

SIGNATURE COURSE
History of Great Diseases and Effects on Civilization
Spring, 2018
MWF 11:00 – 11:50 AM
STC (McFarland Science Building) Room 127

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

Instructor: Dr. Judith M. Ball

email: judith.ball@tamuc.edu

Office: STC 260

Office Phone: 903-468-8153

Office Hours: **between 1:30 PM – 5:00 PM on T/Th** or by appointment. Please leave a message with your name, return number and basic reason for calling. Can make appointments with the Administrative Assistant, STC 260, phone: 903-886-5378 if I am unavailable.

Bi- to Weekly Monthly Review: TBA

Preferred Form of Communication: by email

Communication Response Time: maximum of 2 days if in town

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Alex Bourque | email: abourque@leomail.tamuc.edu |
| 2. Cassie Carnine | email: ccarnine@leomail.tamuc.edu |
| 3. Alexandria Morrow | email: amorow3@leomail.tamuc.edu |
| 4. Joseph Fischer | email: jfischer@leomail.tamuc.edu |

Office Hours: TBA

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

Twelve diseases that changed our world by Irwin W. Sherman, ISBN 978-1-55581-466-3, ASM Press; comes in paperback

Other sources available in University Bookstore: <http://www.amcbookstore.com/home.aspx>

Handouts

Library Sources

Other Materials/Skills:

Powerpoint presentations will be posted on line.

Project information will be in handouts.

All handouts will be available.

Some library work / sources are expected.

You should have access to and be able to utilize Microsoft Office

Utilize the web to search for information.

Appropriate Use of Technology:

Responsible Use of Technology — It is expected that all students will only use cellphones, PDAs, laptop computers, MP3 players and other technology outside of class time or when appropriate in class. Students are not allowed to use image, video, nor audio recording devices of any kind during class time without prior consent of the instructor. Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music or using a laptop computer for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class and/or

other penalties. Any activity that distracts surrounding people is inconsiderate, disrespectful, and prohibited.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Our history is cluttered with plagues, endemics and pandemics caused by infectious agents, viruses, bacteria, parasites, and metabolic and genetic diseases. These widespread lethal diseases have influenced social standing, political ambitions, outcomes of social endeavors and wars. Kingdoms and wars have been altered due to the death of a king or the destruction of an army by widespread infection. Community organizations have been reestablished and changes in civilization have been brought about as an aftermath of lethal infectious diseases. In recent times, we have seen strict travel restrictions, quarantines, alteration of plans, preferential funds for the study of particular microbes and fear in the population.

Illness has influenced Western civilizations since the 14th century. Genetic diseases altered the fates of British, Spanish and Russian royal families and ultimately lead to the rise of Lenin, Franco and Hitler. Disease played a role in expansion into America through demographic pressure, and loss of social and political leaders due to lethal illness. And the story continues.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: To teach students the following:

1. To understand the past effects of disease on social issues so we can prevent these ill effects from occurring again.
2. Be knowledgeable of the mistakes and victories of diverting earlier epidemic spread of disease.
3. Be alert so you can recognize the hallmarks of an oncoming epidemic.
4. Evaluate how we might handle the plagues of the future in a different and better way.
5. Alleviate fear and prepare for action against the disease so the impact will not occur.
6. Develop an effective plan to ensure that the disease doesn't spread.
7. Think things through and utilize knowledge gained before implementing a plan.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: The impact of great diseases is the focus of this signature course. It is designed to evaluate the cause and effect of the times in terms of medical severity and advances. Successful completion of this course will:

1. Facilitate appreciation of the impact of infectious diseases on life, politics and history.
2. Understand the influence of disease on society and how disease can change the world.
3. Demonstrate how to apply the information acquired and utilize critical thinking skills to integrate ideas to come to a conclusion.
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the material covered in lecture, the textbook and projects.
5. Acquire and utilize a scientific vocabulary with an emphasis on biology, epidemiology of disease and resistance to eradication for communicating with other scientists and your peers.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attendance and punctuality is required and non-negotiable.
2. Homework, quizzes, projects and reports are required. These must be turned in on time.
3. Active participation in all group learning experiences. This can vary from papers, presentations, posters and other projects. Participation should be interactive.
4. Participation in the final project to be presented at the end of the semester.

