



PBHL12001 Communicable Diseases and Public Health

Term 1 - 2017

Profile information current as at 01/05/2024 11:05 am

All details in this unit profile for PBHL12001 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

The prevention of disease is recognised internationally as being of fundamental importance to quality of life and is a core skillset for any public health professional. This unit covers the important public health topic of communicable diseases and their control. Students will learn the value of participation by engaging in team activities and tutorial activities. They will learn about prevention by exploring the aetiologies, risk factors, epidemiological trends and underlying issues relating to a wide range of communicable diseases. Students will critique the public health literature and public health campaigns to discover the importance of partnerships in the effective control of communicable diseases. Topics will include the aetiology, transmission, epidemiological trends and control strategies relating to a range of communicable diseases, including enteric, vaccine preventable and sexually transmitted infections. The impact of communicable disease upon individual and population health will be explored, with particular emphasis on the indigenous community and global context. Students will develop skills in disease surveillance and/or the prevention or management of disease outbreaks. Residential school will be compulsory for Environmental Health students but optional for Health Promotion and other students.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

48 credit points

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2017

- Distance

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Residential Schools

This unit has a Compulsory Residential School for distance mode students and the details are:

Click here to see your [Residential School Timetable](#).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Test**

Weighting: 15%

2. **Online Test**

Weighting: 15%

3. **Online Test**

Weighting: 15%

4. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 55%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Course evaluation

Feedback

Group work "wasn't group work"

Recommendation

Group work is being introduced incrementally throughout the Program. As a second year course, students are not expected to work as independent groups, but problem solve in teams. This could be made more explicit.

Action

This was made more explicit to the students attending residential school this year.

Feedback from Course evaluation

Feedback

A small number of students were split over the value of Epi Info in the res school and one student considered epidemiology to be irrelevant to a course on communicable diseases.

Recommendation

Epidemiology is fundamental to communicable disease control and the basic measures introduced in this course foreshadow the material presented in the more advanced third year course. Consider introducing an assessment task using Epi Info to illustrate this more clearly.

Action

Residential School is now only compulsory for Environmental Health students. The session used some examples of how the software was relevant to the profession.

Feedback from Course evaluation

Feedback

Residential school location in Rockhampton was inconvenient for some students.

Recommendation

Consider locating residential school in Brisbane to facilitate travel.

Action

In 2017, the residential school was only compulsory for environmental health majors. Given EH majors take this unit in the same term as MBIO19012 Microbiology, the residential s for the two units are scheduled to occur back to back to reduce travel. The Micro res school is run in Rockhampton, therefore to move the CommDiseases res school is not feasible.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Describe risk factors and aetiology for a range of communicable diseases important to public health.
2. Explain the impact of communicable diseases in the context of individual and population health.
3. Identify and analyse primary, secondary and tertiary approaches for the prevention and control of communicable diseases.
4. Evaluate the social and cultural impact of notifiable diseases.
5. Explain the methods of measurement, monitoring, prioritisation and surveillance of communicable disease and how they are used to safeguard public health.

The learning outcomes of this unit relate to the enHealth Skills and Knowledge Matrix:

Part 1- all generic attributes

Part 2- underpinning skills and knowledge in the areas of

- **Science**
 - basic human anatomy and physiology related to identifying disease causation and exposure pathways
 - microorganisms of significance for human health
 - transmission mechanisms and likely carriers
 - infective dose levels
- **Public & Environmental Health Concepts**
 - The points of impact to influence environmental health determinants and related methods of impact
- **Research methods**
 - Effective design and implementation of studies, policies and programs to protect public and environmental health and minimise risks

Part 3- Applied Skills and Knowledge

- Prevention and control of notifiable and communicable conditions.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Online Test - 15%	•	•	•		
2 - Online Test - 15%	•	•	•		•
3 - Online Test - 15%	•	•	•	•	•
4 - Written Assessment - 55%		•	•	•	

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PBHL12001

Prescribed

Controlling Communicable Disease

(2006)

Authors: Noah, Norman

Open University Press, McGraw Hill Education

Maidenhead , Berkshire , United Kingdom

ISBN: 9780335218448

Binding: Paperback

PBHL12001

Prescribed

Control of Communicable Diseases

Edition: 20th edn (2015)

Authors: Heymann, DL

American Public Health Association

Waldorf , MD , Australia

ISBN: 9780875530185

Binding: Paperback

Additional Textbook Information

Both texts are also available in electronic format.

