



## Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

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**Semester:** Spring

**Course Prefix:** HLTH

**Course Title:** Epidemiology

**Year:** 2025

**Course and Section #:** 3800-001

**Credits:** 3

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### ***Course Description***

Introduces epidemiologic principles and methods. Examines the historical and theoretical bases of epidemiology; statistical methods; distribution of disease over person, place, and time; research methods utilized in epidemiology; and the application of epidemiology to the prevention of disease and the promotion of health.

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### ***Course Attributes***

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

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### ***Instructor Information***

**Instructor Name:** Georgia Halkia

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### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: Identify the common terms of epidemiology and the concepts and principles that are the basis of epidemiological practice. Illustrate the epidemiological approach to problem-solving in the health sciences. Illustrate the role of epidemiology in disease prevention and promotion. Apply epidemiological methods to specific cases. Discuss the scientific method as it applies to epidemiological research design. Identify the characteristics and objectives of disease surveillance. Demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving skills.

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## Course Materials and Texts

Required textbook: Introduction to Epidemiology, 8th edition, by Ray M. Merrill. A Navigate access code is not required. Students must have access to a computer and a reliable internet connection. They must also have access to a calculator to do basic math (many students successfully use their phone calculator or computer calculator for this). There are no additional fees required for this course.

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## Course Requirements

### Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

**Course Mode: Hybrid** This course is primarily housed in Canvas, complemented by in-person sessions for a hybrid learning experience. Hybrid learning offers the flexibility of engaging with course content online while benefiting from face-to-face interactions during our scheduled class meetings. It is essential that you thoroughly read the course syllabus and understand the assignments and due dates to ensure a smooth balance between the online and in-person components. **Important Notice:** Attendance is mandatory for this course. You are allowed to miss up to two lectures without penalty. However, if you miss more than two lectures, a 25% deduction will be applied to your Active Participation assignments. Attendance will be recorded each week by the instructor. **Description of how this course works:** Canvas is where course content, grades, and communications will reside for this course. The course is divided into modules, each containing a weekly reading assignment, PowerPoint slides, videos, and various assignments (e.g., Active Participation discussions, worksheets, reflection papers, quizzes, etc.). The modules are designed to help students engage with the textbook material and apply epidemiological concepts. For this three (3) credit-hour course, students should expect to spend up to 9 hours per week completing course activities. Many of the course assignments require students to do something that may take additional time, like watching a video, interviewing someone, or exploring peer-reviewed epidemiological literature. Begin each week by reading through all the assignments for the module. This will help you better gauge the time necessary to complete the weekly assignments and prepare for lecture. Modules will be opened one week at a time. Due dates for the assignments in the module will follow this general pattern: assignments, discussions, and quizzes must be submitted before midnight on their due dates. Initial discussion posts are due Thursdays after class; most other assignments, as well as follow-up comments on the discussion boards, are due Sundays. **Student Responsibilities:** Start class the first week of the term. Be accountable by setting aside time each week to complete course activities and assignments on time, as noted per the due dates. Learn how to use Canvas, including communication tools (e.g., discussion, Canvas inbox, etc.). If you have technology-related problems, contact the Service Desk [Links to an external site..](#) Abide by ethical standards. Your work must be your own. Contact your instructor as early as possible if an emergency arises. Do NOT wait until the last minute to ask for an extension. **Instructor Responsibilities:** Respond to emails within one business day. If multiple emails are received regarding the same question or concern, they may be responded to with an announcement to the entire class. Provide timely, meaningful, and constructive feedback on assignments. Facilitate an effective learning experience. Refer students to appropriate services for issues that are non-course-content-specific—for instance, technical issues, writing labs, accessibility services, etc. Mentor students through the course. **Grading and Late Work Statement**  
**Grading Scale:** The following grading standards will be used in this class:  

Grade	Percent	A	94-100	A-	90-93	B+											
87-89	B	84-86	B-	80-83	C+	77-79	C	74-76	C-	70-73	D+	67-69	D	64-66	D-	61-63	E

  

0-60	Assignment Categories:	Activity	Description	Percent of your Grade	Active Participation						
Attend lectures and complete a min. of 9 in-class activities	15 %	Assignments	15 assignments x 10 points each	SRI Receipt = 5 points	25 %	Quizzes	7 quizzes x 10 points each = 70 points	15 %	Exams	3 exams x 100 points each	45 %

  
**Late Work Statement:** The best way to succeed in this course is to submit all assignments by their due dates. Assignments submitted after a given due date will be counted for half credit only, with the exception of exams, which will be reduced by 20%. If there are extenuating circumstances that might prohibit a student or team from meeting a due date, you should contact the instructor BEFORE the due date to request an extension (with no late penalty). If you are unable to contact the instructor ahead of the due date, you will be expected to provide appropriate documentation, such as a doctor's note, to be allowed to turn in an assignment late without penalty. **Assignment and Assessment Descriptions**  
**In-Class Active Participation:** In-class Active Participation opportunities allow students to engage in class discussions and learning activities to explore topics together. Most will require you to complete an activity or research a topic and then share what you learned with others. Posts to the discussion should add significantly to the conversation and support your point of view. Comments that do not add significantly to a discussion will not receive full credit. It is okay to disagree in a discussion. However, we need to be respectful and keep our online classroom a safe place to learn. All in-class active participation activities and discussions need to be submitted by the end of each class. **Assignments:** All assignments for this class will be submitted through Canvas and are due at

