Community Health and Disease

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The course will describe the biological processes underlying the most important causes of morbidity and mortality in the U.S. and connect these with community disease prevention/health promotion strategies. For each health problem, the course will review:

- the physiology and pathophysiology of the organ systems involved,
- individual- and population-level causes and behavioral determinants of disease,
- the patterns of disease occurrence in populations, and individual- and community-level strategies for prevention.

**Learning Objectives**

- Describe the leading causes of potential life lost in the U.S.
- Describe the biologic mechanisms of diseases for these leading causes
- Describe individual-level behavioral risks for these diseases
- Identify population-level and environmental risks for these diseases
- Describe prevention strategies at the individual and community level, including policy and environmental strategies

**Competencies**

- Selects and defines variables relevant to defined public health problems
- Obtains and interprets information regarding risks and benefits to the community
- Defines, assesses, and understands the health status of populations, determinants of health and illness, factors contributing to health promotion and disease prevention, and factors influencing the use of health services
- Applies the basic public health sciences including behavioral and social sciences, biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental public health, and prevention of chronic and infectious diseases and injuries

* Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice

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