

**Course Title:** Infectious Disease Epidemiology

**Course Number:** EPID 0552

**Course Pre- and Co-requisite(s):** Intro Epi 0502 and Intro Biostat 0504

**Course Location:** Rutgers School of Public Health, Room 3A/3B, 683 Hoes Lane West Piscataway, NJ & Rm 1022, One Riverfront Plaza, Newark

**Course Date & Time:** Mondays, 6-8 pm

**Course Instructor:** William Halperin, MD, MPH, DrPH. Professor of Epidemiology  
[William.halperin@rutgers.edu](mailto:William.halperin@rutgers.edu) (Room 1016, One Riverfront Plaza  
973-972-1862

**Office Hours:** 4-6 P.M. or by appointment

**Course Assistant:** Marina Pieretti [mcp217@sph.rutgers.edu](mailto:mcp217@sph.rutgers.edu)

**Course Website:** [canvas.rutgers.edu](https://canvas.rutgers.edu)

**Required Course Text:** No required textbook; Enroll in electronic delivery of Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report available on CDC.Gov

**Additional/Supplemental Readings/Resources:** *Add references for other course resources, if not applicable delete*

**Course Description:** Teams of 3 students will present a summary of a current article in MMWR that will be designated by the instructor. They will identify 3 pertinent references cited in the article and summarize their content. The team will then lead a discussion of the MMWR article and respond to students' inquiries. Students not presenting will prepare substantive questions for each article and provide copies to the instructor. In addition, teams of students will prepare a poster which will address the Rose Paradox or delineate the current local-state-national surveillance systems for a disease, injury or exposure of national public health importance.

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

- A Critique the epidemiologic literature, assess its strengths and weaknesses, and determine if conclusions are supported.
- B Use epidemiologic techniques to quantitatively assess patterns and changes in disease occurrence.
- C Formulate a specific hypothesis and determine an appropriate study design and analysis plan.
- D Design and implement and assess data systems for public health.
- E Appropriately analyze and interpret epidemiologic data, including large national and state level datasets.
- F Communicate and present study findings to professional audiences.
- G Relate epidemiologic findings to the basic biology of 30+ infectious diseases.

Please visit the Concentration webpages on the School of Public Health’s website at [sph.rutgers.edu](http://sph.rutgers.edu) for additional competencies addressed by this course for other degrees and concentrations.

**Course Objectives:** *Provide a bulleted list of the objectives of the course (do not present as a paragraph). Begin this section with the following statement: By the completion of this course, students will be able to:*

- A Assess current literature to identify what was known before, what was done, what was found, and identify implications.
- B Utilize the “Rose Paradox” to differentiate approaches of risk assessment and risk management.
- C Distinguish between research epidemiology and “field” epidemiology and design epidemiologic methods to accomplish both.
- D Design, and critique public health surveillance systems for the prevention of infectious diseases.

**Course Requirements and Grading:** *In this section, Instructor should include*

- *A list of activities, assignments, projects, exams, etc. that contribute to course grade, and the respective point/percentage value of each. For example:*
  1. Read assigned articles and author valuable questions: 20%
  2. Assess and summarize assigned articles: 20 pts.
  3. Summarize the biologic basis for diseases 20 pts.
  4. Assess a current surveillance system or use the
  5. Rose Paradox to distinguish risk assessment from
  6. Management 30 pts.
  7. Class Participation 10 pts.

*Total: 100 pts.*
- *Articles from MMWR will be selected by the professor from that weeks publication. Articles will be chosen bthe stated goals for competencies and course objectives. Approximately 40 reports from the MMWR will be thus assessed.*

Competency	Course Objectives(s)	Lessons	Assessment(s)
1	a, f, h, m	1, 3, 4, 10	Assignment 1 and Midterm

*OPTION 2) Include an additional column on your Course Schedule that shows how your competencies are addressed throughout the semester.*

Week	Date	Course Topic	Online 30	Assignments/ Assessments	Link To Competencies And Assessments
1	Sep 10	History of Health Education			Describe the role of a health educator and behavioral scientist in addressing public health problems (Assessed by Midterm)

- *Please add the school-wide uniform grading scale:*

*Grading Policy:*

94 – 100	A
90 – <94	A-
87 – <90	B+
84 – <87	B
80 – <84	B-
77 – <80	C+
70 – <77	C
<70	F

**Course Schedule:** *Include week by week listing of each class session (see last page)*

- *Date*
- *Topic(s), activities*
- *“Online 30” (online or outside of class activities connected to contact hours)*
- *Assigned Readings Due*
- *Assignments Due*
- *Link to Competencies and Assessments (If Option 2 from above is selected)*

**Learning Management System:** Canvas will be used extensively throughout the semester for course syllabus, assignments, announcements, communication and/or other course-related activities. It is the student’s responsibility to familiarize themselves with Canvas and check it regularly. If you have difficulties accessing Canvas, please inform the instructor and Canvas Support ([help@canvas.rutgers.edu](mailto:help@canvas.rutgers.edu)). Canvas is accessible at [canvas.rutgers.edu](https://canvas.rutgers.edu).

