New Course: PHC 6937 Healthcare Epidemiology  
Fall 2014, Mondays 8:30 am to 10:30 am  
Instructor: Cindy Prins, PhD, MPH, CIC

This is a 3-credit course in a blended format; one hour of lecture material will be posted online each week. This will be supplemented by two hours of in-person class time each week.

**Course Overview or Purpose**

The purpose of this course is to discuss major topics in Healthcare Epidemiology related to the control and prevention of healthcare-associated infections and adverse patient events. This course is intended for upper-level graduate students who have taken at least one course in Epidemiology and who have familiarity with Microbiology terms and techniques (see pre-requisites for more details). Topics in healthcare epidemiology will be presented through online lectures that will provide necessary background information about a particular topic and through in-class discussions of journal articles and CDC Guidelines for the Prevention of Healthcare-Associated Infections.

**Course Objectives**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:
- Identify the major routes of infection in the healthcare setting
- Explain the practices and challenges involved in the control of multi-drug resistant organisms in healthcare
- Design an epidemiologic investigation in a healthcare setting
- Describe the role the healthcare environment plays in preventing or promoting infections
- Examine the benefits and drawbacks of mandatory public reporting of healthcare associated infections
- Evaluate non-infectious adverse events of concern in a healthcare setting and the surveillance and prevention of these events

**Pre-Requisites**

Students should have completed *PHC 6001–Principles of Epidemiology* or a related course (with instructor approval). Students also need to have familiarity with basic microbiology terms and techniques, so other pre-requisites for this course are *PHC 6370–Public Health Biology* or *PHC 6002–Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases* or *PHC 6517–Public Health Concepts in Infectious Disease* or an undergraduate or graduate-level microbiology course (with instructor approval).