

Global Infectious Disease Epidemiology – PUBH 713

Course Syllabus Fall 2013

Public Health Leadership Program

Instructor: Jennifer Griffin, MPH, PhD

Office hours: Wednesday 6-7 PM PST or by appointment

Cell: 919-357-4991

Skype: griffsby

Email: jenngriffin@unc.edu

Online course – The PUBH 713 course site can be accessed at <https://sakai.unc.edu/portal>

NOTE: Use the ONYEN login to enter Sakai

Global Infectious Disease Epidemiology is part of the interdisciplinary Public Health Leadership Program, which prepares public health professionals for leadership positions. Global Infectious Disease Epidemiology covers the interaction between an infectious agent, host, and environment, modes and dynamics of transmission, the role of immunity in infectious disease epidemiology, and disease elimination strategies, focusing on issues affecting a global society. Prerequisites: PUBH 711

Learning Objectives:

- Describe the role of infectious disease epidemiology in public health practice
- Apply principles of the host/agent/environment model to disease causation, prevention, and control
- Recognize principles of disease transmission
- Utilize infectious disease epidemiology terminology and concepts
- Describe public health surveillance systems
- Evaluate and interpret infectious disease epidemiology information (effect measures, study designs, etc...)
- Identify special populations in the community that may be significant in the development of public health policies, programs and practices

Course Requirements:

Global Infectious Disease Epidemiology is organized in six modules that last two to three weeks. These modules are a combination of self-paced individual and group activities. There is also a capstone project at the end of the course. Students in this course spend approximately 9 to 12 hours per week on coursework. However, some weeks require more time than others, such as weeks coinciding with the capstone project.

Self-paced Individual Activities include lectures, readings, case studies and quizzes. You can work at your own pace during the module to complete these activities.

- Lectures – audio lectures

- Readings – there is NO text book for this course. All required and suggested readings are downloadable documents or URL links that can be accessed from the Sakai course site
- Case studies – individual assignments
- Quizzes – short (typically 10 question) quizzes based on lectures and required readings. You can use any resources to answer these questions

Group Discussions/Projects occur in modules 1 to 5. Group projects make use of group discussion forums. Participation is an important part of your group discussion grade. Details about each project will be found in the module folder on the Sakai website when it is available.

The Capstone Project occurs at the end of the course and synthesizes all information learned in the course. The Capstone Project is an individual assignment governed by the UNC Honor Code. The capstone project is due on December 9, 2013 by midnight EST.

Grading:

Students will be graded based on participation and quality of work in group discussions/projects, individual assignments, quizzes and a capstone project.

Individual assignments:	30%
Quizzes:	10%
Group projects:	30% (grade includes participation in group discussion/project)
Capstone project:	30%

Each group project grade will be based on two components. These are: 1) the quality of the document itself and 2) peer evaluations. First, the faculty will grade the group project. Then, your peers will evaluate you (and you will evaluate yourself) on your contributions to the group project. Peer and self-evaluation criteria can range from bringing up salient points for group consideration to finding important information on the Web to calculating odds ratios. If you fail to complete peer evaluations, you will lose 5 points from the 25 possible points for your peer evaluation for that group project.

Summarized, the breakdown is as follows:

Group project document:	75%
Peer/self-evaluation:	25%

Course Policies:

Due Dates and Late Penalties

Unless otherwise noted, everything is due by **midnight Eastern Standard Time (EST)** on the due date. No late individual assignments, quizzes, or group projects will be accepted without prior, agreed-upon

extension from the instructor. Capstone projects submitted late will be penalized 10 points per day. In the event of an emergency, exceptions to this policy will be made. Note that computer problems are NOT considered an emergency in this course. Please use a safe method to back up your work at all times so it can be submitted via another computer, if necessary.

Technical requirements

Please read over [Minimum Technical Requirements](#) for this course. You must have adequate computer and email access and should be checking the course Sakai site regularly.

Course withdrawal

If you decide to withdraw from the course at any time, you must notify the instructor and the registrar for your program.

Course Resources:

There is NO text book for this course. All required and suggested readings are downloadable documents or URL links that can be accessed from the Sakai course site. All lectures, assignments, quizzes, discussion forums, and URL links to other resources can be found on the [Sakai website](#).

Course Ethics:

UNC Honor Code:

It shall be the responsibility of every student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to obey and to support the enforcement of the Honor Code, which prohibits lying, cheating, or stealing when these actions involve academic processes or University, student, or academic personnel acting in an official capacity. Please familiarize yourself with the [UNC Honor Code](#).

Citations and Plagiarism:

Be sure to attribute information from all references you make use of for all assignments and provide appropriate citations. I prefer, since we are in the field of health, that you utilize the American Medical Association (AMA) or Council of Science Editors (CSE) style for all references. However, I will not penalize you for using another citation style. Failing to provide appropriate citations constitutes plagiarism. Students who plagiarize will receive zero credit for their work and risk going before the UNC honor court. See the [UNC Plagiarism Tutorial](#) for a definition of plagiarism and information about when and how to cite sources.

Syllabus Changes:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, including project due dates and test dates. These changes will be announced as early as possible.

Course Schedule

Module	Dates	Topic	Lectures	Assignments	Due Date
1	8/20/2013 - 9/2/2013	Host, agent, environment triangle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host, agent, environment triangle Epidemiology on the Ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readings Individual Assignments Group Project: Icebreaker Quiz 	9/2
2	9/3/2013 – 9/16/2013	Concepts in Disease Transmission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infectious disease transmission Infection and Immunity E is for Epi 3.1: Analytic and descriptive studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readings Individual assignments: Special populations Group project: Modes of transmission Quiz 	9/16
3	9/17/2013 – 9/30/2013	Measuring the Occurrence of Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vital statistics Global health surveys E is for Epi 3.2: Descriptive and analytic studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readings Individual assignments: Cohort studies Group discussion: Disease transmission and control measures Quiz 	9/30
4	10/1/2013 – 10/21/2013	Infectious Agents of Global Importance and Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infectious agents of global importance (I) Infectious agents of global importance (II) Epidemiology on the ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readings Individual assignments: Case control studies Group discussion: Effective and sustainable public health interventions Quiz 	10/21
5	10/22/2013 – 11/11/2013	The Role of Surveillance in Global Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infectious disease surveillance (I) Infectious disease surveillance (II) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readings Individual assignments: Global and international surveillance systems Group project: Canadian criteria for surveillance 	11/11
6	11/12/2013 – 11/25/2013	Control of Infectious Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccines and drugs Principles of elimination and eradication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readings Individual assignments: Criteria for elimination and eradication Quiz 	11/25
Final	11/26/2013 – 12/9/2013	Capstone Project	NOTE: Capstone will be made available Nov 12		12/9

