SYLLABUS

Basic Principles of Epidemiology (EPID 573A; CPH 573A)
Fall 2012

Time:  Monday, 2:00-3:15
       Wednesday, 2:00-3:15

Location: Drachman Hall, A-118

Instructor:  Eyal Shahar, MD, MPH
       Professor
       Phone: 626-8025
       Email: shahar@email.arizona.edu
       Office: Drachman Hall, Room 236
       Home page: http://www.u.arizona.edu/~shahar/

Office Hours:  By appointment (send an email; suggest 3 dates/times).

Teaching Assistant:
       Marvin Langston
       E-mail: mlangston@email.arizona.edu
       Office: Drachman Hall XXXX
       Office hours:  Monday, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
                      Wednesday, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
                      or by appointment

Course Description:  “The course will introduce students to the basic concepts and
       principles of epidemiology and how these concepts are applicable for their own particular
       interests and career in epi related fields.”

Course Prerequisites:  EPI major or minor, MPH major, or consent of instructor.

Course Learning Objectives:
       This course will introduce students to the basic concepts and principles of epidemiology
       and how these concepts are applicable for their own particular interests and careers.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:
• explain considerations for establishing the association between an attribute and a health outcome as casual.
• calculate and interpret various measures of disease frequency and association.
• explain the usefulness and relative advantages and limitations of various study designs.
• identify potential sources of bias which can occur in various study designs, and
• constructively evaluate research and scientific reports from the literature.

**MPH/Section Competencies Covered:**

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<tr>
<th>Ref#</th>
<th>Competency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>define a problem</td>
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<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>determine the appropriate use and limitation of data</td>
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<td>A3</td>
<td>select and define variables relevant to public health problems</td>
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<tr>
<td>A6</td>
<td>understand basic research designs used in public health</td>
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<tr>
<td>A7</td>
<td>make relevant inferences from data</td>
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<td>B2</td>
<td>interpreting and presenting accurately and effectively demographic, statistical, and scientific information for professional and lay audiences adapting and translating public health concepts to individuals and communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>E1</td>
<td>defining, assessing, and understanding the health status of population, determinants of health and illness, factors contributing to health promotion and disease prevention, and factors influencing the use of health services</td>
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<tr>
<td>E2</td>
<td>understanding research methods in all basic public health sciences.</td>
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**Course Notes:** All course material will be posted on d2l

**Recommended Texts/Readings:** No textbook. Readings provided on the website.

**Course Requirements:** Prepare for class and study the material after class. Complete homework assignments (on your own!) and submit on the due date. Take a mid-term exam and a final exam as scheduled.

**Grading/Student Evaluation:** Regular grades are awarded for this course (A, B, C, D, E.)

- A: ≥ 90%
- B: ≥ 80%
- C: ≥ 70%
- D: ≥ 60%
- E: < 60%

Homework assignments (6) 25% [HW1,2,3,4,5, 4.5% each. HW6, 2.5%] Should be turned in to the TA on the due date, before class starts!

Mid-term exam 35%

Final exam (**cumulative**) 40%
If you think we have made an error in grading an assignment or an exam, please tell us shortly thereafter (and not at the end of the course.) There are no extra-credit tasks and no “make-up” for a higher grade.

In the interest of equity, keep the following rule in mind: challenging the grading of “unfavorable” points might lead to re-grading of “favorable points” as well. Grades are not a matter of negotiation.

**Class Attendance/Participation:** Regular attendance is expected. If you miss a class, you should find a way to learn the material I taught. All holidays or special events observed by organized religions will be honored for those students who show affiliation with that particular religion. Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean’s designee will be honored.)

**Course Schedule:** shown below

**Required Statements:**

**Communications:** You are responsible for reading emails sent to your UA account from your professor and the announcements that are placed on the course web site. Information about readings, news events, your grades, assignments and other course related topics will be communicated to you with these electronic methods. The official policy can be found at: [http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/emailpolicy.htm](http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/emailpolicy.htm)

**Disability Accommodation:** If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Resources (621-3268; drc.arizona.edu) and notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations. The official policy can be found at [http://catalog.arizona.edu/2012%2D13/policies/disability.htm](http://catalog.arizona.edu/2012%2D13/policies/disability.htm)

**Academic Integrity:** All UA students are responsible for upholding the University of Arizona Code of Academic Integrity, available through the office of the Dean of Students and online: The official policy found at: [http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity](http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity)

**Classroom Behavior:** (Statement of expected behavior and respectful exchange of ideas) Students are expected to be familiar with the UA Policy on Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting found at [http://policy.arizona.edu/disruptive-behavior-instructional](http://policy.arizona.edu/disruptive-behavior-instructional) and the Policy on Threatening Behavior by Students found at [http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/sites/deanofstudents.arizona.edu/files/Disruptive_threat_bklt_2012.pdf](http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/sites/deanofstudents.arizona.edu/files/Disruptive_threat_bklt_2012.pdf)

**Grievance Policy:** Should a student feel he or she has been treated unfairly, there are a number of resources available. With few exceptions, students should first attempt to resolve difficulties informally by bringing those concerns directly to the person responsible for the action, or with the student's graduate advisor, Assistant Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs, department head, or the immediate supervisor of the person responsible for the action. If the problem cannot be resolved informally, the student may file a formal
grievance using the Graduate College Grievance Policy found at: 
http://grad.arizona.edu/academics/policies/academic-policies/grievance-policy

Grade Appeal Policy: http://catalog.arizona.edu/2012-13/policies/gradappeal.htm

Syllabus Changes: Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate.