

**Applied Epidemiology
PHC 4024 Section 088C
Fall, 2018
Thursday: 11:45am-2:45pm (Room G-1102)**

Course: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>

**Instructor: Jerne Shapiro, MPH
Email: shapiroj@ufl.edu
Office hours: By appointment only**

**Teaching Assistant:
Email: See class announcement
Office hours: See class announcement**

Course Overview

This course is an introduction to Applied Epidemiology for students in the pre-public health track in the Bachelor of Health Science program. This course will cover basic epidemiological concepts and will demonstrate how these concepts can be applied to problems encountered in everyday life, e.g. outbreak investigations, risks associated with lifestyles choices, water safety, rural health, school health, and mental health. The student will gain knowledge through lectures, case-based studies, GIS training, readings, **field trips**, and exercises. The student will get to experience firsthand how Epidemiology is applied every day; in order to accomplish this the class will be visiting different agencies throughout the community as well as having guest lecturers.

Course Objectives

- Calculate epidemiological measurements used to describe disease occurrences
- Comprehend both descriptive and analytic epidemiology
- Explain association and causality
- Identify social and behavioral epidemiology
- Comprehends infectious diseases principles and applies outbreak investigation techniques
- Recognizes special epidemiological applications: Molecular and Genetic Epi, Environmental Epi, Occupational Health, Unintentional Injuries, College Students, Long Term Space Travel Epi, and Cancer Epi
- Demonstrates basic skills of Global Information System (GIS) and constructs basic maps

Teaching Methods

1. **Lectures:** provide a general overview of each topic. Power point slides will be available on the class website under the Modules tab.

2. **Required Readings:** Supplemental readings will be assigned for lectures and are posted by topic under the Modules tab. There is not an assigned textbook for this course.

3. **Examinations:** Students are expected to take the examinations on the scheduled date and time. There are three exams in this class. The final exam will be accumulative. Supplemental Materials for exams will include a computer, calculator with square root and logarithmic functions.

4. **Class Participation:** There are a lot of opportunities for discussion in this course. Attendance will be taken each class by means of a quiz and by role during fieldtrips. This will comprise 20% of your course grade. The exact worth of each day will be determined at the end of the semester. It will be calculated based on how many days the class meets during the semester (100/number of class days = number of points each day is worth).

5. **Homework:** Various homework assignments will be scheduled throughout the semester. Please see the Assignment tool for more information.

Grading Method:

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Final exam	20%
Class participation	20%
Homework	20%

Grading: The grading scale for this course consists of the standard PPHP scale below:

Percentage or points earned in class	93%-100%	90%-92%	87%-89%	83%-86%	80%-82%	77%-79%	70%-76%	67%-69%	63%-66%	60%-62%	Below 60%
Letter Grade Equivalent	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D+	D	D-	E

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D+	D	D-	E	WF	I	NG	S-U
Grade Points	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.33	1.0	0.67	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

For greater detail on the meaning of letter grades and university policies related to them, see the Registrar's Grade Policy regulations at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

Class website:

Lectures, lecture notes, readings, instructor contacts, and course schedule are available on the website.

This course will utilize the UF eLearning system, which is accessible at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu> or through my.ufl.edu. You must have a valid Gatorlink ID and password. Components of the site require Java and pop-up windows (you will have to allow these when using Vista). For assistance, call the UF Help Desk at 352-392-HELP or email them at helpdesk@ufl.edu

Requirements: Students are responsible for all course material, including reading all required materials prior to each lecture.

You will be required to bring a laptop to class on designated days.

Readings and Discussions: Students should read the assigned readings prior to viewing course lectures and be prepared to discuss the material in class.

Attendance Policy: Per the University of Florida, students are responsible for satisfying all academic objectives as defined by the instructor. Acceptable reasons for absence include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official University activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Remember that, when possible (i.e. extracurricular activities, official University activities, and religious holidays), **prior notification** of absence is required if the student plans to be given an extension on assignments.

Classroom Etiquette: Students are expected to arrive on time to class and remain throughout the scheduled class time. If you need to arrive late or leave early for any reason, please inform the instructor prior to class. The use of laptops and cell phones are prohibited in the classroom unless otherwise specified. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a grade of zero for the assignment.

Make-up Exams and Work: If you are unable to meet a deadline in this course for a reason approved above and have given prior notification to the instructor when possible, you will be given adequate time to make up any coursework missed. All other missed or late work will receive a grade of zero. Make-up exams will be provided only in cases of excused absences or conflict during final exams per University policy and **MUST** be discussed with the instructor in advance. Make-up exams will differ from the regularly scheduled exam.

Schedule

8/23 Course Introduction and Syllabus Review
History, Philosophy, and Uses of Epidemiology

8/30 Epidemiologic Measurements Used to Describe Disease Occurrence
Data and Additional Measures of Disease Occurrence

9/6 Descriptive Epidemiology: Patterns of Disease— Person, Place, Time
Association and Causality

9/13 FIELD TRIP to Health Street (12:15-2:15)
Explore what Health Street does at <http://epidemiology.phhp.ufl.edu/healthstreet/>

9/20 Exam 1

9/27 Analytic Epidemiology: 1) Types of Study Designs, 2) Challenges to Validity, and
3) Environmental Epidemiology

10/4 Infectious Diseases, Outbreak Investigations, and class exercise

10/11 Global Information System (GIS) Training with Parker Hinson, Ph.D. We will have a group introduction to GIS in our regular classroom and then move to the HSCL C1-21 computer classroom. Due to size constraints, we will divide into two groups for the computer training. Please sign up for the class Scheduler under the class Calendar for your time slot.

10/18 Class exercise: Outbreak exercise

10/25 Exam 2

11/1 11:45-1:00 Guest Lecturer: Epidemiology of Space Flight, Brian Smallwood, MPH
1:15-2:45 Guest Lecturer: Alicia Baker from GatorWell, the Risk Factors of UF
College Students

11/8 1) Social and Behavioral Epi
Activity: Collecting and Analyzing Safety Data
2) Special Applications: Molecular and Genetic Epidemiology, Unintentional
Injuries, and Occupational Health

11/15 Catch up day and other fun Epi activities (Hawaiian day- food and a fun, Epi activity)

11/22 Thanksgiving Holiday

11/29 FIELD TRIP: Florida Department of Health- Alachua County: Summary of Services and Programs (12:15-2:15)

Learn more about ACHD at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdalachua/>

12/12 Final Exam – 9:30-11:30am Room:1102

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

Communication Guidelines

Preferred Course Communications: You have email on the course site under the "Inbox" tool. This is the preferred method of communication, and this is how I will contact you if necessary. You can adjust the settings to have all course mail forwarded to your regular email account so that you don't miss anything or forget to check. If you have questions, please contact me using this email option. If you are having problems and cannot use the course Inbox option, you may email me directly.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the [Disability Resource Center](#) within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Disability Resource Center will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

As a college and institution, we recognize the need to provide an inclusive learning environment for all of students.



U Matter, We Care

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Counseling and Student Health

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The Counseling and Wellness Center 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>. On line and in person assistance is available.
- You Matter We Care website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The Student Health Care Center at Shands is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at Shands offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the web site at: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from:

Alachua County Crisis Center (352) 264-6789

<http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

Inclusive Learning Environment

Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act." If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for the inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: www.multicultural.ufl.edu

