

# PBHL12001 *Communicable Diseases and Public Health*

## Term 1 - 2022

Profile information current as at 25/04/2026 04:37 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 - 2022

- Mixed Mode

#### 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).

#### 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 "Have your Say" Reflection Verbal feedback

##### Feedback

Students enjoyed and valued the residential school.

##### Recommendation

Continue the residential school with a slight change of format to be more hands on (e.g. simulated case studies, more field visits). Encourage Health Promotion students to attend for inter-professional learning (optional). Consider a combined residential school with HLTH12032: Community Assets and Needs Assessment.

#### Feedback from "Have your Say" Reflection Student grades. Verbal feedback

##### Feedback

Assessment items need to be practical and hands-on.

##### Recommendation

Keep the same assessment items but refresh assessment for 2021: - Format for Assessment 3 to be in an Australian report style to ensure work relevant; - Short answer quizzes to test understanding; and - Same Assessment 3 for Health Promotion and Environmental Health.

#### Feedback from "Have your Say" Reflection Verbal feedback

##### Feedback

Learning materials need to be updated to reflect changes since the COVID-19 pandemic. Further, learning materials, particularly lectures, are dated.

##### Recommendation

Refresh all learning materials, including lectures. Change textbook to a combination of a relevant e-books that are available at the library and contemporary on-line resources drawn from Australian Departments of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and the American Public Health Association.

#### Feedback from Reflection Student Attendance Verbal feedback

##### Feedback

On-line tutorials, although valued by students who attended, are resource intensive and not well attended, with only one to two students attending.

##### Recommendation

Rather than weekly tutorials; offer ad hoc tutorials on demand. Guide students to post on the discussion board (asynchronous tutorials) and hold up to 3 drop in Zoom sessions on assessment items.

#### Feedback from "Have your Say" Reflection Verbal feedback

##### Feedback

Assessment feedback needs to be comprehensive and timely.

##### Recommendation

Model answers for short answer quizzes provided as soon as students submits. Students to continue to be offered verbal feedback for Assessment 3 as well as intext comments.

## 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

— N/A Level    ● Introductory Level    ● Intermediate Level    ● Graduate Level    ◦ Professional Level    ◦ Advanced Level

### 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

## Graduate Attributes

## Learning Outcomes

	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Communication	•	•			•
2 - Problem Solving			•	•	
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy			•		
5 - Team Work					
6 - Information Technology Competence					•
7 - Cross Cultural Competence		•	•	•	
8 - Ethical practice			•		•
9 - Social Innovation					
10 - First Nations Knowledges					
11 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures					

## Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

### Assessment Tasks

### Graduate Attributes

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1 - Online Test - 15%	•		•	•		•					
2 - Online Test - 15%	•		•	•		•					
3 - Online Test - 15%	•		•	•		•					
4 - Written Assessment - 55%	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			

## Textbooks and Resources

### Textbooks

PBHL12001

Prescribed

Communicable Disease Control and Health Protection Handbook

Edition: 4 (2019)

Authors: Jeremy Hawker, Norman Begg, Ralf Reintjes, Karl Ekdahl, Obaghe Edeghere, and Jim E. van Steenberg

John Wiley & Sons

ISBN: 9781119328049

Binding: eBook

Additional Textbook Information

We will be using this book as our reference textbook for this unit. The book is available online through the university library system.

### IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Zoom Capacity (microphone required; webcam optional)

## Referencing Style

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

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

## Teaching Contacts

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## Schedule

Week 1 - 07 Mar 2022

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to Communicable Diseases and Public Health Part 1		

Week 2 - 14 Mar 2022

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Communicable Diseases and Social Determinants of Health, Emergencies, and Disasters		

Week 3 - 21 Mar 2022

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Enteric diseases		

Week 4 - 28 Mar 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Parasitic Diseases		
Week 5 - 04 Apr 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Vaccine Preventable Diseases		
Vacation Week - 11 Apr 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic Assessment 1: Fundamentals of communicable disease control, enteric and parasitic diseases Due: Vacation Week Monday (11 Apr 2022) 9:00 am AEST
Week 6 - 18 Apr 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Sexually Transmitted Infections and HIV		
Week 7 - 25 Apr 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Observational Studies		
Week 8 - 02 May 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic Residential School for Environmental Health majors (optional for all other students), Rockhampton Campus 9am-5pm 5-7 May.  Assessment 2: Immunisation and vaccine preventable diseases Due: Week 8 Monday (2 May 2022) 9:00 am AEST
Communicable Disease Control		
Week 9 - 09 May 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Principles of Communicable Disease Prevention		
Week 10 - 16 May 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Public Health Interventions: Part 1		
Week 11 - 23 May 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic Assessment 3: Sexually transmitted infections and HIV Due: Week 11 Monday (23 May 2022) 9:00 am AEST
Public Health Interventions: Part 2		
Week 12 - 30 May 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic Assessment 4: Report Due: Week 12 Friday (3 June 2022) 11:59 pm AEST
Emerging Key Issues in Communicable Diseases		
Review/Exam Week - 06 Jun 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Exam Week - 13 Jun 2022		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

## Term Specific Information

Residential School for Environmental Health majors (optional for all other students), Rockhampton Campus 9am-5pm 5-7 May.

## Assessment Tasks

### 1 Assessment 1: Fundamentals of communicable disease control, enteric and parasitic diseases

#### Assessment Type

Online Test

#### Task Description

- Assessment 1 takes the form of quiz format.
- 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 (11 Apr 2022) 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 Assessment 2: Immunisation and vaccine preventable diseases

#### Assessment Type

Online Test

#### Task Description

- Assessment 2 takes the form of quiz format.
- The quiz will become available at 9:00am on the Monday of Week 7 and remain open until 9:00am Monday 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 Monday (2 May 2022) 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 Assessment 3: Sexually transmitted infections and HIV

Assessment Type

Online Test

Task Description

- Assessment 3 takes the form of short essay style questions to assess your knowledge of the aetiology, prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections and HIV
- It will comprise of 5 short essay style questions. Each question is worth 3 marks. Answers are expected to be succinct (approximately 150 to 200 words). Marks will be lost if you go over the word limit.
- The quizzes will become available at 9:00am on the Monday of Week 10 and remain open until 9:00am on the Monday of Week 11.
- 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 after 1 week (to allow for marking).

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Monday (23 May 2022) 9:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Review/Exam Week Monday (6 June 2022)

Results will be released online.

Weighting

15%

Assessment Criteria

This short essay format assessments 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

## Submission Instructions

Due date: 23/5/2022 at 9:00APM QLD Time

## 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 Assessment 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 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 (3 June 2022) 11:59 pm AEST

Submit online through the unit Moodle page

Return Date to Students

After confirmation of grades

Weighting

55%

Minimum mark or grade

You must achieve a minimum grade of 50% for this assessment, in addition to an overall composite grade of 50% or greater, to be eligible to pass this unit.

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

#### Submission Instructions

Due date: 3/6/2022 at 11:59PM QLD Time

#### 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