



Department of Public Health Sciences  
Health Promotion Program Syllabus

Course name:	Introduction to Epidemiology, 101
Course no.:	HSCI 3311
Course CRN:	27830
Semester/year	Spring, 2018
Undergraduate credit hrs:	3
Class location:	ONLINE
Class instructor:	Dr. Maria C. Browne
Office location:	UTEP Health Sciences and Nursing Building room 419
Email:	mcbrowne@utep.edu
Office hours:	(Virtual) Office Hours via Blackboard Collaborate Ultr ) will be scheduled and announced via Blackboard
Preferred contact method:	Email

**Course description:**

This course covers applications of epidemiologic methods and procedures to the study of the distribution and determinants of health and diseases, morbidity, injuries, disability, and mortality in populations. Epidemiologic methods for the control of conditions such as infectious and chronic diseases, mental disorders, community and environmental health hazards, and unintentional injuries are discussed. Other topics include quantitative aspects of epidemiology, for example, data sources, measures of morbidity and mortality, evaluation of association and causality, study design, and screening for disease.

This course is offered **as a full, online course** using an asynchronous format, meaning that no traditional classroom face-to-face meetings will take place during the semester and you can schedule the time to access the course during specified times periods of your availability. **Time commitment is essential to complete the course requirements.** Usually, an online course will require the student to spend more time reading and learning than the typical face-to-face course. **A time commitment of at least 9 hours per week IS REQUIRED.** Online “attendance” is determined by the students’ quantity and quality of participation, time spent on accessing material posted on blackboard and assignments completed on weekly bases. For some this could be a convenient arrangement since you can access the course either in or off campus and work on your own. However, if this is the first time you are considering enrolling in an online course, we recommend that first you visit the following services to assess if that is the right option for you: UTEP’s Instructional Support Services’ and “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-***

	<p><b>TEST ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS</b>, then make a decision to continue or withdraw from the course.</p> <p>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 taking online quizzes, tests or engaging in blackboard discussions. Still not quite certain about what critical thinking really is? Visit then the “The Critical Thinking Community”, they’re website is available at: <a href="http://www.criticalthinking.org/pages/defining-critical-thinking/766">http://www.criticalthinking.org/pages/defining-critical-thinking/766</a></p> <p>Students will apply gained knowledge in this course to solve common and practical problems related to the research process. <b>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.</b> Additional readings if assigned, will be posted on Blackboard. ALL course materials are testable.</p>
<p><b>Required material:</b></p>	<p>Friis RH. <i>Epidemiology 101</i>: Essential Public Health Series. Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers; 2018. ISBN-13: 9781284107852 (Either First or Second Edition)          Navigate 2 Advantage Access:  <a href="http://www.jblearning.com/catalog/9781284107852/">http://www.jblearning.com/catalog/9781284107852/</a>          Calculator</p>
<p><b>Complementary reading:</b></p>	<p><a href="http://yes-competition.org/yes/teaching-units/title.html">http://yes-competition.org/yes/teaching-units/title.html</a></p>
<p><b>Course format:</b></p>	<p>Self-guided study</p>
<p><b>Major learning objectives/COMPETENCIES</b></p>	<p>Upon completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss the history, philosophy, and <i>uses of epidemiology</i>.</li> <li>2. List sources of epidemiologic data and define related measures of <i>morbidity and mortality</i>.</li> <li>3. Define the term <i>descriptive epidemiology</i>, and describe the applications of descriptive epidemiology to the health of populations.</li> <li>4. State what the terms <i>association</i> and <i>causation</i> mean.</li> <li>5. Define the term <i>analytic epidemiology</i>, and differentiate among the types of analytic research designs.</li> <li>6. Define the term <i>evidence-based public health</i>, and discuss its applications.</li> <li>7. Discuss the applications of epidemiology to policy development.</li> <li>8. Discuss screening for disease and calculate related measures.</li> <li>9. Describe applications of epidemiology to outbreak investigation, social and behavioral phenomena, and special topics including work and the environment.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Assessment strategies:</b></p>	<p><b>1.Quizzes.</b> Six graded time limited quizzes will be given during the course. The purpose of these quizzes is to encourage students to read the textbook.  <b>2. TESTS – Six graded time limited tests will be given during the course</b></p>

**3. Course participation will be assessed based on discussion board contribution and group work participation**

**4. Examinations.** Two examinations will be given.

- a. **Exam #1 MIDTERM** will cover Chapters 1–6.
- b. **Exam #2 FINAL** will cover Chapters 1–12.

All chapters will be covered. Students will be required to complete reading all of them, and going over all additionally posted material (Power Point Presentations, links, quizzes, etc ) on blackboard.

**Grading scale**

Completion of course will require that the student fulfills multiple tasks and due dates

1. 5% --- Quizzes (time limited)
2. 15%--- TESTS (time limited)
3. 20% ---Participation via group collaboration and discussion board postings
4. 25% ---Midterm Assessment (time limited)
5. 35% ---FINAL Examination, multiple choice, true/false questions, time limited

Your Final grade of this course will correspond to the score that is weighted according to the above listed criteria, as following:

- A (> 90%)
- B (80--89%)
- C (70--79%)
- D (60--69)
- F (<60%)

**Incomplete policy:**

An “P” (incomplete grade) can only be considered only if requested 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.

