



The University of Texas at Tyler  
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

## Course Syllabus

**COURSE NUMBER:** NURS6326  
**COURSE TITLE:** Advanced Epidemiology

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Dr. Colleen Marzilli, PhD, DNP, MBA, RN-BC, CCM, PHNA-BC, CNE, NEA-BC  
Associate Professor  
[cmarzilli@uttyler.edu](mailto:cmarzilli@uttyler.edu)  
903.571.4739 (voice or text)  
M, W, and F 8-11:30 (office hours)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Epidemiological strategies to determine patterns of illness or injury. Students will examine concepts of health, disease causality, and risk, for development of evidence-based programs focused on disease prevention among target populations. This course provides the student with the opportunity to complete the background and significance of issues from internal and external evidence that serves as the epidemiological evaluation and basis for the DNP Scholarly Project.

### COURSE COMPETENCIES

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify behavioral and contextual factors that converge to impact the health of individuals, families, and communities, and create strategies to address these.

2. Examine basic concepts of epidemiology as tools to promote the complexity of local, national and global health care systems.
3. Use epidemiology to influence, create, and lead change in advanced nursing practice.
4. Analyze strategies to provide high quality, safe care by identifying emerging clinical problems and patterns.
5. Examine cross-cultural abilities to provide care related to health care issues from a local, national, global, and international perspective.
6. Plan high quality, safe care through interprofessional relationships that enhance cross-cultural abilities to provide care based on epidemiological science.

Census Date: September 10, 2018

Last Date to Withdraw: November 5, 2018

**GRADING POLICY**

Grades will be based upon the following:

Quizzes	15%
Discussion board and class participation	15%
Solving the Puzzle	20%
Current Event in Epidemiology	25%
Showcase of Knowledge	25%

The weighted average of the graded assignments must be 80% or above to pass the course. All assignments should be submitted prior to the pre-determined due date, unless prior arrangements have been made with the course faculty and a new due date determined. If an assignment is submitted after the due date and no prior arrangements with the course faculty were made, five points will be deducted each day the assignment is past due.

**GRADING SCALE**

Final grades for the course will be determined based upon the following numerical grade scale:

- A - 90-100
- B - 80-89
- C - 70-79

D - 60-69

F - Below 60

Grades will not be rounded when calculating the average. (79.5 is not rounded to 80 and 89.5 is not rounded to 90.)

The student must achieve an average of 80% to successfully complete the course.

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Gordis, L. (2013). *Epidemiology* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Saunders.

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

### **SERVICE LEARNING**

At The University of Texas at Tyler, service-learning is a pedagogy whereby students learn through active participation and reflection about purposeful service activities that impact the university, governmental agencies, businesses, faith-based organizations, and non-profit entities in the community/region/state/nation or in our expanding global environment.

Service-learning facilitates learning and growth by:

- Preparing students to change the world
- Empowering students to make an impact
- Giving students the experience, tools, and opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of their efforts in authentic situations

In the DNP program at UT Tyler, DNP Projects are designed to serve a community stakeholder to ultimately improve patient outcomes by maximizing the strengths of the DNP student as they learn to lead and transform health care. This course contains a piece of the DNP Project whereby students are actively engaged with the community partner to facilitate learning through service.

### **UT Tyler Course Policies**

The following course policies may be found at the website listed below: absence for religious observance, absence for university-supported trips, services to students with disabilities, grade replacement, state-mandated course drop policy, and Social Security and privacy.

A pdf of these policies can be found at:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>

### **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

**Students Rights and Responsibilities:**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### **Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies:**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

### **State-Mandated Course Drop Policy:**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

### **Disability Services:**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible

disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to [cstaples@uttyler.edu](mailto:cstaples@uttyler.edu)

**Student Absence due to Religious Observance:**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

**Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities:**

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

**Social Security and FERPA Statement:**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation:**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

**Technical Information/Technical Support:**

If you experience technical problems or have a technical question about this course, you can obtain assistance by emailing [itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu](mailto:itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu)

When you email IT Support, be sure to include a complete description of your question or problem including:

- The title and number of the course
- The page in question
- If you get an error message, a description and message number
- What you were doing at the time you got the error message

You may also visit the Help Tab in Blackboard for helpful information.

**Link to Important Student Resources:**

<http://lms-media.uttyler.edu/fileman/OID/Resource/skills.html>

### **Plug-ins and Helper Applications:**

UT Tyler online courses use Java, JavaScript, browser plug-ins, helper application and cookies. It is essential that you have these elements installed and enabled in your web browser for optimal viewing of the content and functions of your online course.

- **Adobe Reader** allows you to view, save, and print Portable Document Format (PDF) files. <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>
- **Java Runtime Environment (JRE)** allows you to use interactive tools on the web. <http://www.java.com/en/download/>
- **Adobe Flash Player** allows you to view content created with Flash such as interactive web applications and animations. <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
- **QuickTime** allows users to play back audio and video files. <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- **Windows Media Player** allows you to view, listen and download streaming video and audio. <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/products/windows-media-player>
- **RealPlayer** allows you to view and listen to streaming video and audio. <http://www.real.com/>

### **Netiquette Guide:**

"Netiquette" is network etiquette, the do's and don'ts of online communication. Netiquette covers both common courtesy online and informal "rules of the road" of cyberspace. Review and familiarize yourself with the guidelines provided.

<http://www.learnthenet.com/learn-about/netiquette/index.php>

### **UT Tyler Tobacco-Free Policy:**

UT Tyler is a Tobacco-Free University:

- All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.
- Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.
- There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs, please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free)

**Note: The content of this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the faculty leaders according to current learning needs.**

The information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grading criteria and absence and make-up policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice as long as the change is without prejudice to the students.