**Instructor:** Dr. Mary I. Hawkins, PhD, CHES  
**Course Time & Location:** MW 1-2:15 pm  
HPE 203  
**Office:** HPE Rm 214  
**Office Hours:** MW 11am -1pm;  
T 11am -12 pm  
**Office Phone:** (936) 468-1610  
**Email:** hawkinsmi@sfasu.edu  
**Credits:** 3 hours  
**Prerequisites:** HSC 121 & 4 hours of biology

**I. Course Description:** This course examines modern concepts of epidemiology including infectious and noninfectious disease. An interdisciplinary approach directed toward primary, secondary and tertiary prevention is highlighted.

**II. Intended Learning Outcomes/Goals/Objectives (Program/Student Learning Outcomes):**

All standards can be found on the PCOE web page at [http://coe.sfasu.edu](http://coe.sfasu.edu).

This course links with SFA’s Envisioned Goal 2: Our students will be engaged and empowered.

This course links with SFA’s PCOE Goal 1: We will provide transformational experiences for our students.

This course links with SFA’s Envisioned Goal 5: We will be an innovative university.

This course links with SFA’s PCOE Goal 5: We will provide academic and co-curricular innovations.

**Program Learning Outcomes (Community Health):**

1. The student will be able to plan and evaluate a community/classroom-based health lesson (NCHEC I, II, IV).
2. The student will construct professional documents (resume and cover letter) to be used as a personal career-marketing tool for employment opportunities (NCHEC VII).
3. The student will demonstrate the knowledge and skills to search for and write a grant proposal to address a specific health-issue (NCHEC I, II, IV, VII).
4. The student will be able to communicate health information (NCHEC VI).
5. The student will design and implement a health behavior change plan that they will monitor for the semester (NCHEC I, II, III).

**Student Learning Outcomes - The student will be able to:**

1. Recognize the approaches and evolution of epidemiology (NCHEC I).
2. Learn and demonstrate how to measure and compare disease frequency (NCHEC I).
3. Understand and demonstrate how to calculate epidemiology related rates (NCHEC I).
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the criteria for evaluating epidemiologic health information (NCHEC I, II, IV, VII)
5. Interpret the results of an epidemiologic study (NCHEC I,II, IV).
6. Recognize the importance of statistics in epidemiological study (NCHEC I, VII).
7. Demonstrate an understanding of factors which affect epidemiologic study such as bias, confounding, and random error (NCHEC I, IV).
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts related to epidemiologic study design (NCHEC I, IV, VII).
9. Demonstrate an understanding of the ethical considerations and concepts related to epidemiologic study (NCHEC I, IV, VII).
10. Describe the important role of prevention in disease management (NCHEC I, VII).
11. Analyze the effect of disease on society (NCHEC I, VII).

III. Course Assignments, Activities, Instructional Strategies, use of Technology:

- **EPIDEMIOLOGY FACT SHEET & REFERENCE LIST (NCHEC I, II)** – Each student will complete the Fact Sheet & Reference List for their group topic. This is an individual assignment and will be typed and formatted according to the guidelines. It should include references and data that are current (2010 or later), reliable, peer reviewed, and from primary sources. The fact sheet will be 3-5 pages long and have at least 8 reputable sources. Wikipedia, WebMD, MayoClinic, ihelp, iguide, newspapers, blogs, and similar generic sources will not be accepted as reputable. More guidance on what types of sources to use will be provided in class. All sources must be cited according to APA format. APA format guidelines will be provided on D2L and discussed by the instructor.
- **GROUP EPIDEMIOLOGY IMPACT PROJECT (NCHEC I, II, IV, VI, VII)** – Students will be assigned to a group and assigned a health topic for that group. The Group Project includes an individual fact sheet/reference list component (mentioned above), a group outline, a group PPT presentation component, and a partner rating component. The individual fact sheet/reference list component will be uploaded individually into D2L. The group outline will be a group effort and be uploaded by the group leader to D2L. The presentation will be a group effort using Powerpoint and will be uploaded to D2L by the designated leader of the group. Each member of the group will have the opportunity to rate their partners anonymously for contributions to the class project.
- **EXAMS (NCHEC I)** - There will be three in-class exams, worth 100 points each. Exams may include a variety of question types including multiple choice, true/false, short answer, calculations, and essay. Proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation are expected. Exams are administered at the beginning of a class period. Students who arrive late for an exam (one or more students has completed and turned in the exam) will not be allowed to take the exam and will receive a “0.” Exams will be administered using Scantron sheets and/or paper test forms. You are required to bring a Scantron form 882-E to each exam with a #2 pencil.
- **QUIZZES (NCHEC I)** – There will be quizzes for every chapter and topic addressed during this course. Students will take quizzes on D2L over the required readings and supplemental materials provided by the professor. Quizzes will be required prior to class discussion of course material. Students will typically have one week to
complete quizzes on D2L. Students cannot retake missed quizzes without a valid documented excuse.