**Course/Instructor & Institutional Policies**

**Attendance:**

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 MEASURED by active and quality participation during the course, which will be directly monitored by login on, and completing other activities in the course’s UTEP’s Blackboard<sup>®</sup> learning management system shell. The requirement for weekly attendance can be documented by any or all of the following methods: student tracking records in Blackboard<sup>®</sup>; 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.

**Reading assignments:**

None besides the textbook

**Policy for late assignments**

Due dates for quizzes, tests and exams are designed for fairness to all students. No exceptions to those dates will be made excepting in cases of university-designated

	closures.
<b>Permission to record online sessions, lectures &amp; discussions</b>	Not permitted without express permission of the instructor
<b>Special accommodations:</b>	If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to <a href="mailto:cass@utep.edu">cass@utep.edu</a> , or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at <a href="http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass">www.sa.utep.edu/cass</a> .
<b>Student conduct:</b>	<p>Students are expected to be above reproach in all-scholastic activities. Students who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the university. “Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another student, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” <u>Regent’s Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3.2, Subdivision 3.22.</u> Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. From the UTEP Dean of Student Affairs (<a href="http://studentaffairs.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=4386">http://studentaffairs.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=4386</a>) “It is an official policy of university that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts”.</p> <p><b>Examples of “cheating” include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copying from the homework, in-class work or exam paper of another student, engaging in written, oral, or any other means of communication with another student during an exam or homework assignment, or giving aid to or seeking aid from another student during a test;</li> <li>• Possession and/or use during an exam or home test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes, books, or specifically designed “crib notes”;</li> <li>• Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program; using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters but which will be used again either in whole or in part without permission of the instructor; or accessing a test bank without instructor permission;</li> <li>• Collaborating with or seeking aid from another student for an assignment without authority;</li> <li>• Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute</li> </ul>

for one's self, to take a test;

- Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit.

“**Plagiarism**” means the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own academic work offered for credit, or using work in a paper or assignment for which the student had received credit in another course without direct permission of all involved instructors. NOTE: This includes cutting-and-pasting and photocopying from on-line and other material.

“**Collusion**” means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

### **TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE\***

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Homework Assignments</b>
<b>WEEK 1 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 1: History, Philosophy, and Uses of Epidemiology Chapter 2 Epidemiology and Data Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Ch. 1 &amp; Ch. 2</li> <li>➤ Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ At the end of Ch. 1, 2: review study questions and exercises.</li> <li>➤ Post on your Discussion board</li> <li>➤ Complete graded multiple choice questions assignments (Quizzes 1&amp;2 And TESTS 1 &amp; 2)</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 2 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 3 Epidemiologic Measurements Used to Describe Disease Occurrence Chapter 4: Data and Disease Occurrence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Chapter 3 and chapter 4.</li> <li>➤ Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ At the end of Ch. 3,4: review study questions and exercises.</li> <li>➤ Post on your Discussion board</li> <li>➤ Complete graded multiple choice questions assignments (Quizzes 3&amp;4 And TESTS 3&amp;4)</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 3 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Lecture: Chapter 5: Descriptive Epidemiology: Patterns of Disease—Person, Place, Time Chapter 6: Association and Causality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Chapter 5 and chapter 6</li> <li>➤ Review related PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ At the end of Ch.5, 6: review study questions and exercises.</li> <li>➤ Post on your Discussion board</li> <li>➤ Complete graded multiple choice questions assignments (Quizzes 5&amp;6 And TESTS 5&amp;6)</li> </ul>
<b>MIDTERM EXAMINATION (Ch 1-6) WEEK FOUR, APRIL 2ND BY MIDNIGHT</b>		
<b>WEEK 4 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 7: Analytic Epidemiology: Types of Study Designs Chapter 8: Epidemiology and the Policy Arena</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Chapter 7 and chapter 8</li> <li>➤ Review related PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ At the end of Ch.7, 8: review study questions and exercises.</li> <li>➤ Post on your Discussion board</li> <li>➤ Complete graded multiple choice questions</li> </ul>

		assignments (Quizzes 7&8 And TESTS 7&8)
<b>WEEK 5 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 9: Epidemiology and Screening for Disease Chapter 10: Infectious Diseases and Outbreak Investigation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Chapter 9 and chapter 10</li> <li>➤ Review related PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ At the end of Ch.9, 10: review study questions and exercises.</li> <li>➤ Post on your Discussion board</li> <li>➤ Complete graded multiple choice questions assignments (Quizzes 9&amp;10 And TESTS 9&amp;10)</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 6 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 11. Social and Behavioral Epidemiology Chapter 12: Special Epidemiologic Applications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Chapter 11 and chapter 12</li> <li>➤ Review related PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ At the end of Ch11, 12: review study questions and exercises.</li> <li>➤ Post on your Discussion board</li> <li>➤ Complete graded multiple choice questions assignments (Quizzes 11&amp;12 And TESTS 11&amp;12)</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 7 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Review all chapters of the textbook</b>	<b>Final Examination, time limited (covers chapters 1-12) To be released by April 24<sup>th</sup> – due April 25<sup>th</sup> by Midnight</b>

\* Note: The course syllabus is a general tentative plan for the course. Any changes will be announced to the class in advance by the instructor.