

**Reading Course in Epidemiology**
**3 credits**
**Prerequisite(s): Zoology 263 (Bio 241 recommended)**

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed., Jan. 6, 2016
<b>Days:</b>	Meetings as needed	<b>Instructor :</b>	Dr. Carol Gibbons Kroeker	<b>Last day to add/drop/change to audit:</b>	Sun., Jan. 17, 2016
<b>Time:</b>	N/A	<b>Email:</b>	ckroeker@ambrose.edu	<b>Last day to request revised exam:</b>	Mon., Feb. 29, 2016
<b>Room:</b>	N/A	<b>Phone:</b>	403-410-2000, ext 5910	<b>Last day to withdraw from course:</b>	Fri., Mar 18, 2016
<b>Lab/Tut:</b>	N/A	<b>Office:</b>	A 2156	<b>Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:</b>	Mon., Mar. 28, 2016
<b>Final Exam:</b> N/A		<b>Office Hrs:</b>	TBA	<b>Last day of classes:</b>	Wed., April 13, 2016

**Textbook:** Outbreak Investigations around the World: Case studies in Infectious Disease Field Epidemiology; Mark S. Dworkin; Jones and Bartlett; 2010.

**Course Description:**

Through case study work, textbook reading, and personal research, the student will learn about the spread and the containment of disease, the role of epidemiology, and about the biology of several pathogens.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will gain an understanding of how diseases spread, and the basic physiology of disease.
2. Students will learn the biology of several pathogens and micro-organisms.
3. Students will learn how to critically examine case studies.
4. Students will become proficient at literature searches and research.
5. Students will develop skills in paper –writing.

**Course Schedule:**

This will be a self-directed study. Regular meetings will be set with the supervising instructor to check on progress and to answer any questions or to discuss specific case studies.

## Requirements:

Students will be responsible for reading all case studies in the book. From these 19, you will choose 12 to write up in essay format. Each essay will include an overview of the chapter describing the outbreak and its resolution, as well as research on the pathogen involved – you should describe its structure, how it lives, how it infects and spreads, virulence, how it reproduces, symptoms, treatments, etc. 11 of the 12 case reports should be quite brief (3-5 pages maximum). For the 12<sup>th</sup> report, it should be a more in-depth term paper covering the same topics. You would be expected to provide a literature review on recent research in the field relating to the pathogen and the disease (eg. New treatments etc.) in the case. I'd expect this to be about 10-12 pages or more.

### **For the shorter papers, a marking rubric will be followed out of 12:**

Introduction – 1  
Description of the Case – 2  
Pathogen Description (how it lives, infects, reproduces etc.) – 3  
Disease symptoms, spread, and treatment – 3  
Conclusions – 1  
References (appropriate) - 1  
Overall Writing effectiveness – 1

### **For the longer paper, a marking rubric will be followed out of 35:**

Introduction – 1  
Description of Case and the investigative process – 6  
Pathogen Description – 8  
Disease symptoms, spread and treatment – 8  
Current research into the pathogen and the disease (new treatments etc.) -6  
Conclusions – 2  
References – 1  
Overall Effectiveness - 3

## Attendance:

No attendance is required but regular meetings with the supervisor are important to make sure that your progress does not lag in the course.

## Grade Summary:

**Mark Distribution** : 11 Case Study Reports – 7% each; 77% total  
Final In-depth Case Study report - 23%

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Grad	Percent	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96-100	4.00	Outstanding
A	92-95	4.00	Excellent - superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	88-91	3.70	
B+	83-87	3.30	
B	78-82	3.00	Good-clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	73-77	2.70	
C+	68-72	2.30	
C	64-67	2.00	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter. Grade point average below 2.00 is not sufficient for promotion.
C-	60-63	1.70	Minimum grade required if needed as a prerequisite course
D+	55-59	1.30	
D	51-54	1.00	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Other

## Policies:

### Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

### Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that

date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

### Exam Scheduling

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the

Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### **Electronic Etiquette**

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

### **Academic Policies**

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

### **Extensions**

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the

Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

### **Appeal of Grade**

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

### **Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

**Note:** Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.