- *Controlling Communicable Diseases* is available from [Google Books](#) and can be read on PC, Mac, Android Devices and iOS (iPad & iPhone) devices using the appropriate application. The electronic edition is significantly cheaper than the paperback.
- *Control of Communicable Disease* is available online from [Unbound Medicine](#). A 12 month subscription is significantly cheaper than buying the paperback version. If you choose not to renew your subscription after 12 months, you can still access the content on your current mobile device but it will not be updated. This title is available for PC & Mac (via web browser), Android Devices and iOS devices (iPad and iPhone).

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Lisa Bricknell Unit Coordinator

l.bricknell@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 06 Mar 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Principles of disease causation		
Week 2 - 13 Mar 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disease transmission and the immune response		
Week 3 - 20 Mar 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Enteric diseases	Noah, N (2006) Chapter 16: Gastrointestinal infections and food poisoning	
Week 4 - 27 Mar 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Parasitic diseases		
Week 5 - 03 Apr 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Vaccine preventable diseases	Noah, N (2006) Section 3: Vaccines	
Vacation Week - 10 Apr 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Quiz 1- Fundamentals of communicable disease control, enteric and parasitic diseases Due: Vacation Week Monday (10 Apr 2017) 9:00 am AEST
Week 6 - 17 Apr 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Vaccine preventable diseases- cont'd		
Week 7 - 24 Apr 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Sexually transmitted infections		
Week 8 - 01 May 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
HIV		Quiz 2- Immunisation and vaccine preventable diseases Due: Week 8 Tuesday (2 May 2017) 9:00 am AEST
Week 9 - 08 May 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Disease surveillance & epidemiology	Noah, N (2006) Section 1: Surveillance Noah, N (2006) Section 2: Outbreaks (prior to residential school)	Residential School for Environmental Health majors (optional for HP students) 8-10 May 2015.
Week 10 - 15 May 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Public Health interventions- historical approaches	Noah, N (2006) Chapter 18 HIV & sexually transmitted infections	
Week 11 - 22 May 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Public Health interventions- contemporary approaches and future directions

Quiz 3- Sexually transmitted infections and HIV Due: Week 11 Monday (22 May 2017) 9:00 am AEST

Week 12 - 29 May 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Diseases of emerging public health concern		Report Due: Week 12 Friday (2 June 2017) 11:45 pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 05 Jun 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Exam Week - 12 Jun 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Assessment Tasks

1 Quiz 1- Fundamentals of communicable disease control, enteric and parasitic diseases

Assessment Type

Online Test

Task Description

- The quiz will open on the Monday of Week 5 and remain open until 9:00am on the following Monday (Vacation Week).
- There is no time limit to complete the quiz and you can save your quiz and return to it later (while the quiz is available)
- You will get your final result from the quiz showing which questions you got right or wrong. This will let you know what areas you need to study/revise.
- You should choose the most correct answer.

Assessment Due Date

Vacation Week Monday (10 Apr 2017) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Results will be available once the quiz has closed.

Weighting

15%

Assessment Criteria

This quiz will assess the student's knowledge of the principles of disease causation, disease transmission and the aetiology, prevention and control of enteric and parasitic diseases.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Describe risk factors and aetiology for a range of communicable diseases important to public health.
- Explain the impact of communicable diseases in the context of individual and population health.
- Identify and analyse primary, secondary and tertiary approaches for the prevention and control of communicable diseases.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

2 Quiz 2- Immunisation and vaccine preventable diseases

Assessment Type

Online Test

Task Description

- The quiz will become available at 9:00am on the Monday of Week 7 and remain open until 9:00am on Tuesday of Week 8.
- There is no time limit to complete the quiz and you can save your quiz and return to it later (while the quiz is available)
- You will get your final result from the quiz showing which questions you got right or wrong. This will let you know what areas you need to study/revise.
- You should choose the most correct answer.

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Tuesday (2 May 2017) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Results will be available once the quiz has closed.

Weighting

15%

Assessment Criteria

This quiz will assess the student's knowledge of the principles of vaccination, the immune response and the aetiology of vaccine preventable diseases.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Describe risk factors and aetiology for a range of communicable diseases important to public health.
- Explain the impact of communicable diseases in the context of individual and population health.
- Identify and analyse primary, secondary and tertiary approaches for the prevention and control of communicable diseases.
- Explain the methods of measurement, monitoring, prioritisation and surveillance of communicable disease and how they are used to safeguard public health.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

3 Quiz 3- Sexually transmitted infections and HIV

Assessment Type

Online Test

Task Description

- The quizzes will become available at 9:00am on the Monday of Week 9 and remain open until 9:00am on the Monday of Week 11 to allow you time to attend residential school.
- There is no time limit to complete the quiz and you can save your quiz and return to it later (while the quiz is available)
- You will get your final result from the quiz showing which questions you got right or wrong. This will let you know what areas you need to study/revise.
- You should choose the most correct answer.

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Monday (22 May 2017) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Results will be available once the quiz has closed.

