Course Title: 2017 Infectious Disease Epidemiology - 57009
Course Number: EPID 0552J - 030
Course Location: Piscataway
Course Date & Time: 6:00pm – 9:00pm, Monday
Course Instructor: Dr. Robert Morgan, 732-673-7026, rlmcabot@msn.com
Office Hours: By Appointment Only
Course Assistant: Barbara Montana, MD, MPH, 609-826-5964, Barbara.Montana@doh.nj.gov
Kristina Feja, MD, MPH, kfeja@mindspring.com

Required Course Text: Control of Communicable Disease Manual; Editor: James Chin.

Additional/Supplemental Readings/Resources: Additional materials will be provided

Course Description: Students attending this course will have the opportunity to review the epidemiology of key communicable diseases, understand surveillance systems and other data sets available for analysis, understand the steps of an outbreak investigation, and appreciate the complexity of preventing and controlling communicable diseases. Students will have the opportunity to interact with many public health professionals to better appreciate the challenges and rewards of public health practice.

Selected Department Competencies Addressed: Each Department identifies competencies for each degree offered. The competencies addressed in this course for the MPH include:

- Describe important epidemiologic challenges on the local, national, and international level
- Use epidemiologic techniques to quantitatively assess patterns and changes in disease occurrence
- Use epidemiologic concepts to identify and evaluate public health and clinical problems

Please visit the Department webpages on the School of Public Health’s website at http://sph.rutgers.edu/ for additional competencies addressed by this course for other degrees and departments.

Course Objectives: By the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the epidemiology of key communicable diseases
- Identify public health surveillance systems and other sources of communicable disease data
• Summarize steps in investigative communicable disease outbreaks and be able to review significant investigations nationally and in New Jersey

Course Requirements and Grading:

• There will be an objective midterm and final examination prepared from class lectures and reading materials

• Grading
  1. Class participation 20 percent
  2. Midterm 40 percent
  3. Final 40 percent

Class participation includes attendance and active participation during class discussions. Students are permitted one absence during the semester without penalty.

Course Schedule:

• January 23 – Introduction; Drs. Morgan, Montana, and Feja – class canceled
• January 30 – Surveillance/Influenza Surveillance; Teresa Hamby and Lisa McHugh
• February 6 – Introduction; Drs. Morgan, Montana, and Feja
• February 13 – Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers – Dr. Morgan
• February 20 – President’s Day – No class
• February 27 – Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology; Dr. Kristina Feja
• March 6 – Midterm Exam
• March 13 – Spring Break – No class
• March 20 – Zoonotic Diseases; Dr. Colin Campbell
• March 27 – Healthcare-Associated Infections; Dr. Peter Wenger
• April 3 – Outbreak Investigations; Rebecca Greeley and Jason Mehr
• April 10 – Outbreak of Serogroup B Meningococcal Disease Associated with a NJ University, 2013 – 2014; Dr. Barbara Montana
• April 17 – Hepatitis B and Vaccine-Preventable Disease Response – Jill Dinitz-Sklar and Noelle Bessett
• April 24 – Mycobacterium tuberculosis/HIV; Dr. Kristina Feja
• May 1 – Final Exam

School of Public Health Honor Code: The School of Public Health Honor Code is found in the student bulletin (sph.rutgers.edu/academics/catalog/index.html ). Each student bears a fundamental responsibility for maintaining academic integrity and intellectual honesty in his or her graduate work. For example, all students are expected to observe the generally accepted principles of scholarly work, to submit their own rather than another’s work, to refrain from falsifying data, and to refrain from receiving and/or giving aid on examinations or other assigned work requiring independent effort. In submitting written material, the writer takes full responsibility for the work as a whole and implies that, except as properly noted by use of quotation marks, footnotes, etc., both the ideas and the works used are his or her own. In addition to maintaining personal academic integrity, each student is expected to contribute to
the academic integrity of the school community by not facilitating inappropriate use of her/his own work by others and by reporting acts of academic dishonesty by others to an appropriate school authority. It should be clearly understood that plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can lead to sanctions up to and including separation from the Rutgers School of Public Health.

Policy Concerning Use of Recording Devices and Other Electronic Communications Systems: When personally owned communication/recording devices are used by students to record lectures and/or classroom lessons, such use must be authorized by the faculty member or instructor who must give either oral or written permission prior to the start of the semester and identify restrictions, if any, on the use of mobile communications or recording devices.