# PBHL 4310: Epidemiology 3Hrs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department of</th>
<th>Life and Health Sciences</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>Liberal Arts and Sciences</td>
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</tbody>
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**Instructor Name:** Larry Rapp, Ph.D.  
**Office Location:** Founders Hall 260  
**Office Phone:** 972-338-1541  
**Email Address:** Larry.Rapp@untdallas.edu  
**Office Hours:** Tues/Weds 2:30 - 4:00PM  
**Classroom Location:** Founders Hall 240  
**Class Meeting Days & Times:** Wednesday 1:00 – 2:20PM  

**Course Catalog Description:** Principles and methods of epidemiology and their applicability to public health. Topics include history and practical applications of epidemiology, mortality and morbidity, sources of data, epidemiologic study design, measurement of disease frequency and effect, data interpretation, and screening for disease.

**Prerequisites:** PBHL 2300 and MATH 1680  
**Required Text:** Epidemiology for Public Health Practice/5th Edition  
Authors: Robert H. Friis and Thomas A. Sellers  
Publisher: Jones & Bartlett Learning  
New, Used, or Rented versions are acceptable (the online access code is not required)

**Access to Learning Resources:**  
UNT Dallas Library:  
phone: (972) 780-1616  
web: [http://www.untdallas.edu/library](http://www.untdallas.edu/library)  
email: library@untdallas.edu  
UNT Dallas Bookstore:  
phone: (972) 780-3652  
web: [http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore](http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore)  
e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com

**Course Goals or Overview:**  
The goal of this course is to present major epidemiologic concepts used to study health and disease in populations with a focus on real-world applications and development of research skills.

**Learning Objectives/Outcomes:** At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamental role of epidemiology in public health  
2. Describe different approaches to understanding the causes of disease in population-based research  
3. Critically evaluate research literature in epidemiology  
4. Calculate and correctly interpret the measures of the occurrence of disease and measures of association between exposure and disease  
5. Be aware of the major sources of health data and their limitations  
6. Identify whether a given association between exposure and disease is likely to be casual  
7. Understand the general approaches to disease surveillance and outbreak investigation
Course Outline
This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or Blackboard announcement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Textbook Chapters</th>
<th>Activities &amp; Exams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 17-22</td>
<td><strong>Purchase Textbook</strong></td>
<td>Class Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jan 23-29</td>
<td>Chapter 1: History and Scope of Epidemiology</td>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jan 30-Feb 5</td>
<td>Chapter 2: Practical Applications of Epidemiology</td>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb 6-12</td>
<td>Chapter 3: Measures of Morbidity and Mortality</td>
<td>Quiz 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Feb 13-19</td>
<td>Chapter 4: Descriptive Epidemiology</td>
<td>Quiz 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 20-26</td>
<td>Chapter 5: Sources of Data in Epidemiology</td>
<td>Quiz 5, Library Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Feb 27-Mar 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term Project Proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 6-12</td>
<td>EXAM 1 (Chapters 1-6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 13-19</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mar 20-26</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 6: Study Designs: Overview</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 6, Annotated Bibliography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mar 27-Apr 2</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 7: Study Designs: Cohort Studies</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Apr 3-9</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 8: Experimental Study Designs</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Apr 10-16</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 12: Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 17-23</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 16: Epidemiology as a Profession</strong></td>
<td>Quiz 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 24-30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Project Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>May 1-7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Project Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>May 8-14</td>
<td>EXAM 2 (Chapters 6-8, 12 &amp; 16)</td>
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Course Evaluation Methods
Grading Policy

Quizzes- You will be given 10 quizzes on Blackboard covering the assigned chapter for that particular week. Each quiz is worth 12 points and may include multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions.

Exams- Exams are given on Blackboard and are worth 100 points each. Exam 1 covers the material from Chapters 1-5 and Exam 2 from Chapters 6-8, 12 & 16. Exams may include multiple choice, true/false, and short essay questions. There is no final exam for the class although Exam 2 is given during finals week. No make-up exams will be given except for documented family and medical emergencies. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible before or soon after an exam is missed or work is not completed on time, and to show proof that it was unavoidable. An all essay make-up exam will be given for missed exams with an excused absence. A grade of zero is assigned for exams missed due to unexcused absences.

Homework Assignments- You will be given 4 homework assignments worth 10 points each consisting of chapter-end study questions.

Term Project- Using an evidence-based approach, you will formulate an original hypothesis and develop a research proposal on a currently relevant epidemiological topic of your choosing. The graded components of the term project include an annotated bibliography (20 points), a written summary of the proposed study (60 points) and a PowerPoint presentation (20 points).

Attendance- Attendance in the weekly class meetings is mandatory. More than two absences will result in 20 points (50%) being deducted from the attendance grade. Students with more than 3 absences will receive no attendance points (0 out of 40 points). Absences do not include missing class for documented family and medical emergencies.

Grading Scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities/Assignments</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2 at 100 pts. each)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (10 @ 12 pts. each)</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (4 @ 10pts. each)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Project</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>500</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Grade Determination:

A = 450 – 500 pts (90% or better)
B = 400 – 449 pts (80 – 89 %)
C = 350 – 399 pts (70 – 79 %)
D = 300 – 349 pts (60 – 69 %)
F = 299 pts or below (less than 60%)
University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):
Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at http://www.untdallas.edu/disability. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Blackboard Learn Accessibility Statement:
University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Blackboard Learn course management system’s accessibility statement is also provided: http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:
Student’s evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students’ evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy: (According to the instructor’s discretion while working in concert with the division/program’s guidelines).

Exam Policy: (Online exams and the ability to retake is solely at the instructor’s discretion). NOTE: Online exams may be proctored on campus per instructor’s discretion.

Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University’s code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University’s policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.
**Classroom Policies**

**Online Attendance and Participation:**

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Blackboard classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to http://www.untdallas.edu/registrar for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor’s discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

**Inclement Weather and Online Classes:** Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

**Online “Netiquette:**

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper “netiquette” (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no “flaming” messages (angry, personal attacks). Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University’s policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at http://www.untdallas.edu/osa/policies. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

**Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

**Technology Requirements:** In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements.

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the platform software for this course. Blackboard Learn supports major web browsers such as Windows Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. However, since the latter two are updated continually, some recent versions may not be compatible. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Internet Explorer. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- [http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements](http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements)
- [https://blackboard.secure.force.com/publickbarticleview?id=kAB700000008Oom](https://blackboard.secure.force.com/publickbarticleview?id=kAB700000008Oom)
- [https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html](https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html)