

**The University of Texas at Arlington**  
**College of Nursing**  
**NURS 6321 - EPIDEMIOLOGY**  
**Fall 2018**

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**Instructor(s):** [Jing Wang]

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**Faculty Profile:** [<https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/jing-wang>]

**Office Hours:** [By appointment]

**Section Information:** [NURS 6321-001]

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:**

PKH 205, 9/6-9/8, 10/11-10/13, 11/15-11/17 at 9:00-11:50 am

**Description of Course Content:**

This course covers basic principles, methods and applications of modern epidemiology. These topics are illustrated with many examples from public health and clinical practice.

**Recommended Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

There are no required textbooks. Lecture notes are the main texts, posted every week on Blackboard. The following books are recommended as supplemental reading materials.

- 1) L. Gordis (2013). Epidemiology: with STUDENT CONSULT Online Access. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. ISBN-10: 145573733X. Saunders
- 2) R. Bonita, R. Beaglehole, T. Kjellström (2006). Basic epidemiology. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. ISBN-10: 9241547073. World Health Organization. (A pdf copy is available online)
- 3) S. Carr, N. Unwin, T. Pless-Mulloli (2007). An Introduction to Public Health and Epidemiology. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. ISBN-10: 0335216242. Open University Press. (A pdf copy is available online)
- 4) J. Olsen, K. Christensen, J. Murray, A (2010). Ekbom. An Introduction to Epidemiology for Health Professionals. ISBN-10: 144191496X. Springer. (A pdf copy is available online)

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:** See Course Schedule on the next page.

## Course Schedule

It is possible that this schedule will be adjusted during the semester to best serve the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course.

Week	Dates	Topic	Class Format	Assignments
<b>Part I Descriptive Epidemiology</b>				
1	8/20-8/26	Introduction (Definition, scope, and uses of epidemiology, epidemiology and public health)	Online	
2	8/27-9/2	Measures of Disease Occurrence (Incidence and Prevalence)	Online	HW1 assigned Forum 1 assigned
3	9/4-9/9	Measures of Disease Occurrence (Mortality and mobility rates, age-standardization)	<b>On Campus</b>	HW1 due 9/9 Quiz 1 assigned HW2 assigned
4	9/10-9/16	Comparing disease occurrence (Absolute and relative risk)	Online	Forum 1 due 9/16 HW2 due 9/14 HW3 assigned
<b>Part II Analytical Epidemiology</b>				
5	9/17-9/23	Study Design (Cohort Study)	Online	HW3 due 9/23 Forum 2 assigned HW4 assigned
6	9/24-9/30	Study Design (Cohort Study continued)	Online	Quiz 1 due 9/26
7	10/1-10/7	Study Design (Case-Control Study)	Online	HW4 due 10/7 Quiz 2 assigned
8	10/8-10/14	Study Design (Case-Control Study continued)	<b>On Campus</b>	Forum 2 due 10/14 HW5 assigned Forum 3 assigned
9	10/15-10/21	Study Design (Cross-sectional Study)	Online	Quiz 2 due 10/21 Quiz 3 assigned
10	10/22-10/28	Study Design (Randomized Controlled Trial)	Online	HW5 due 10/28 HW6 assigned
11	10/29-11/4	Study Design (Randomized Controlled Trial continued)	Online	Forum 3 due 11/4
<b>Part III Applying Epidemiology to Evaluation and Policy</b>				
12	11/5-11/11	Epidemiology and prevention	Online	HW6 due 11/11 HW7 assigned Forum 4 assigned
13	11/12-11/18	Epidemiology surveillance, health policy & planning First steps in practical epidemiology	<b>On Campus</b>	Quiz 3 due 11/18
14	11/19-11/25	Thanks Giving Holiday		
15	11/26-12/2	Ethical and Professional Issues in Epidemiology	Online	HW7 due 12/6 Forum 4 due 12/11

## **Requirements:**

This course requires the completion of 7 homework assignments, 3 quizzes, and 4 participative online forums. Homework will be assigned regularly to help students apply the lecture topic. Some assignments will be completed using the statistical software package, SPSS. Homework and quizzes are submitted within Blackboard.

