Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS

HLTH 503
PRINCIPLES OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The course is a study of human population patterns of disease and injury and the application of this study to the control of health problems.

RATIONALE
Disease is not randomly distributed within a population, but rather occurs according to patterns which can be observed and described using frequencies within subpopulations and groups. An understanding of the uneven distribution of an illness can be used by investigators to correctly determine causation and ultimately develop strategies and programs for prevention and control of that illness. As one of the core course requirements of a public health degree, the discipline of epidemiology provides the tools necessary to accurately study and describe the occurrence of disease, reach conclusions regarding causation, and develop practical, effective interventions to reduce or eliminate the effects of disease upon human populations.

I. PREREQUISITES
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Identify key sources of data for epidemiologic purposes.
B. Identify the principles and limitations of public health screening programs.
C. Describe a public health problem in terms of magnitude, person, time, and place.
D. Explain the importance of epidemiology for informing scientific, ethical, economic, and political discussion of health issues.
E. Comprehend basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of epidemiologic data.

F. Apply the basic terminology and definitions of epidemiology.

G. Calculate basic epidemiology measures.

H. Communicate epidemiologic information to lay and professional audiences.

I. Draw appropriate inferences from epidemiologic data.

J. Evaluate the strengths and limitations of epidemiologic reports.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board forums (4)

The student will complete 4 Discussion Board Forums in Modules/Weeks 1, 2, 4, and 6. Each discussion will consist of a thread and at least (minimum) 2 replies. The instructor is looking for substantial, thoughtful, and critical discussions.

D. Study Guide Collaboration Forum

The Study Guide Collaboration Forum provides an opportunity for the student to work together to answer questions as they prepare for the quizzes and the final exam. The purpose of the Study Guide Collaboration Forum is for each student to give and receive meaningful feedback and assistance and to work together to answer questions that are difficult to understand. The student will be enrolled in a group in the Group Discussion Board at the beginning of the course and must have at least five significant interactions throughout the course. Points will be deducted if the interactions in the forum lack meaningful contribution and collaboration skills. The students should not miss opportunities to collaborate.

E. PowerPoint Presentation Project

The student will explore an infectious disease using a descriptive epidemiologic approach. The student will select the disease from an approved list that will be provided. The student will then collect sources, develop an outline, and compile a reference page according to APA or AMA format. The student will develop a PowerPoint presentation of 15–20 slides, plus a fully typed narration that is suitable for a professional meeting.

F. Quizzes (6)

There will be a quiz in Modules/Weeks 1–6. The quizzes will cover the weekly reading from the Friis and Seller text and study guide. Each quiz will have 25 multiple-choice and true/false questions and is timed for 1 hour and 30 minutes. The quizzes are open-book/open-notes. The student is encouraged to use a calculator.
G. Final Exam

There will be a final cumulative exam in Module/Week 8 which will cover all of the reading and study from Modules/Weeks 1–8. The exam has 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions and is timed for 2 hours and 45 minutes. The exam is open-book/open-notes. The student is encouraged to use a calculator.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board forums (4 at 50 pts ea)</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Guide Collaboration Forum</td>
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<td>PowerPoint Presentation Project:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic Selection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outline and Reference Page</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (6 at 50 pts ea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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B. Scale

D- = 680–699    F = 679 and below

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance
Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitiesupport.
# COURSE SCHEDULE

**HLTH 503**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE/WEEK</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Friis &amp; Sellers: chs. 1–2&lt;br&gt;Friis: chs. 1–2&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist&lt;br&gt;DB Forum 1&lt;br&gt;Study Guide Collaboration Forum&lt;br&gt;Quiz 1</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Study Guide Collaboration Forum&lt;br&gt;PPP: Topic Selection&lt;br&gt;Quiz 2</td>
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<td>Friis &amp; Sellers: chs. 5–6&lt;br&gt;Friis: chs. 5–6&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 2&lt;br&gt;Study Guide Collaboration Forum&lt;br&gt;Quiz 3</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Friis &amp; Sellers: chs. 7–8&lt;br&gt;Friis: chs. 7–8&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
<td>DB Forum 3&lt;br&gt;Study Guide Collaboration Forum&lt;br&gt;PPP: Outline and Reference Page&lt;br&gt;Quiz 4</td>
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<td>Friis &amp; Sellers: chs. 11–12&lt;br&gt;Friis: chs. 11–12&lt;br&gt;1 presentation</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>Study Guide Collaboration Forum&lt;br&gt;PPP: Final Presentation</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Friis &amp; Sellers: chs. 15–16&lt;br&gt;Friis: chs. 15–16&lt;br&gt;1 website</td>
<td>Study Guide Collaboration Forum&lt;br&gt;Final Exam</td>
<td>150 150</td>
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| TOTAL | 1010 |

DB = Discussion Board  
PPP = PowerPoint Presentation Project

**NOTE:** Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.