

Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

University of Arizona

**SYLLABUS**

**EPID/CPH 696A: EPIDEMIOLOGY SEMINAR**

**Spring 2019**

**Time**: Wednesdays, 12:00 – 12:50 p.m.

**Location**: Drachman Hall A-120 and Drachman Hall A-114 (see schedule)

**Course Instructor:** Leslie Farland, ScD

Assistant Professor of Epidemiology

Drachman Hall, A236

lfarland@email.arizona.edu

**Office Hours:** By appointment via email

**Catalogue Description:** This seminar consists of presentations and active discussions led by a diverse range of speakers, including the course students, on topics in epidemiologic research and applied epidemiology that may not be available through other courses.

* **Course Description:** The Epidemiology Seminar is a forum for presentation and discussion of original research findings, methodologic approaches, and applied epidemiology (i.e., epidemiology in action), as well as career-development topics such as procurement of research funding, critical evaluation of scientific literature, communication of epidemiologic concepts or findings, practical considerations for internships, and job searching. Presentations may span a broad range of epidemiologic areas including injury, chronic disease, infectious disease, maternal-child health, and global health. This is also a forum for MS and PhD epidemiology students, as well as postdoctoral fellows, to present findings from their respective areas of research.

**Course Prerequisites:** This course is restricted to graduate students in health-related fields including public health, medicine, and the biological or social sciences.

**Course Objectives:** At the end of the course, students will:

* Increase their understanding of a broad range of epidemiological research
* Understand the application of epidemiologic principles by public health agencies to mitigate disease
* Contribute meaningfully to conversations regarding contemporary issues in epidemiology
* Enhance their exposure to individuals with epidemiology-focused careers

**Learning Outcomes (Competencies Obtained):**

**MPH Program Competencies Covered:**

* Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
* Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content
* Search, describe and summarize findings from the scientific literature to describe the epidemiology of a public health problem, identify health disparities and identify risk factors.

**MS Competencies Covered:**

* Critique and synthesize appropriate literature and research findings to address a research question.

**PhD Competencies Covered:**

* Develop research questions to address health problems by appraising and identifying gaps in the current scientific literature.
* Understand basic principles of educating professionals and the public on the fundamentals of epidemiological concepts.

**Course Notes**: No notes will be provided.

**Recommended Texts/Readings**: Journal articles, if relevant, will be posted on D2L.

**Course Schedule**: The seminar schedule will be updated as needed on D2L.

**Course Requirements and Evaluation: *Pass-Fail Grading.*** Based on attendance, there will be 1 point available per week for 16 weeks=16 total points. Students must attend and participate in at least 13 sessions to receive a grade of P.

Course requirements:

* Participate by actively listening and asking questions
* Complete evaluation/reflection form following each presentation and upload to d2l at the end of seminar
* When assigned, read preparatory materials and complete assignments before seminar

**Class Attendance and participation:** Students are expected to actively listen and participate. Using a laptop, tablet or cell-phone (calls, texting or surfing) during seminar is grounds for not receiving attendance credit for that day. Students who arrive more than 10 minutes late or leave prior to 12:40 pm may be counted as absent. If a student cannot attend a seminar session, substitution with another seminar may be appropriate. The student must discuss this option with the course instructor for prior approval. The student will be asked to provide documentation of attendance at the alternate seminar and a one-page description of the seminar. 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.

**Communications**: You are responsible for reading emails sent to your UA account from your instructor 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: <https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/personal-information/official-student-email-policy-use-email-official-correspondence-students>

**Accessibility and Accommodations:**

**At the University of Arizona, we strive to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact Disability Resources (520-621-3268) to explore reasonable accommodation. If our class meets at a campus location: Please be aware that the accessible table and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable. For additional information on Disability Resources and reasonable accommodations, please visit** <http://drc.arizona.edu/students>

**Code of Academic Integrity**

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercise must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity, available through the office of the UA Dean Students: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policies-and-codes/code-academic-integrity>

**Classroom Behavior**: (Statement of expected behavior and respectful exchange of ideas:

Present policies to foster a positive learning environment, including use of cell phones, mobile devices, etc.).

Students are expected to be familiar with the UA Policy on Disruptive Student Behavior in an Instructional Settingfound at: <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/disruptive-behavior-instructional-setting>

**Threatening Behavior Policy**: The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to one’s self, <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>

**Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy:**

The University of Arizona is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination, <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

**UA Smoking and Tobacco Policy:**

The purpose of this Policy is to establish the University of Arizona’s (University) commitment to protect the health of University faculty, staff, students, and visitors on its campuses and in its vehicles,  
<http://policy.arizona.edu/ethics-and-conduct/smoking-and-tobacco-policy>

**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 by the instructor.

**Plagiarism:**  What counts as plagiarism?

* Copying and pasting information from a web site or another source, and then revising it so that it sounds like your original idea.
* Doing an assignment/essay/take home test with a friend and then handing in separate assignments that contain the same ideas, language, phrases, etc.
* Quoting a passage without quotation marks or citations, so that it looks like your own.
* Paraphrasing a passage without citing it, so that it looks like your own.
* Hiring another person to do your work for you, or purchasing a paper through any of the on- or off-line sources.

**Plagiarism will result in a grade of an “E”,** if it is throughout an assignment (in small or large amounts), or includes whole paragraphs or constitutes over 15% of the assignment.