



Department of Public Health Sciences  
Health Promotion Program Syllabus

Course name:	Introduction to Epidemiology, 101
Course no.:	HSCI 3311: 17590.202010
Semester/year	Fall, 2019
Undergraduate credit hrs:	3
Class location:	ONLINE
Class instructor:	Maria C. Browne M.D. MPH, MS
Office location:	UTEP Health Sciences and Nursing Building
Email:	<a href="mailto:mcbrowne@utep.edu">mcbrowne@utep.edu</a>
Office hours:	(Virtual) Office Hours via Blackboard Collaborate Ultr ) scheduled starting from September 10 <sup>th</sup> on weekly basis. Mark your calendar!
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-TEST ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS,*** then make a decision to continue or withdraw from the course.

Even though this is an online course, learning techniques will emphasize a critical

	<p>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, or preparing and submitting assignments. 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>
<b>Course prerequisites</b>	HSCI 3308, MATH 1320, and PSYC 1303
<b>Required textbook:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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)</li> <li>- Navigate 2 Advantage Access:  <a href="http://www.jblearning.com/catalog/9781284107852/">http://www.jblearning.com/catalog/9781284107852/</a></li> <li>- Calculator</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Required reading:</b>	<a href="http://yes-competition.org/yes/teaching-units/title.html">http://yes-competition.org/yes/teaching-units/title.html</a>
<b>Course format:</b>	Self-guided study
<b>Major learning objectives/COMPETENCIES</b>	<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>
<b>Assessment strategies:</b>	<p><b>1.Quizzes-</b> weekly graded time limited quizzes will be given during the course. The purpose of these quizzes is to encourage students to read the textbook.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Course participation will be assessed based on accessing online material and submitting <b>weekly assignments</b>. Your participation is time-limited, meaning that after the deadline you will not be able to access the link to the missed quiz or the assignment on BlackBoard! Please see the weight of each requirements that contribute to the overall course grade.</p>

- 3. 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 the textbook, and going over all additionally posted material (Power Point Presentations, links, quizzes, etc ) on blackboard.

<b>Grading scale</b>	<p>Completion of course will require that the student fulfills multiple tasks and due dates</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10% --- Quizzes (time limited)</li> <li>2. 50% --- Weekly Assignments</li> <li>3. 15% ---Midterm Assessment (time limited)</li> <li>4. 25% ---FINAL Examination, multiple choice, true/false questions, time limited</li> </ol> <p>Your Final grade of this course will correspond to the score that is weighted according to the above listed criteria, as following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A (&gt; 90%)</li> <li>• B (80--89%)</li> <li>• C (70--79%)</li> <li>• D (60--69)</li> <li>• F (&lt;60%)</li> </ul>
<b>Incomplete policy:</b>	<p>An “I” (incomplete grade) can only be considered only <u>if requested by the student in advance of the conclusion of the course</u> and only for <u>legitimate, documented</u> 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.</p>
<b>Course/Instructor &amp; Institutional Policies</b>	
<b>Attendance:</b>	<p>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 <u>MEASURED by active and quality participation during the course</u>, which will be directly monitored by login on, and completing all required activities in the course’s as assessed by the 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 log on to the course within the drop/add period for the course he/she will be dropped from the course.</p>
<b>Reading assignments:</b>	<p>YES project <a href="http://yes-competition.org/yes/teaching-units/title.html">http://yes-competition.org/yes/teaching-units/title.html</a></p>
<b>Writing standards</b>	<p>Effective public health leaders and practitioners are also effective written as well as oral communicators. Written communication is a critical element of the communication process. Our undergraduate and MPH graduate program both recognize and expect good writing to be the norm for course work. Please feel free to seek out assistance from the UTEP Writing Center. It is free and they are</p>

	very helpful.
<b>Policy for late assignments</b>	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</u>, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3.2, Subdivision 3.22. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. From the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (<u>OSSCR Website</u>) “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</li> </ul>

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;

- Collaborating with or seeking aid from another student for an assignment without authority;
- Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute 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\*

Dates	Topics	Homework Assignments
<b>WEEK 1 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	➤ Study the SYLLABUS; mark your calendar for important dates. Buy your textbook, familiarize yourself with the content of the textbook. Start reading the book
<b>WEEK 2 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 1 History, Philosophy, and Uses of Epidemiology</b>	➤ Read Ch. 1 & Review PPP posted on Blackboard ➤ Complete Quiz 1- Thursday by Midnight ➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight
<b>WEEK 3 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 2 Epidemiology and Data Presentation</b>	➤ Read Ch. 2 & Review PPP posted on Blackboard ➤ Complete Quiz 2- Thursday by Midnight ➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight
<b>WEEK 4 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 3 Epidemiologic Measurements Used to Describe Disease Occurrence</b>	➤ Read Ch. 3 & Review PPP posted on Blackboard ➤ Complete Quiz 3- Thursday by Midnight ➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight
<b>WEEK 5 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 4: Data and Disease Occurrence</b>	➤ Read Ch. 4 & Review PPP posted on Blackboard ➤ Complete Quiz 4- Thursday by Midnight ➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight
<b>WEEK 6 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 5: Descriptive Epidemiology: Patterns of Disease—Person, Place, Time</b>	➤ Read Ch. 5 & Review PPP posted on Blackboard ➤ Complete Quiz 5- Thursday by Midnight ➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight
<b>WEEK 7 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 6: Association and Causality</b>	➤ Read Ch. 6 & Review PPP posted on Blackboard ➤ Complete Quiz 6- Thursday by Midnight ➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight
<b>Week 8 - MIDTERM EXAMINATION (Ch 1-6)</b> <b>Time-limited, to be released on WEDNESDAY - due THURSDAY by Midnight</b>		

<b>WEEK 9 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 7: Analytic Epidemiology: Types of Study Designs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Ch. 7 &amp; Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ Complete Quiz 7- Thursday by Midnight</li> <li>➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 10 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 8: Epidemiology and the Policy Arena</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Ch. 8 &amp; Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ Complete Quiz 8- Thursday by Midnight</li> <li>➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 11 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 9: Epidemiology and Screening for Disease</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Ch. 9 &amp; Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ Complete Quiz 9- Thursday by Midnight</li> <li>➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 12 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 10: Infectious Diseases and Outbreak Investigation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Ch. 10 &amp; Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ Complete Quiz 10- Thursday by Midnight</li> <li>➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 13 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 11. Social and Behavioral Epidemiology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Ch. 11 &amp; Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ Complete Quiz 11- Thursday by Midnight</li> <li>➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 14 (Mo-Sat)</b>	<b>Chapter 12: Special Epidemiologic Applications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Read Ch. 11 &amp; Review PPP posted on Blackboard</li> <li>➤ Complete Quiz 11- Thursday by Midnight</li> <li>➤ Assignment - Saturday by Midnight</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 15 (Mo-Tue)</b>	<b>Review all chapters of the textbook</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Review all chapters of the textbook</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Elective extra-point test</b></li> </ul>
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>Final Examination, time-limited (covers chapters 1-12) To be released on Monday Dec 9<sup>th</sup> –due Tuesday Dec 10<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.