11:59 p.m. on the date specified. You may use your textbook to complete the assignments and may work collaboratively with other students. Collaborative work means working together, not copying someone else's work. You can submit each assignment only once, so be cautious as you work through the assignment. The assignments vary by module, based on the material covered. The purpose, directions, submission, and grading information for each assignment can be found within the assignment in Canvas. Assessments (quizzes and exams) must be taken individually (i.e., collaboration is NOT allowed on assessments). Quizzes: Some of the modules have assigned quizzes. Quizzes are open-book and open-note, and many have a quantitative focus. Please note, there is a time limit associated with each quiz (which varies), so you should prepare before taking the assessment. You have two attempts at each quiz and the highest score from the attempts will be recorded. All quizzes have specific due dates and points will be deducted if completed late, just as with all the other assignments. Exams: There will be three non-cumulative exams in this course, taken on Canvas using Proctorio (a remote proctoring service). Each exam will consist of true/false, multiple-choice, matching, calculation, and short answer questions and is worth 100 points. Questions for the exams will be drawn from readings, lectures, and other assigned materials (including homework and quiz problems). Exams are closed book, closed notes, and closed neighbor. Extra Credit: You may receive a maximum of 15 points extra credit in this class for completing and submitting the exam study guides prior to the live review sessions for the exams (3 study guides x 5 points each).

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### **Required or Recommended Reading Assignments**

In addition to the assigned chapter readings, students are required to take notes during class. Lectures and in-class activities are designed to complement the readings while providing deeper insights into key concepts. It is the student's responsibility to stay updated on any material covered in class, including lecture notes and activities, in the event of an absence.

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### **General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion**

1 Jan 6 Ch 1: Foundations of Epidemiology 2 Jan 13 Ch 2: Historic Developments in Epidemiology 3 Jan 20 Ch 3: Disease Concepts in Epidemiology 4 Jan 27 Ch 4 Descriptive Epidemiology (Designs & Methods) 5 Feb 3 Unit 1 Review (Ch 1-4) 6 Feb 10 Ch 5: Descriptive Epidemiology (Person, Place, and Time) Social Epidemiology (article) 7 Feb 17 Ch 6: Health & Population Indicators 8 Feb 24 Study Types in Epidemiology (online training) Ch 8: Experimental Studies in Epidemiology 9 Mar 3 Unit 2 Review (Ch 5, 6, 8, & Study Types training) Mar 10 SPRING BREAK!!! 10 Mar 17 Ch 7: Analytic Epidemiology (Designs & Methods) 11 Mar 24 Ch 9: Causality 12 Mar 31 Ch 11: Chronic Disease Epidemiology 13 April 7 Ch 12: Clinical Epidemiology 14 April 14 \*Semester ends April 30th Unit 3 Review (7, 9, 11, & 12)

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### ***Required Course Syllabus Statements***

#### **Generative AI**

AI programs are evolving and we are learning how to incorporate them properly without harming independent thought, creativity, and critical thinking skills. These skills are vital and will continue to be throughout your education and beyond. Writing, thinking, and researching are skills you must develop over time to influence your independent thought and voice. That said, it is beneficial and timely to consider learning how AI can be helpful to you, and how to use AI for those purposes. The use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Google Bard, etc.) is permitted in this course for the following activities: Brainstorming and refining your ideas; Fine tuning your research questions; Finding information on your topic; Drafting an outline to organize your thoughts; and Checking grammar and style. The use of generative AI tools is NOT permitted in this course for the following activities: Impersonating you in classroom contexts, such as by using the tool to compose discussion board prompts/responses assigned to you or content that you put into a Teams/Canvas chat. Completing group work that your group has assigned to you. Writing a draft of a writing assignment. Writing entire sentences, paragraphs or papers to complete class

**assignments. You are responsible for the information you submit based on an AI query (for instance, that it does not violate intellectual property laws, or contain misinformation or unethical content). Your use of AI tools must be properly documented and cited in order to stay within university policies on academic honesty. Any student work submitted using AI tools should clearly indicate what work is the student's work and what part is generated by the AI tool. In such cases, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. If any part of this is confusing or uncertain, please reach out to discuss it with me before submitting your work..**

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### **Using Remote Testing Software**

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

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## ***Required University Syllabus Statements***

### **Accommodations/Students with Disabilities**

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu) or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at [DHHservices@uvu.edu](mailto:DHHservices@uvu.edu)

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

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## **Academic Integrity**

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

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## **Equity and Title IX**

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – [TitleIX@uvu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@uvu.edu) – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

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## **Religious Accommodation**

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu). If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.