Weighting

15%

Assessment Criteria

This quiz will assess the student's knowledge of the aetiology, prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections and HIV.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Describe risk factors and aetiology for a range of communicable diseases important to public health.
- Explain the impact of communicable diseases in the context of individual and population health.
- Identify and analyse primary, secondary and tertiary approaches for the prevention and control of communicable diseases.
- Evaluate the social and cultural impact of notifiable diseases.
- Explain the methods of measurement, monitoring, prioritisation and surveillance of communicable disease and how they are used to safeguard public health.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

4 Report

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

There are two options for this assessment task. Option 1 is for Environmental Health students and students from other disciplines who have attended residential school for this unit. Option 2 is for Health Promotion students and students from other disciplines who have not attended residential school.

Option 1: Environmental Health majors and other students who have attended residential school

While at residential school, you will be involved in the investigation of a simulated outbreak of a communicable disease. For this assignment, you will write a report including:

1. a description of the disease, its aetiology and the mechanism of the outbreak
2. factors leading to the outbreak
3. the actions taken to control the spread of the disease
4. a critical evaluation of these actions
5. future public health interventions that could prevent the outbreak from reoccurring.

Although you will work as a team while investigating the outbreak, you will need to submit an individual report. Students will be evaluated on their critical evaluation of the outbreak, drawing on the core themes and topics presented throughout the unit. If you use any information provided by your team members, you should reference these appropriately in your report. Report writing will be addressed at residential school and an exemplar will be provided on Moodle.

Word count: 2500- 3000 words

Option 2: Health Promotion majors

For this assignment, you will need to write a report which argues for a Communicable Disease to be given priority as part of a State Health Strategy. Students will need to select a disease (HIV or Viral Hepatitis or a Sexually Transmitted Infection) and a priority population 'of concern' from the **Kirby Institute's 2016 Annual Surveillance Report** based on trends in diagnosis, prevalence and morbidity. Examples of diseases and priority populations will be provided on Moodle and discussed in the Assessment 4 online Zoom session.

The report will include the following:

1. a background to the disease, including
 - the nature of the problem (description of the disease and a brief aetiology);

- the extent of the problem (trends in diagnosis, prevalence and morbidity); and
 - the risk factors and protective factors.
2. a description of the population of concern, including
 - a definition of the population group at risk;
 - an explanation of the extent of the problem in the population group (eg. trends in diagnosis, prevalence and morbidity); and
 - an investigation of the factors contributing to trends in population group.
 3. a rationale for inclusion in State policy, including
 - the impact of the disease (eg. cost to individuals and community); and
 - the potential for prevention and early intervention in reducing this burden.

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (2 June 2017) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

After confirmation of grades.

Weighting

55%

Minimum mark or grade

You must achieve a minimum grade of 50% for this item to be eligible to pass this course.

Assessment Criteria

Option 1: Environmental Health majors and other students who have attended residential school

Relevance (30%)

- summarises relevant disease information from credible and reputable sources
- report is relevant to the disease under investigation
- interventions are appropriate
- interventions are thoroughly explained
- effectiveness of the intervention is evaluated
- public health interventions to prevent future outbreaks are presented

Validity (50%)

- depth and extent of discussion of the investigation
- evaluation is thorough and logically presented
- accuracy of the information used to support statements
- recommendations for future public health interventions have been based on critical thought, analysis of the evidence and synthesis of new ideas
- depth and range of research

Organisation (10%)

- structure and flow of information
- coherence and clarity of expression (spelling, grammar, syntax)
- all sources attributed

Presentation (10%)

- style and formatting of report
- typographical matters (types, font, headings etc)
- referencing is consistent and in accordance with Harvard style
- length

Option 2: Health Promotion majors and other students not attending residential school

Relevance (30%)

- summarises relevant disease information from credible and reputable sources
- population group is appropriate and justified
- impact of disease is thoroughly explained
- potential for prevention and early intervention in reducing burden has been thoroughly explored

Validity (50%)

- depth and extent of discussion of the disease, priority population and rationale for inclusion
- argument for rationale is thorough and logically presented

- accuracy of the information used to support statements
- depth and range of research

Organisation (10%)

- structure and flow of information
- coherence and clarity of expression (spelling, grammar, syntax)
- all sources attributed

Presentation (10%)

- style and formatting of report
- typographical matters (types, font, headings etc)
- referencing is consistent and in accordance with Harvard style
- length

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Explain the impact of communicable diseases in the context of individual and population health.
- Identify and analyse primary, secondary and tertiary approaches for the prevention and control of communicable diseases.
- Evaluate the social and cultural impact of notifiable diseases.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Team Work
- Information Technology Competence
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem