

Neglected Tropical Diseases BIOL 830P Course Syllabus – Summer 2020

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The course will introduce students to the field of neglected tropical diseases and their impact on global health and social and economic development. This will include an overview of the major neglected tropical diseases and the countries affected by these diseases. Students will review the public health structure of countries affected by neglected tropical diseases, the economic burden of these diseases, disease pathology, and measures to address the burden of neglected tropical diseases in cost-effective ways.

Instructor Contact, Internet, and Software:

The best mode of contact is via email as I am not always near my office phone. Emails will be responded to **within 24 hours on weekdays**. Emails sent after 5 PM CDT on Fridays and on weekends will be replied to on Monday. So do not wait until the weekend to ask questions if you need a quick response.

When taking online quizzes/exams, please use a reliable internet connection.

I use Microsoft Office and will be posting additional readings as PDF files. Software for these programs may have to be purchased (Microsoft Office) or downloaded for free online (PDF viewer). The class management system known as Canvas will be used to post all materials, conduct discussions, and make announcements. All communication will be through your UNK email address, so please regularly check and use this address for communications.

Course Learning Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

- The public health dynamics of developing or under-developed countries.
- The health and economic burden of the neglected tropical diseases on endemic countries.
- The pathology of the neglected tropical diseases.
- Challenges in dealing with neglected tropical disease control.

Suggested Textbook: Hotez, Peter. Forgotten People. Forgotten Diseases. The Neglected Tropical Diseases and Their Impact on Global Health and Development, published by ASM Press. Print ISBN : **9781555818746** e-ISBN : **9781555818753**

Course Evaluation:

Discussion (5 pts each)	40 pts
7 Quizzes (10 pts each)	70 pts
1 Final Paper	100 pts
Total:	210 pts

Grading:

Final letter grades will be assigned as follows: A+ (98-100%), A (93-97%), A- (90-92%), B+ (87-89%), B (83-86%), B- (80-82%), C+ (77-79%), C (73-76%), C- (70-72%), D+ (67-69%), D (63-66%), D- (60-62%), F (<60%).

Discussion:

Weekly discussions will be initiated on Canvas with questions or topics pertaining to the provided material. I expect at least 2 significant contributions to each discussion. Since these are discussions, do not simply answer the question, but add additional information or viewpoints to posts by fellow classmates or ask additional questions for further discussion. Discussions will be graded on the following criteria:

How often you participate. Discussion boards should be checked at least every other day. Students are welcome to suggest other readings, websites, or current event materials that focus on the topic area. Grades will be reduced if students post only on one visit to the discussion board or posting on the last day with no further student contributions to the topic.

Quality of the contribution. Please try to keep postings clear and concise, but go beyond just agreeing or disagreeing with someone's response. This will help everyone quickly understand your input without being bogged down with text and further continue the discussion. Comments should be supported with specific details and pertain to the current topic. **References should be cited and significantly increase the quality of the contribution.**

Interaction with classmates. Respect for others is expected along with constructive comments to responses. Posts that are inflammatory or abusive will be removed and points will be lost.

Quizzes:

Students will be expected to complete readings and there will be 7 quizzes throughout the semester that will cover the readings. Each quiz will be taken online through the Canvas course page and will have timed responses. Canvas has a new feature that will kick you out of the system if you leave the Canvas quiz to click on another page. Please do not cheat. You need to study the material and take the quizzes as you would on campus. If you are kicked out of the quiz, you will get a 0 on the quiz. Please be prepared to take it once you open the quiz.

Final Paper:

Students will select a country of their own interest to go into further detail about: (1) the demographics, healthcare system, economic status, and political environment of the country, (2) a neglected tropical disease or diseases (if you cannot find enough data for a single NTD that is of interest to you) found in this country and in addition provide incidence and prevalence data, who is affected the most, where in the country is the disease located (the whole country or specific regions), economic and social consequences associated with the disease(s), and (3) what is being done at a global, national, and local level in the country to minimize the impact of the disease(s) and what are future outlooks and goals for preventing the disease(s) in the country. **This is not an exhaustive list but is a good start for ideas and areas to research.** If you find something of interest that contributes to the manifestation or prevention of the disease(s) in the country, you should add the information.

Papers should be between 5 and 8 pages double spaced with default setting margins and a separate reference section. References should follow MLA or APA format and come from primary literature and organization webpages. The font should be Cambria or Times New Roman 12pt. Please proof read before submitting to SafeAssign as grammar and spelling will be taken into account as well as the structuring of the paper (the paper should have a logical flow and be clear and concise). Plagiarism will not be tolerated and you should paraphrase source information in your own words instead of using an extensive amount of quotations. Subheadings are recommended but not required. If you have any questions about the paper please ask.

Veterans Services

UNK works diligently to support UNK's military community by providing military and veteran students and families with resources and services to help them succeed. Veterans Services assists with the GI Bill process and acts as a liaison between the student and the Veterans Administration. If you need assistance or would like more information, please contact Lori Weed Skarka at 308-865-8520 or unkveterans@unk.edu.

Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students with documented disabilities. To receive accommodation services for a disability, students must be registered with UNK Disabilities Services for Students Office, 172 Memorial Student Affairs Building, 308-865-8988 or by email unkdso@unk.edu

Students Who are Pregnant

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students who are pregnant. To receive accommodation services due to pregnancy, students must contact Cindy Ference in Student Health, 308-865-8219. The following link provides information for students and faculty regarding pregnancy rights. <http://www.nwlc.org/resource/pregnant-and-parenting-students-rights-faqs-college-and-graduate-students>

Reporting Student Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence or Sexual Assault

Reporting allegations of rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking enables the University to promptly provide support to the impacted student(s), and to take appropriate action to prevent a recurrence of such sexual misconduct and protect the campus community. Confidentiality will be respected to the greatest degree possible. Any student who believes she or he may be the victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report to one or more of the following resources:

Local Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Advocacy Agency 308-237-2599

Campus Police (or Security) 308-865-8911

Title IX Coordinator 308-865-8655

Retaliation against the student making the report, whether by students or University employees, will not be tolerated.

If you have questions regarding the information in this email please contact **Mary Chinnock Petroski, Chief Compliance Officer** (petroskimj@unk.edu or phone 8400).

If you have questions regarding the information in this email please contact Mary Chinnock Petroski, Human Resources Director (petroskimj@unk.edu or phone 8655).

Weekly Schedule:

Week	Topics/Assignments	Readings	Discussion
June 8	Syllabus and Introduction Stigma and Poverty Quiz 1	Chapter 1	1st discussion deadline June 14 at 11:59 p.m. CST
June 15	The Unholy Trinity Quiz 2	Chapter 2	2 nd discussion deadline June 21 at 11:59 p.m. CST
June 22	Schistosomiasis Filarial Infections Quiz 3	Chapter 3 Chapter 4	3 rd discussion deadline June 28 at 11:59 p.m. CST
June 29	Blinding NTD Mycobacterial Infections Quiz 4	Chapter 5 Chapter 6	4 th discussion deadline July 5 at 11:59 p.m. CST
July 6	Kinetoplastid Infections Urban NTD Quiz 5	Chapter 7 Chapter 8	5 th discussion deadline July 12 at 11:59 p.m. CST
July 13	NTD of North America Global Network Quiz 6	Chapter 9 Chapter 10	6 th discussion deadline July 19 at 11:59 p.m. CST
July 20	Future Trends Repairing the World Quiz 7	Chapter 11 Chapter 12	7 th discussion deadline July 26 at 11:59 p.m. CST
July 27	Paper due by 8 am CST on 7/30/20		