- **PARTICIPATION AND HOMEWORK (NCHEC I, II, VI)** – There will be class activities and discussion that are required during every class. Students will be awarded points for participation and class contribution in conjunction with attendance. Homework to explore and show mastery of course topics will be assigned and collected. Participation grades will be negatively affected by using electronic devices during class without permission, using a computer to engage in activities other than instructed or to take notes, and if the students fails to participate in discussions and assignments. The instructor reserves the right to view any electronic device being used during classtime.

- **COURSE EVALUATION** – Students will get 20 points for completing the course evaluation.

**IV. Evaluation and Assessments (Grading):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indiv Fact Sheet (Indiv)</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
<td>(6%)</td>
<td>A = 90%+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Outline (Grp)</td>
<td>25 pts</td>
<td>(3%)</td>
<td>B = 80-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group PPT &amp; Presentation (Grp)</td>
<td>125 pts</td>
<td>(15%)</td>
<td>C = 70-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project Partner Eval (Indiv)</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
<td>(2.5%)</td>
<td>D = 60-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (3 @ 100 pts. Each)</td>
<td>300 pts</td>
<td>(37%)</td>
<td>F = Below 59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>120 pts</td>
<td>(15%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation &amp; Homework</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
<td>(19%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Evaluation</td>
<td>20 pts</td>
<td>(2.5%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINAL POINT TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>810 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scoring guides/rubrics can be found on D2L.

**V. Course Policies:**

1. **Late Work:** No late work will be accepted. Late assignments turned in or posted after a deadline will not be accepted unless an official extension has been granted by the instructor prior to the deadline.

2. **Make Up Exams/Tests/Quizzes:** Students who are absent on test days without advance, person-to-person communication with the instructor shall receive a zero for the exam and shall forfeit the opportunity of taking a “make up” test. Make up tests/exams/quizzes will not be permitted (unless you have a legitimate medical emergency or personal problem and have been granted an official extension prior to the exam/test/quiz.)

Once a test begins and students have their test, no one is permitted to leave the testing room and return. If a person leaves the room they must submit the test and answer sheet as final prior to leaving. No talking will occur during testing. No cell phone or personal electronic device use will occur during testing. Any violation of the aforementioned policies will result in a zero on the test.

Dr. Hawkins, HSC 345, pg. 3
3. **Class Attendance and Excused Absence**: Policy 6.7: Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student's attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. **Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.**

Arriving on time to class is also important and as such two tardies will be counted as one absence. This class meets twice weekly and any absences after 2 will negatively affect the final grade. Students who miss more than 3 weeks of classes (6 class periods) without an approved excused absence will lose all participation and homework points and receive an entire letter grade reduction.

4. **Excused Absences**: Advance communication (i.e. prior to class) from students via either phone or in writing regarding an absence is required for the absence to be excused. Excused absences are for specific unavoidable situations such as:

* personal emergencies, including, but not limited to, illness of the student or of a dependent of the student [as defined by the Board of Trustees’ Policy on Family and Medical Leave], or death in the family;

* religious observances that prevent the student from attending class;

* participation in University-sponsored activities, approved by the appropriate University authority, such as intercollegiate athletic competitions, activities approved by academic units, including artistic performance, R.O.T.C., functions, academic field trips, and specific events connected with coursework;

* government-required activities, such as military assignments, jury duty or court appearances; and any other absence that the professor approves.

