

# HSW 395-02 Epidemiology and Public Health

## Fall 2023 Syllabus

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### Course description

Fundamentals of Epidemiology (HS 395 – 3 credits)

Epidemiology is often referred to as “the basic science of public health”. This class introduces the principles and methods of epidemiology as it applies to health promotion and healthcare delivery. The course will cover a historical perspective of epidemiology, measures of disease occurrence and association, clinical epidemiology, major epidemiological study designs, disease screening, causal inference and common methods for identifying and controlling infectious disease outbreaks. Prerequisite: Math 255 or HS301 or equivalent.

### Format

Section 2 is online. All of the course content is designed for online format in Canvas with asynchronous lectures and activities. Exams will be online.

### Textbook

Epidemiology (5th Edition, 2014) by Leon Gordis

### General goals and objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate the basic epidemiologic study designs and statistics used for measuring risk factor/disease associations.
2. Apply knowledge of epidemiology to identify the strengths and weaknesses of published studies.
3. Demonstrate the importance of using epidemiologic data to design disease prevention programs.
4. Appreciate the scope of epidemiology and its potential application for health promotion and improving healthcare delivery.

### Grading system

93 – 100	A	77 – 79	C+
90 – 92	A-	73 – 76	C
87 – 89	B+	70 – 72	C-
83 – 86	B	67 – 69	D+
80 – 82	B-	60 – 66	D
		Below 60	F

“A” reflects exceptional work (going beyond the basics, integrating material well, displaying professionalism in individual and group work, application and demonstration of knowledge and skills, showing initiative, using creativity, writing is reflective of multiple drafts).

“B” reflects good work (valuable teamwork skills, active in class, ability to grasp basic concepts and apply to new situations, some participation in class, completes all assignments with a degree of proficiency but may not demonstrate initiative, creativity or reflection consistently, writing contains errors or lacks conciseness and completeness).

“C” reflects average work (assignments are completed at the minimum, basic concepts are grasped but cannot be applied, some difficulty in group work, spelling and grammar mistakes are common, writing is conversational in tone with little attention paid to detail, word choices, organization (rough draft quality), little participation in class.

**Student responsibilities for successful coursework:**

Attendance: Participation on online lessons and quizzes will constitute attendance. Please notify the instructor by email if an absence is anticipated.

Reading Assignments: Additional readings will be posted in Canvas. Students will be more successful in the class if the text and other handouts are read before streaming the lecture provided in the Canvas module for each week. The course is focused on discussion and analysis of epidemiology topics. Readings and recorded lectures will prepare you for participation in class discussion boards, online quizzes, and exams.

**Derivation of course grade**

Three 1-hour exams (15% each - multiple choice)	45%
Quizzes/Activities	30%
Final exam (comprehensive)	25%

**Other class information**

Email – please note that you are responsible for anything I send you via email.

Lecture materials and recordings for HS395 are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] **Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities.** Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor’s express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

**Communicating with your instructor via email**

I check my email frequently during the day. However, I receive a lot of email and I sometimes delete emails which do not have the subject specified. If you have not received a response to your email within 24 hours, please resend your email. I do not check email routinely on some weekends.

**Students with special needs**

UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of Albertson Hall (library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or [DATC@uwsp.edu](mailto:DATC@uwsp.edu).

**The contents of this syllabus are as complete and accurate as possible. The instructor reserves the right to make any changes necessary to the syllabus and course material. The instructor will make every effort to inform the students of changes as they occur. It is the responsibility of the student to know what changes have been made to successfully complete the requirements of the course. Any posted Canvas announcement is considered official addendum to this syllabus.**

**Course Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Exam Schedule</b>
Monday Oct 23	<b>Exam 1 (online)</b> covers Canvas Weeks 1 - 7 content modules
Monday Nov 13	<b>Exam 2 (online)</b> covers Canvas Week 8 - 10 content modules
Monday Nov 27	<b>Exam 3 (online)</b> covers Canvas Week 11 - 12 content modules
Monday Dec 18	<b>Comprehensive Final Exam (Gordis textbook sections 1-3, case studies, and lectures covered in Weeks 1-15 content modules) (online)</b>