

- Course Title:** *Epidemiology of Chronic Disease*
- Course Number:** *EPID 0652*
- Course Pre- and Co-requisite(s):** *PHCO 0502, Principles and methods of Epidemiology*
PHCO 0504, Introduction to Biostatistics
- Course Location:** *Room 334 (Busch) & 1 Riverfront Plaza, Rm 1023 (Newark)*
- Course Date & Time:** *Wednesday 3:00 – 5:00pm*
- Course Instructor:** *George Rhoads, MD PhD, Professor of Epidemiology, SPH
Piscataway, Room 205, rhoads@sph.rutgers.edu, (732) 235-4827*
- Office Hours:** *By Appointment Only*
- Course Assistant:** *None*
- Course Website:** canvas.rutgers.edu
- Required Course Text:** *Harris RE. Epidemiology of Chronic Disease. Global Perspectives, Jones and Bartlett Learning, 2013 First Edition OR 2020, Second Edition. **Either the first or the second edition is acceptable.***
- Other Resources:** *Occasional supplemental readings will be assigned*

Course Description: *Add a short description (few sentences or about one short paragraph) explaining what the course is about – should be course description from School Catalog. This may include statements about course goals, what the course intends to introduce or teach to students.*

In this course, the epidemiology and available methods of prevention are reviewed for a series of prominent chronic (mostly non-infectious) diseases. In the first three or four sessions, the faculty covers coronary heart disease, stroke, and a general discussion of cancer. Students present material on a variety of other diseases of their choosing in subsequent sessions. The major written exercise is the preparation of a grant proposal to study a cutting-edge question of the student's choosing

Selected Concentration Competencies Addressed:

1. Critique epidemiologic literature, assess its strengths and weaknesses, and determine if conclusion(s) are supported
2. Formulate a specific hypothesis and determine an appropriate study design and analysis plan
3. Appropriately analyze and interpret epidemiologic data, including large national and state level datasets
4. Communicate and present study findings to professional audiences

Please visit the Concentration webpages on the School of Public Health's website at sph.rutgers.edu for additional competencies addressed by this course for other degrees and concentrations.

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

- A. Describe the epidemiology and main available methods of prevention of ten or more of the most important chronic diseases
- B. Clearly explain the main epidemiological study designs, the relationships between them and their strengths and limitations
- C. Use the public health and medical research literature to formulate and support a hypothesis concerning the epidemiology or prevention of a chronic disease
- D. Design and critique an epidemiological study to test a well-defined hypothesis

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

- *Description of the course's required projects/assignments, etc. as needed. This could include notes about the expected quality of assignments, policies about late assignments, etc. If additional details about the course's projects/assignments will be provided during the semester, state this.*

- *A list of activities, assignments, projects, exams, etc. that contribute to course grade, and the respective point/percentage value of each. For example:*

1. Activity/Homework/Quiz#1	10 pts.
2. Examination #1	30 pts.
3. Examination #2	30 pts.
4. Project & Presentation	20 pts.
5. Class Participation	<u>10 pts.</u>
Total:	<u>100 pts.</u>

- *Please limit the value of class participation to 10% or less and provide some explanation of how class participation grades will be assigned.*
- *Please include information that links the course assessments to the course competencies. Choose one of two options:*

OPTION 1) Include a table after your Course Objectives that shows how your competencies, objectives, modules, and assessments are related.

Competency	Course Objectives(s)	Lessons	Assessment(s)
1	A,B,C,D	1-14	Class presentation Midterm Grant proposal Grant critique
2	A,C,D	1-14	Grant proposal Grant critique
3	C,D	13,14	Class presentation Midterm Grant proposal
4		5-14	

- *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:*

- E. *Date*
- F. *Topic(s), activities*
- G. *“Online 30” (online or outside of class activities connected to contact hours)*
- H. *Assigned Readings Due*
- I. *Assignments Due*
- J. *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). Canvas is accessible at 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). 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. 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

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