If the absence is communicated in advance and approved as an “excused absence,” students shall be given the opportunity of completing course work that was due during the excused absence. Determination of whether an absence is excused is determined by the instructor.
Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at [https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp](https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp) or call the office at 936-468-2703.

5. **Cell Phones and Electronic Devices:** All students must turn off/mute their cell phones when entering the classroom and then put the device out of sight. Any cell phones that are visible will be confiscated until the end of class. If you are using a tablet or computer to take notes in class, then the instructor reserves the right to view the screen and materials on that device at any time during the course of the class. If a student is found to be using the device for something other than taking notes, then the device will be confiscated and returned after class. The instructor can then deny the student the right to bring/use the device in the classroom for the rest of the semester.

VI. “DUE Date” Outline/Calendar:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Assignments &amp; Due Dates</th>
<th>&quot;Tentative&quot; Topic Covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 8/27 – 8/29 | • Orientation  
• Cover Ch. 1  
• Syllabus Quiz  
• Chapter 1 Quiz posted  
• Chapter 5 Quiz posted | Introduction to HSC 345, Ch. 1 History & Scope of Epidemiology |
| 2 9/3 – 9/5 | • Group assignments  
• Discussion of group project requirements & due dates  
• Chapter 1 & 5 Quiz due  
• Chapter 2 Quiz posted | Ch. 5 Sources of Data for Use in Epidemiology |
| 3 9/10 – 9/12 | • Discussion of Epidemiology Measures  
• Ch. 2 Quiz due  
• Ch. 3 Quiz posted | Ch. 2 Practical Applications of Epidemiology; Ch. 3 Measures of Morbidity & Mortality Used in Epidemiology |
| 4 9/17 - 9/19 | • Ch. 3 Quiz due  
• Ch. 4 Quiz posted | Ch. 3 Measures of Morbidity & Mortality Used in Epidemiology |
| 5 9/24 – 9/26 | • Ch. 4 Quiz due  
• Individual Fact Sheets due | Ch. 3 Measures of Morbidity & Mortality Used in Epidemiology, Ch.4 Descriptive Epidemiology |
| 6 10/1- 10/3 | • Exam 1  
• Study types and designs Quiz posted | Ch.4 Descriptive Epidemiology |
| 7 10/8 – 10/10 | • Study types and designs Quiz due  
• Ch. 12 Quiz posted | Study Types and Designs(Selected Ch. 6,7,& 8) |
VI. Readings (Required):


VII. Course Evaluations:

Near the conclusion of each semester, students in the Perkins College of Education (PCOE) electronically evaluate courses taken within the PCOE. Evaluation data is used for a variety of important purposes including:

1. Course and program improvement, planning, and accreditation;
2. Instruction evaluation purposes; and
3. Making decisions on faculty tenure, promotion, pay, and retention.

As you evaluate this course, please be thoughtful, thorough, and accurate in completing the evaluation. Please know that the PCOE faculty is committed to excellence in
teaching and continued improvement. Therefore, your response is critical AND IS WORTH 20 POINTS (REQUIRED not optional)!

In the PCOE, the course evaluation process has been simplified and is completed electronically through MySFA. Although the instructor will be able to view the names of students who complete the survey, all ratings and comments are confidential and anonymous, and will not be available to the instructor until after final grades are posted.

VIII. Student Ethics and Other Policy Information:

Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7
Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports (including the first 12 day attendance report) and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Whether absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004/468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1
Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:
- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or;
- helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.
Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or,
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Penalties for Academic Dishonesty
Penalties may include, but are not limited to reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, re-submission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university.

Student Appeals
A student who wishes to appeal decisions related to academic dishonesty should follow procedures outlined in Academic Appeals by Students (6.3).

Withheld Grades: Policy 5.5

At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Student Code of Conduct: Policy 10.4

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at https://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

IX. Other Relevant Course Information:
NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED – Students should be submitting high quality professional level work when it is due. I am happy to provide feedback on some components and clarify instructions, but I will not give feedback on entire assignments. Assignment deadlines are final and no revisions or corrections will be allowed after that point.