**School of Public Health Honor Code:** The School of Public Health Honor Code is found in the School Catalog ([sph.rutgers.edu/academics/catalog.html](https://sph.rutgers.edu/academics/catalog.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.

**Students with Disabilities:** Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student must apply for Services by first completing a Registration Form with the Rutgers Office of Disability Services (ODS) at [ods.rutgers.edu](https://ods.rutgers.edu). The student will also be required to participate in an ODS intake interview and provide documentation. If reasonable accommodations are granted, ODS will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations which should be shared with your instructors as early in your courses as possible.

**Commitment to Safe Learning Environment:** The Rutgers School of Public Health is committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the School as a whole. Free expression in an academic community is essential to the mission of providing the highest caliber of education possible. The School encourages civil discourse, reasoned thought, sustained discussion, and constructive engagement. Provocative ideas respectfully presented are an expected result. An enlightened academic community, however, connects freedom with responsibility. The School encourages all students to disclose any situations where you may feel unsafe, discriminated against, or

harassed. Harassment or discrimination of any kind will be not tolerated and violations may lead to disciplinary actions.

**Reporting Discrimination or Harassment:** If you experience any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. You may report such incidents to the [RBHS Title IX Office](#) or to the School of Public Health's [Office of Student Affairs](#). Rutgers University has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. If you experience any other form of discrimination or harassment, including racial, ethnic, religious, political, or academic, please report any such incidents to the School's [Office of Student Affairs](#). The School strongly encourages all students to report any incidents of discrimination or harassment to the School. Please be aware that all Rutgers employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers as listed in Appendix A to [Policy 10.3.12](#)) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the School and potentially the University. For example, if you tell a faculty or staff member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty or staff member must share that information with the [RBHS Title IX Coordinator](#). If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of resources in Appendix A to University [Policy 10.3.12](#). For more information about your options at Rutgers, please visit [Rutgers Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance](#).

**Graduate Student Computer Policy:** Students are required to possess a personal laptop, no older than approximately two years, that must meet minimum requirements which may be found online at: [sph.rutgers.edu/student-life/computer-support.html](http://sph.rutgers.edu/student-life/computer-support.html)

**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.

**Policy Concerning Use of Turnitin:** Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com (directly or via learning management system, i.e. Canvas) for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site. Students who do not agree should contact the course instructor immediately.

**Withdrawal/Refund Schedule:** Students who stop attending their course(s) without submitting a completed [Add/Drop Course](#) form will receive a failing grade. Furthermore, students dropping to zero credits for the semester are considered withdrawn and must submit a completed [Leave of Absence](#) form from the School of Public Health's Office of Student Affairs. The School of Public Health refunds tuition only. Administrative and technology fees are non-refundable. You may find the Withdrawal/Refund Schedule on the School of Public Health website at: [sph.rutgers.edu/academics/academic-calendar.html](http://sph.rutgers.edu/academics/academic-calendar.html)

WEEK	DATE	TEAM PRESENT	EVENTS
1	01/27/20		VIDEO
2	02/03/20	123	
3	02/10/20	456	
4	02/17/20	781	INITIAL POSTER TOPIC PROPOSAL
5	02/24/20		POSTER CLINIC
6	03/02/20	234	POSTER TOPIC DUE
7	03/09/20	567	
SPRING BREAK	03/16/20		
8	03/23/20	812	DRAFT POSTER DUE
9	03/30/20	345	DRAFT POSTER DUE IF DELAYED
10	04/06/20	678	1 THRU 13
11	04/13/20	123	DRAFT POSTER DUE IF DELAYED
12	04/20/20	456	FINAL POSTER AND PAPER DUE; APPLY FOR INCOMPLETE
13	04/27/20	78	FINAL POSTER COMMENTS
14	05/04/20		POSTER SESSION VIA WEBEX
15			