5. Successful performance of course quizzes and projects.
6. Providing input into group discussions.
7. Evidence of learning and critical thinking.
8. Professional and ethical behavior.
9. Effectively work in a team to accomplish a shared purpose relevant to the course with a sense of shared responsibility.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

During class, there may be group or individual activities that are scored. There will be a ~7 graded quizzes in class. Unexcused absences will result in a score of 0 on the quizzes and activity points. **Roll will be taken each class period.** It will be very difficult to make a good grade in the course if you have excessive unexcused absences. For excused absences (according to University policy – see below), you can acquire the missed points from the quiz by taking a makeup that will be given at a later time. There will be only **one makeup time** for all students that missed the quiz. If you miss a lecture, you are still responsible for the material covered, to read the chapter, get the notes from someone in class, review the power-point slides (posted online) and see the instructor for any clarification. Students are expected to contact the instructor early in the semester if they are having difficulty with the material so that together we can work on your understanding and improve your reading skills and study habits. **Do NOT wait until it is too late to seek help.** Tutors are available and the instructor will help you. But again, start early in the semester.

USE OF TEXTBOOK: Students are expected to carefully read the chapters in the textbook that correspond to the topics covered in lecture and to read any other assigned reading materials that are posted in ecollege. All topics within a chapter of the textbook will NOT be covered in lecture making it especially important that you read the whole chapter to fully understand the topics that are covered in class. Some topics will be covered in more detail in the lecture than what is included in the textbook so it is important to take notes in class.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at myLeo. <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems.

Learner Support

The One Stop Shop was created to serve you by providing as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>

The Academic Success Center provides academic resources to help you achieve academic success. <http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

Texas A&M University-Commerce Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY:

Circumstances and events, such as student progress, time needed to cover certain topics, illness or absence of the instructor may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

QUIZZES:

The quizzes include a variety of questions, including short answer and essay questions. Students frequently need extra time to organize their thoughts before writing their answer in a clear way. Since the class is 50 min long, ~20 min are given to take the quiz. All quizzes are curved at the end of the semester if needed. **There are no exams. Final project will be considered your final exam.**

MAKE UP QUIZZES will be given in cases of excused absences according to University Policies (illness, death in the family, etc). See the TAMU-C website for a complete list of excused absences. You must have a Dr. excuse if missed due to illness. Make up quizzes will be given at an alternate time so that the student can attend class.

Students should make every effort to notify the instructor **AS SOON AS** it is evident that you will miss a regularly scheduled quiz (email or phone message is acceptable). Please note that a physician's written excuse is required if you miss a quiz due to illness.

RELEASE OF GRADES: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (1974) does not permit the posting of grades or reporting them by e-mail or telephone. ECollege will be used to post all grades. As a member of the class you will have access to the course material via eCollege, including syllabus and slides presented in class. Grades also will be posted on eCollege.

Any question about grading on a quiz or a project must be brought to the instructor's attention within 1 week after the quiz is returned to you. Note that all reading assignments and class discussions may be covered on the quizzes.

You will not be allowed to keep your quizzes. Grades will not be entered until after you have seen the grade, gone over the quiz, and have an opportunity to dispute the points. If you fail to return the graded paper I will be unable to give you the points earned and will have no choice but to give a grade of 0 for that quiz. Partial credit is given for your answers whenever possible. I believe in giving you credit for what you do know.

POINT DISTRIBUTION:

Quizzes:	30 points each; 7 quizzes (7 X 30 = 210)
Project Assignments	4 small projects 35 points each (4 X 35 = 140); likely will require time outside of class
For final exam –	final project 60 points
Attendance/effort	since projects will be developed in class on Fridays, 10 points are awarded for those who consistently attend and help their group with the assignments. Attendance will be taken each class period. If you miss 10% or <u>less</u> (3 class periods on MW) of classes –another 10 points will be awarded; total of 20 points (10 for Friday attendance and 10 for MW attendance)

Total points that can be earned: 430 points

Grades are determined by points earned:

A	100 – 88 % of total points earned
B	87.9 –74.5% of total points earned
C	74.4 –60.5% of total points earned

D 60.4 –50.0% of total points earned
 Failing score (F) (<50%)

The instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus with advanced notice.

Week	Chapter(s)	Topic	Projects assigned/activity	Projects due	Dates of Quiz
1 JAN 16-JAN 19		Jan 17 - Go over syllabus and design of class. Assign groups and subgroups. Jan 19 – Intro to virus, bacteria and parasite. Examples. Hemorrhaging	Read preface (2.5 pgs. and chapter 1)		
2 JAN 22-26	1	Porphyria and Hemophilia (hemorrhagic diseases; bleeding/genetic disorders)	Jan 24, project 1	Project 1 Feb 2	Qz 1, Jan 29
3 JAN29-FEB 2	3	Cholera (finish project 1 on Feb. 2)	Jan 29 (project 2)	Proj 2, Reading and outline, due Feb 5	
4 FEB 5- FEB 9	4	Small Pox	} Small pox / yellow fever, Feb 9		Qz2 2-7 cholera & sm pox
5 FEB 12-16	Finish 4, start 9	Small Pox / Yellow Fever		Proj 3, Feb 23	
6 FEB 19- 23	Finish 9,	Yellow Fever			Qz3 2-23 sm pox, yel fever
7 FEB26- MACH2	5	Bubonic Plaque			
8 MARCH 5-9	5	Bubonic Plaque/review		Proj 4 ,march 7	Q4 3-7 bu. plaque
MARCH 12-16		Spring Break			
9 MARCH 19-23	10	The Great Influenza (Flu of 1918)			
10 MARCH 26-30	10	The Great Influenza	March 21, start on final project		Qz 5, influenza
11 APR 2-APR 6	11	HIV and AIDS		Work on final project	
12 APR 9-13	11	Modern deadly diseases; no vaccine – Ebola, Marburg, hemorrhagic fevers		Work on final project	Qz 6, HIV
13 APR 16-20	Handouts & lectures	Polio		Work on final project	
14 APR 23-27,30		Finish Polio; Work on final project.		Finish final project – judged at Lionizing	Qz 7, polio, other

Quiz dates may be changed due to the speed in which we get through the material. But please prepare to take your quizzes on the dates indicated.

With each disease, the history and impact of that disease will be covered and discussed.

PROJECTS:

The goals of the projects are to employ active learning and creativity. You are required to provide a product (poster, mobile, collage, etc.) that educates or entices those that observe the project and read the details. It must be organized, clear and attractive. Points will be given for each of these categories. Other projects may involve outlines or summaries of a given paper, portraying a certain concept by acting or telling a story. These projects will have a summary of one written document. Remember these will be done in groups. Everyone in the group must participate and everyone in the group earns the same grade. Some in the group could present what they learned to the class, others could do the research and still others would do the writing.

Groups:

There are 84 students signed up to date. To make the class more effective for each of you we will divide you up into groups. Assignments will be completed as a group. Everyone is responsible. There are 4 TAs to help facilitate these groups. The TAs are all honor students but have different majors, hence background so they will be learning also. The 84 students initially will be divided into 4 groups resulting in 21 students per group. The 21 students will be divided into 3 small groups of 7. It is this 7 that will work together to complete sections of the projects. This allows everyone to participate and have a hand in the final project. I am in the process of acquiring extra small rooms for the groups to work.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. Mature actions are called for in all circumstances. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Upon accepting admission into Texas A&M University-Commerce, a student immediately assumes a commitment to honesty, accepts responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy of personal integrity. The goal is to maintain a rigorous code of honesty and personal responsibility. For most, living under this code will be no problem, as it asks nothing of a person that is beyond reason.

The code of integrity and honesty is broken if a student intentionally uses or attempt to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices or materials in any academic exercise. Examples include:

- During an examination, looking at another student's examination or using external aids (for example, books, notes, calculators, conversation with others, or electronic devices) unless specifically allowed in advance by the instructor. Having others conduct research or prepare work without advance authorization from the instructor.
- Acquiring answers for any assigned work or examination from any unauthorized source. This includes, but is not limited to, using the services of commercial term paper companies, purchasing answer sets to homework from tutoring companies, and obtaining information from students who have previously taken the examination.

For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:
Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

PLAGIARISM is defined as the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have the permission from that person. Plagiarism is one of the worst academic sins, for the plagiarist destroys the trust among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated and trust is removed.

All handouts and supplemental material used in this course are copyrighted. Handouts include (but are not limited to) syllabus, quizzes, examinations, laboratory problems, take-home problems sets, in-class materials, review sheets, and computer module programs. "Students do not have the right to copy any of the handouts without expressed permission of the course instructor."

Plagiarism also is a criminal offence. You must cite all sources of information. Copying of material, whether parts of sentences, a phrase, whole sentences, paragraphs, or entire articles without referencing can result in a score of zero for your assignment and may result in further disciplinary action. If you copy something verbatim, you must use " " and the reference. If you are rephrasing material then you must cite the reference. I

CHEATING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Cheating insults the instructor, your fellow students, and yourself. Any type of falsifying or copying answers will be considered cheating. It indicates you failed to study and are trying to steal from your classmates. If caught cheating on an exam, you will receive a score of **0** for that exam. If found cheating on homework or quizzes, you lose those points. If caught cheating more than once, you will fail the class. Just don't do it – it's not worth it! And it says a lot about you.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities will be accommodated. Quizzes will be sent to the disability office. You should work out when you take your exam with them. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

CONSERVATION OF PAPER:

I have given each of you a printed copy of the syllabus. From here forward, all supplemental readings, etc. will not be printed for you but will be available on-line. I know some of you prefer reading off a computer screen, while others prefer to read a printed document. You can print the document if that is best for you.

TUTORING AND RESOURCES:

Academic Success Center:

The Academic Success Center (ASC) is focused on providing academic resources to help each student reach their intellectual potential and achieve academic success. We hope you will use the excellent resources available on our campus to increase your ability to effectively study, facilitate time management strategies, and enhance your

learning. Not only do we host several tutoring areas here on campus, but offer study skills training and time management training. These trainings are free to any student who wants to attend.

There also is a tutor in the Science and Technology building on the first floor for 1406. It is called the JAMP room.

WEB RESOURCES AND OTHER HELP:

Notetaking

How good are your notes? Learn some quick tips to improve your skill at note taking at <http://www.notetakinghelp.com/>

STUDY STRATEGIES

Study tips and more; study tips for just about every subject (howtostudy.org)

Study guides and strategies; great section on test prep and test taking (studygs.net)

TUTORS AND HELP FOR WRITING:

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

Mission statement since 1977, the **Writing Center** at Texas A&M University-Commerce has been committed to assisting writers at all levels. By working with students one-on-one or in small groups, tutors help writers at all stages of the writing process from brainstorming to polishing a final draft. Our goal is to improve student writers through improving their individual writing abilities. The ultimate goal is for students to take advantage of the learning inherent in the writing process. The Writing Center also provides a comfortable place for collaborations, community writing, and multimedia projects. We are a reflective learning community focused squarely on Writing Center theory and practice. And we are a site for research committed to participating in the ongoing national and international conversation about the teaching of writing.

Writing Center hours and location:

Hall of Languages 103

Open Monday – Thursday 9 AM – 4 PM; and Friday 9 AM – 1 PM

Below are helpful resources to use throughout the writing process:

Generate APA and MLA citations

<http://www.citationmachine.net>

Introductions

[IntroductionGuide.htm](#)

Analyzing Writing Assignments

[How to Read an Assignment.htm](#)

Nationally recognized online handbook

[Writers Web](#)

Resource for Handouts and information on writing

[Purdue Online Writing Lab](#)

Integrating quotes

[IntegratingQuotes.htm](#)

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY:

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to

(<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1

Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music or using a laptop computer for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class and/or other penalties. Students are not allowed to use image, video, nor audio recording devices of any kind during class time without prior consent of the instructor.

MY PHILOSOPHY as an instructor: I sincerely want you to do well. I will help you as much as I can or find appropriate help for you. As department head, I have many responsibilities and may not be able to spend as much time as I would like going over the material outside of class. My desire is that you learn new ideas, interesting concepts and how to utilize them; that you feel a sense of awe when you realize the complexity of the world we live in; and begin to apply critical thinking. I'm much more interested in teaching you how to think than how to memorize. Unfortunately, memorization is frequently the only way to learn certain material. When taking the quizzes, if you don't know the exact answer, tell me what you do know about the topic. You will receive partial credit and partial credit adds up. It truly makes me sad when students don't do well or perform below their potential.