### **Online Discussion Forums:**

For those weeks that involve an online discussion, your topic will be introduced on Blackboard. Students must post at least 2 substantive postings PLUS participate conversationally online via the “Quizzes” function of Blackboard by the deadline.

**Homework:** This course has 7 homework assignments, focused on the application of the week’s topic. Some homework assignments will require SPSS in addition to hand calculations. All require Microsoft Word. Each homework will be assigned on Blackboard, and completed homework will be submitted via the “Homework Submission” function of Blackboard. Homework assignments are due on the date indicated on the Course Schedule by 11.59 pm. Late homework will NOT be accepted.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes are formatted similarly to each week’s homework assignments, with the exception that they are timed. They will be made available for two weeks but will have a timed limit, once the student begins the quiz. Quizzes are completed on Blackboard. Because they are timed, and students have only one allowed attempt to take a quiz, it is highly recommended that the student have reliable internet access. Technical difficulties, such as a failed internet connection, are the students’ responsibility. There are no opportunities to make up quizzes. Therefore, using a hardwired internet connection is strongly recommended. Each quiz will be assigned on Blackboard, and completed quizzes will be submitted via the “Quizzes” function of Blackboard.

**Grading Policy:** Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

### **% of Final Grade**

Homework Assignments:	50%
Online Participation via Blackboard Discussion Board	20%
Quizzes:	30%

### **Course Grading Scale**

A = 92-100

B = 83-91

C = 74-82

D = 68-73– cannot progress

F = below 68 – cannot progress

**Attendance Policy:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, [insert your attendance policy and/or expectations, e.g. "I will take attendance sporadically" or "I have established the following attendance policy: ..."] However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

**Clinical Hours:** No clinical hours required for this course.

**Late Assignments / Assignments:** Insert Late Assignment Policy. *Suggestion from MSN: Late assignments will not be accepted for a grade or reviewed for feedback (regardless of the reason) and will be assigned a zero. Quizzes and tests must be started, completed, and submitted prior to the submission due date and time. Any quiz or test submitted after the due date and time will not be accepted.*

**Make-up Exams:** Please contact your faculty for approval.

**Test Reviews:** Contact faculty for instructions.

### **CONHI – language**

**Drop Policy:** Graduate students who wish to change a schedule by either dropping or adding a course must first consult with Dr. Margarita Treviño, Academic Advisor, [trevinom@uta.edu](mailto:trevinom@uta.edu).

Regulations pertaining to adding or dropping courses are described below. Adds and drops may be made through late registration either on the Web at MyMav or in person through the student's academic department. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at <http://www.uta.edu/fao/> . The last day to drop a course is listed in the Academic Calendar available at <http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal.php?session=20176>

1. A student may not add a course after the end of late registration.
2. A student dropping a graduate course after the Census Date but on or before the last day to drop may, receive a grade of W. Students dropping a course must:

(1) Contact your graduate advisor to obtain the drop form and further instructions before the last day to drop.

**Census Day: September 7, 2018**  
**Last day to drop or withdraw – November 2, 2018 by 4:00 p.m.**  
**Last day of classes – December 4, 2018**  
**Final Exams – December 10 – 14, 2018**

**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability.

Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).*

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted.

Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with the University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

As a licensed registered nurse, graduate students are expected to demonstrate professional conduct as set forth in the Texas Board of Nursing rule **§215.8. in the event that a graduate student holding an RN license is found to have engaged in academic dishonesty, the college may report the nurse to the Texas BON using rule §215.8 as a guide.**

**Plagiarism:** Copying another student's paper or any portion of it is plagiarism. Copying a portion of published material (e.g., books or journals) without adequately documenting the source is plagiarism. Consistent with APA format, if five or more words in sequence are taken from a source, those words must be placed in quotes and the source referenced with author's name, date of publication, and page number of publication. If the author's ideas are rephrased, by transposing words or expressing the same idea using different words, the idea must be attributed to the author by proper referencing giving the author's name and date of publication. If a single author's ideas are discussed in more than one paragraph, the author must be referenced, according to APA format. Authors whose words or ideas have been used in the preparation of a paper must be listed in the references cited at the end of the paper. Students are expected to review the plagiarism module from the UT Arlington Central Library via <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/index.html>

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](#), [major-based learning centers](#), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](#), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](#). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send

a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**The IDEAS Center** (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in, or check the schedule of available peer tutors at [www.uta.edu/IDEAS](http://www.uta.edu/IDEAS), or call (817) 272-6593.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR):** The Writing Center offers **FREE** tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at <https://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

### **Student Success Faculty:**

Dr. Lauri John is available as a writing coach to assist graduate nursing students who need help with their writing assignments/papers. She can help students improve the clarity and organization of their written papers. She can be reached via email: [ljohn@uta.edu](mailto:ljohn@uta.edu)

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. **All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly.** There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

If you are unable to resolve your issue contact the Helpdesk at [helpdesk@uta.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uta.edu).

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state

law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Librarian to Contact:**

<p><b>Nursing Liaison Librarians:</b>  <a href="mailto:nursinglibrarians@uta.edu">nursinglibrarians@uta.edu</a>          (Use if you need an immediate response)</p>
<p><b>ReaAnna Jeffers</b>          Information Literacy and Health Sciences Librarian  <a href="mailto:raeanna.jeffers@uta.edu">raeanna.jeffers@uta.edu</a>          817-272-1563          Office Hours: 11am – 2pm (Mon., Tues., Wed.)</p>
<p><b>Library Resources</b>          Library Website: <a href="http://library.uta.edu">library@uta.edu</a>          Nursing Databases: <a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php?s=9598">http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php?s=9598</a>          APA Guide: <a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/apa">http://libguides.uta.edu/apa</a>          Nursing Guide: <a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing">http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing</a>          Other Nursing Guides: <a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/?b=s">http://libguides.uta.edu/?b=s</a></p>

Contact all nursing librarians:  
[library-nursing@listserv.uta.edu](mailto:library-nursing@listserv.uta.edu)

**Helpful Direct Links to the UTA Libraries’ Resources**

<b>Research Information on Nursing</b>	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing">http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing</a>
<b>Library Home Page</b>	<a href="http://library.uta.edu/">http://library.uta.edu/</a>
<b>Subject Guides</b>	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu">http://libguides.uta.edu</a>
<b>Ask us</b>	<a href="http://ask.uta.edu">http://ask.uta.edu</a>
<b>Database List</b>	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php">http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php</a>
<b>Course Reserves</b>	<a href="http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do">http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do</a>
<b>Library Catalog</b>	<a href="http://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#/">http://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#/</a>
<b>E-Journals</b>	<a href="http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/searchSubject">http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/searchSubject</a>
<b>Library Tutorials</b>	<a href="http://library.uta.edu/how-to">library.uta.edu/how-to</a>
<b>Connecting from Off- Campus</b>	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus">http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus</a>
<b>Academic Plaza Consultation Services</b>	<a href="http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza">library.uta.edu/academic-plaza</a>
<b>Study Room Reservations</b>	<a href="http://openroom.uta.edu/">openroom.uta.edu/</a>

For help with APA formatting, you can go to:

- 1) <http://libguides.uta.edu>
- 2) Scroll down and click on “Nursing”
- 3) Click on “APA Guide” for advice on various aspects of paper writing. This is a short-cut for the APA Manual. When in doubt, refer to the Manual.

In addition to providing the general library guide for nursing (<http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing>), we can put together course specific guides for your students. The subject librarian for your area can work with you to build a customized course page to support your class if you wish. For examples, visit <http://libguides.uta.edu/os> and <http://libguides.uta.edu/pols2311fm>.

