

Valdosta State University

Fall Semester 2008 Term A

PERS 2480 2 semester hours

Monday Night 5:30 – 8:30

Infectious Diseases and History

Instructor: Catherine Christie

Textbook Required: *The Hot Zone* **or** *The Demon in the Freezer* by Richard Preston

You will be required to read one of these books. The bookstore will tell you which to purchase.

*Half of the class should read one book and the other half should read the second one.

Course Description: Survey of the role of infectious diseases in shaping world and regional history. Diseases and other topics could change in regards to current issues and trends. Examples such as plague, Hansen's disease, smallpox, cholera, tuberculosis, typhus, yellow fever, influenza, AIDS, and biological warfare are a few that will be discussed.

Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend all classes and stay in attendance as long as class is being held without exception. In the event of personal emergency, notify the instructor about the problem and situation. Students are allowed one unexcused absence per 8-week term. A second absence requires **proof** of emergency, sickness, TAD orders etc. If a student misses more than 2 classes, a W or F will be assigned.

Classes will start promptly and you are expected to remain for the entire class. If you leave early, it is considered an absence. Also, excessive tardiness could result in a lower grade.

Grading Policy

Classroom Participation:

Questions and discussion in class are encouraged; active participation will be favorably considered in the outcome of your final grade, especially in borderline cases.

Student Responsibility:

It is the student's responsibility to know the administrative procedures established by the University that will be observed in this class. This is especially important regarding dropping or withdrawing from courses of instruction. Students must adhere to deadlines for drops and withdrawals in order to avoid academic and financial penalties.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

Valdosta State University complies fully with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you believe that you are covered under this act, and if you have need for special arrangements to allow you to meet the requirements of this course, please contact the personnel at the VSU Center at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. The office will put you in contact with VSU's Access Office. Also, please discuss this with the instructor at the first class meeting.

Objectives

After this course the student will be able to:

- Analyze general concepts of existing and emerging infectious diseases.
- Describe natural and human-origin reasons of emerging infectious diseases.
- Analyze the means and limitations of control or management of emerging infectious diseases.
- Describe the transmission of the leading infectious diseases that have or could impact our society.
- Explain how better understanding of the emerging infectious diseases maintains and affects human health in the future.

Date	Classroom	Homework	Due
Week 1	Introduction to course Syllabus Assign Class Project to students Movie: Influenza 1918	Start reading THZ	
Week 2	Movie Research Project	Handout for book	
Week 3	Discuss: The Hot Zone		
Week 4	Movie Lecture	Start reading TDIF	
Week 5	Movie Discuss: The Demon in the Freezer		
Week 6	Movie		
Week 7			
Week 8	Final Exam		

This schedule could be subject to change.