be administratively withdrawn from a course during the semester for other reasons, with the concurrence of the academic dean or department chair. A grade of "W" will be assigned before the course drop deadline and a grade of "F" after the course drop deadline. A grade of "F" received due to disciplinary action imposed by the University overrides a grade of "W" received through a student-initiated or faculty drop. Students will be notified of their drop through their UTEP e-mail account.

c) Grade Assignment for Drops and Withdrawals

Grades will be assigned as follows when a student drops a course or completely withdraws from the University:

1. If a student drops a course before the official census date of a semester, neither the course nor a grade will appear on the student's academic record.
2. If a student drops from a course after the census date but before the student-initiated course drop deadline listed in the *Class Schedule*, a grade of "W" will be assigned.
3. If the student drops after the student-initiated course drop deadline, instructors will determine a grade of "W" or "F" for each course. A grade of "W" is considered only under exceptional circumstances and must be approved by the instructor and department chair for the course. A student may petition for a grade of "W" in writing with the necessary supporting documentation.

d) Incomplete course work

If eligible, the student may receive a grade of Incomplete (I) that will appear on the academic transcript; an "I" (incomplete grade) can only be considered only if by the student in advance of the conclusion of the course and only for legitimate, documented emergencies. Failure to request and negotiate the terms of an "Incomplete" grade before the conclusion of the course will result in a denial except in the most extraordinary circumstances.

Notice of Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University's educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community. It is expected the UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work. Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

Copyright and fair use requirements

The University requires all members of its community to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies.

Notice on Students with Disabilities & American Disabilities Act

If you have or suspect a disability and need accommodations, you should contact the Disabled Student Support Services Office (DSSO) at (915) 747-5148. You can also email the office at: dss@utep.edu or go by Room 106 Union Building East. For additional information, visit the DSSO website at: www.utep.edu/dsso

COURSE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT:

Course related: Your instructor is available to assist you online, by phone, and by email throughout the semester.

Technical support: Click on the “Help” hyperlink in Blackboard platform after logging in to your “My UTEP” portal at <http://my.utep.edu>. Furthermore, The University of Texas at El Paso offers complete technical information and help desk support at: <http://issweb.utep.edu/techsupport/>.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topic	Reading Assignments	Due (deadline)
1	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1: Introduction to Pathology • Chapter 2: Most Frequent and Significant Diseases • Chapter 3: Diagnostic Resources 	<p>Participate in weekly discussion (10/17 – 10/21)</p> <p>Complete quiz # 1 (10/21 – 10/23)</p>
2	Basic Disease Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 4: Injury, Inflammation, and Repair • Chapter 5: Hyperplasias and Neoplasms • Chapter 6: Cancer • Chapter 7: Genetic and Developmental Diseases 	<p>Participate in weekly discussion (10/24 – 10/28)</p> <p>Complete quiz # 2 (10/28 – 10/30)</p>
3	The Heart and Circulatory System Blood The Respiratory System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 8: Vascular System • Chapter 9: Heart • Chapter 10: Hematopoietic System • Chapter 11: Bleeding and Clotting Disorders • Chapter 12: Lung • Chapter 13: Oral Region, Upper Respiratory Tract, and Ear 	<p>Participate in weekly discussion (10/31 – 11/4)</p> <p>Complete quiz # 3 (11/4 – 11/6)</p> <p>Turn-in in/upload project term topic proposal (10/30)</p>
4	The Digestive System The Reproductive System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 14: Gastrointestinal Tract • Chapter 15: Liver, Gallbladder, and Pancreas • Chapter 16: Kidney, Lower Urinary Tract, and Male Genital Organs • Chapter 17: Female Genital Organs • Chapter 18: Breast 	<p>Participate in weekly discussion (11/7 – 11/11)</p> <p>Complete quiz # 4 (11/11 – 11/13)</p>
5	The Sensory System The Musculoskeletal System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 19: Skin • Chapter 20: Eye • Chapter 21: Bones and Joints • Chapter 22: Skeletal Muscle and Peripheral Nerve 	<p>Participate in weekly discussion (11/14 – 11/18)</p> <p>Complete quiz # 5 (11/18 – 11/20)</p>
6	The Nervous System Mental Illness The Endocrine System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 22: Skeletal Muscle and Peripheral Nerve • Chapter 23: Central Nervous System • Chapter 24: Mental Illness • Chapter 25: Endocrine System 	<p>Participate in weekly discussion (11/21 – 11/25)</p> <p>Complete quiz # 6 (11/25 – 11/27)</p> <p>Turn-in in/upload project term paper (11/27)</p>
7	Infectious and Immunologic Diseases Physical and Chemical Injuries Nutritional Disorders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 26: Infectious Diseases • Chapter 27: Immunologic Diseases • Chapter 28: Physical Injury • Chapter 29: Chemical Injury • Chapter 30: Nutritional Disorders 	<p>Participate in weekly discussion (11/28 – 12/2)</p> <p>Complete quiz # 7 (12/2 – 12/4)</p>

Written Term Paper Based on Literature Review GUIDELINES

1. This is AN INDIVIDUAL OR PAIR project. Students must select a topic related to a chronic disease/public health issue affecting the U.S. Mexico border region population and addressing Healthy People 2020 objectives.
2. Fill in and upload the “Topic Proposal” form by the scheduled deadline date. If the proposal is **not turned in** on the scheduled date, **a 10 point deduction** will apply on the final paper score. Deadline is at October 30th (midnight).
3. Conduct a literature search, and review at least 10 primary **research articles** published on the topic from 2011-2016 from peer reviewed professional journals.
4. Turn in weekly periodical progress reports on assigned dates.
5. Write a 6-page **original** state-of-the-arte report (not including cover page and references). The report must contain the following sections:
 - o Cover or title page
 - o Structured abstract (100-150 words)
 - o Introduction
 - o Literature review (include subheadings)
 - o Conclusions
 - o References
6. Cite your references using APA format style, so you will need to get familiarized with this writing style. For starters, you can visit www.apa.org, although UTEP’s library has plenty of resources on it including the Library’s Writing Center, which you can schedule visits to get advice. Just in case you need further help, contact our college-assigned librarian Harvey Castellano, room 213 at the Library building (email: hcastell@utep.edu).
7. If you include pictures, it is highly recommended that picture quality is sufficient to provide the relevant information.
8. The maximum possible points that can be awarded for the project is 100. Scoring will be based on content (summary, literature reviews, conclusion and references), style format (APA), as well as spelling, grammar, and composition ability.
9. When uploaded, all final reports must pass SAFEASSIGN® evaluation for potential plagiarism. A maximum of **15%** of similarity will be considered as acceptable. Greater similarity percentages will be reviewed in detailed and may be returned for correction, which must be completed and re-submitted before the end of the semester.

What are the challenges?

- The scope must be **VERY** narrow since your references must encompass new findings about the topic from relevant primary **research articles** published from 2011-2016.
- Since some articles may need to be acquired through interlibrary loan, it is important to select a topic and search strategy as soon as possible.

To succeed:

- Selecting a focused, narrow topic
- Defining a clear and comprehensive systematic search strategy
- Reading the full text of ALL relevant articles
- Creating a clear data extraction table for inclusion in the manuscript
- Following all formatting rules

Project timeline:

Step	Outcome	Due Date
1	Fill and upload topic selection form	10/30
2	Upload complete final version of paper	11/27

Scoring: The following scoring scheme will be applied to evaluate the paper:

Turn in proposal by deadline 5 points

Penalty for not turning in report draft by deadline. - 10points

Report:

Front page 5 points

Summary or abstract10 points

Introduction 15 points

Literature review 30 points

Conclusions 25 points

References 10 points

**HSCI 3308 - Disease Characteristics, Prevention, and Control
Fall 2016**

**Written Term Paper Based on Literature Review
Topic Proposal Form**

Instructions: Fill out the form and submit it by uploading it into the appropriate assignment section in Blackboard Learn platform. Use additional pages as necessary.

Group number:

Group members:

- 1.
- 2.

Occupational Health Selected Topic:

Research question to be explored:

How does this topic & question go beyond what will be covered during the course?

Does your topic address any Healthy people 2020 objectives? Which ones?

Importance/relevance/relationship to US-Mexico border region population:

Proposed outline:

List of names of potential journal sources:

Weekly Discussion Scoring Rubric

This will be the scoring rubric for all weekly discussions, except the opening “Introduce yourselves” forum:

Criteria	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Above average	Exemplary
Quality, Quantity, Timeliness, and Contribution	Does not submit at least one 150-word initial response early in the session and/or does not submit at least two peer responses closer to the end of the session.	Submits at least one initial 150-word initial response early in the session, and responds to at least two 50-word responses to peers comments before the end of the session.	Submits at least one initial 150-word initial response early in the session, and responds to at least two 50-word responses to peers comments before the end of the session. Additionally, posted comments show evidence of knowledge and understanding of course content and applicability to professional practice.	Submits at least one initial 150-word initial response early in the session, and responds to at least two 50-word responses to peers comments before the end of the session. Additionally, posted comments show evidence of knowledge and understanding of course content and applicability to professional practice. Additionally, includes other resources that extend the learning of the community.
Points (as they appear in Grade Center) and outcome	0 points = absence It means did not comply with minimum entries An ABSENCE WILL BE RECORDED	1 point = attendance for week It means students complied with a n initial 150-word entry, plus entered at least two 50-word comments replying to at least 2 other student’s comments. Student will get attendance for the week, but IT WILL NOT COUNT AS EXTRA CREDIT	2 points = attendance + extra credit It means students complied with a n initial 150-word entry, plus entered at least two 50-word comments replying to at least 2 other student’s comments, and fulfills “Above average” criteria. Student will get attendance for the week, AND WILL GET 2 EXTRA CREDIT POINTS.	3 points = attendance + extra credit It means students complied with a n initial 150-word entry, plus entered at least two 50-word comments replying to at least 2 other student’s comment, and fulfills “Exemplary” criteria. Student will get attendance for the week, AND WILL GET 3 EXTRA CREDIT POINTS.

Based on Northern Arizona University, e-Learning Center