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## UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation - Additional Information:

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**Status of RN Licensure:** All graduate nursing students must have an unencumbered license as designated by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) to participate in graduate clinical nursing courses **in the state of Texas**. It is also imperative that any student whose license becomes encumbered by the BON must immediately notify the Chair of the Graduate Nursing Program. The complete policy about encumbered licenses is available online at: [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us)

**Blood and Body Fluids Exposure:** A Health Verification form was signed by all MSN students at start of the program documenting personal health insurance coverage. All MSN students have mandatory health insurance and will need to manage exposure to blood and fluids. Current CDC guidelines can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/>

**Ebola exposure:** Please inform your faculty if you have been in contact with anyone who has Ebola/have traveled to a country that has Ebola virus.

**Confidentiality Agreement:** You signed a Confidentiality Form in orientation and were provided a copy of the form. Please take your copy of this Confidentiality Form with you to your clinical sites. **Please do not sign** other agency confidentiality forms. Contact your faculty if the agency requires you to sign their confidentiality form.

**Graduate Student Handbook:** Students are responsible for knowing and complying with all policies and information contained in the Graduate Student handbook online at: <http://www.uta.edu/conhi/students/policy/index.php>

**Student Code of Ethics:** The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation supports the Student Code of Ethics Policy. Students are responsible for knowing and complying with the Code. The Code can be found in the student handbook online: <http://www.uta.edu/conhi/students/msn-resources/index.php>

**No Gift Policy:** In accordance with Regent Rules and Regulations and the UTA Standards of Conduct, the College of Nursing and Health Innovation has a “no gift” policy. A donation to one of the UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation Scholarship Funds, found at the following link: is <http://www.uta.edu/conhi/students/scholarships/index.php> would be an appropriate way to recognize a faculty member’s contribution to your learning. For information regarding Scholarship Funds, please contact the Dean’s office.

**Online Conduct:** The discussion board should be viewed as a public and professional forum for course-related discussions. Students are free to discuss academic matters and consult one another regarding academic resources. The tone of postings should be professional in nature.

It is not appropriate to post statements of a personal or political nature, or statements criticizing classmates or faculty. Inappropriate statements/language will be deleted by the course faculty and may result in denied access to the Discussion boards. Refer to UTA CONHI Graduate Student Handbook for more information.

*For this course Blackboard communication tools, discussion boards, and UTA MAV email will be used extensively and should be checked often.*

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** [Optional but strongly recommended] In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. For non-emergencies, call 817-272-3381.

**[REVISED] Graduate Nursing Support Staff**

<p><b>John Gonzalez, DNP, RN, ACNP-BC, ANP-C</b>          Chair, Graduate Nursing Programs          Assistant Professor, Clinical          Pickard Hall Office #512          Email address: <a href="mailto:johngonz@uta.edu">johngonz@uta.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Margarita Trevino, PhD, RN, CHN</b>          Associate Chair, DNP, PhD          Pickard Hall Office #520A          817-272-6347          Email address: <a href="mailto:trevinom@uta.edu">trevinom@uta.edu</a></p>
<p><b>Marco Brotto, PhD</b>          Professor          Director, PhD in Nursing Program          817-272-1038          Email address: <a href="mailto:Marco.brotto@uta.edu">Marco.brotto@uta.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Vivian Lail-Davis</b>          Administrative Services Officer II          PhD and DNP Programs          817-272-1038          Email address: <a href="mailto:vivian@uta.edu">vivian@uta.edu</a></p>
<p><b>Felicia Chamberlain</b>          Manager of Graduate Nursing Programs          On-line Programs support          Pickard Hall Office #515          817-272-0659          Email Address: <a href="mailto:chamberl@uta.edu">chamberl@uta.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Rose Olivier</b>          Administrative Assistant II          Graduate Nursing Programs          Pickard Hall Office #513          817-272-9517          Email address: <a href="mailto:olivier@uta.edu">olivier@uta.edu</a></p>