



Middle Georgia
State University

School of Computing
Department of Information Technology

SECTION 1 - GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title:	Online Public Health Informatics
Course Prefix and Number:	ITEC 6340
Course CRN#:	25440
Semester & Session:	Spring 2026- 01 Session II
Campus Location:	Online
Meeting Days:	N/A
Meeting Time:	N/A

INSTRUCTOR'S INFORMATION

Name:	Dr. Angela C. Munoz	
E-mail Address:	Angela.munoz@mga.edu	
Office Location:	Macon PSC 325	
Office Phone Number:	(478) 471-3621	
Tentative Office Hours:	Monday	9 am to 11 am, 2 pm to 4 pm
	Wednesday	9 am to 11 am, 2 pm to 4 pm

SECTION 2 - DETAILED COURSE INFORMATION

Course Prerequisite: Prerequisite: Admission to the MSIT program

Credit Hours: 3 credit hours

Course Description: Public Health informatics is an emerging interdisciplinary field that uses information technology and informatics methods to meet public health goals. To meet these goals, public health practitioners need to develop skills and knowledge to optimize their contribution to improvements in public health informatics; similarly, informaticians need to understand the unique public health environment and opportunities for the application of informatics methods and tools. This course provides foundational knowledge relevant to public health informatics, and introduces students to skills, resources, and concepts that will allow them to be a life-long learner and work in this evolving field.

Student learning outcomes: Upon completion of this course the students will be able to:

- Define Public Health Informatics and its key concepts.
- Understand the role of information systems in public health practice.
- Analyze health data for decision-making.
- Identify and describe health data standards and interoperability.
- Examine the ethical and legal issues surrounding health data.
- Evaluate the impact of emerging technologies on public health.

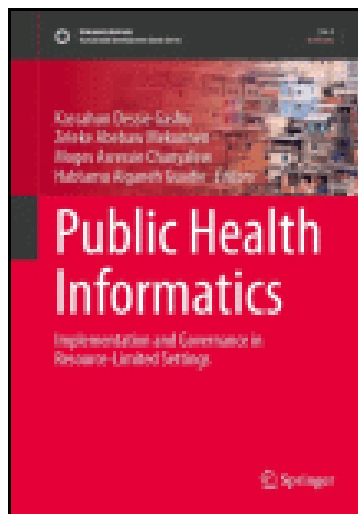
- Develop strategies for using informatics to improve public health outcomes.

Topics:

1. Introduction to Public Health Informatics
2. Health Data and Information Systems
3. Data Standards and Interoperability
4. Health Surveillance and Data Analytics
5. Ethical and Legal Issues in Public Health Informatics
6. Health Informatics in Disaster Response and Public Health Emergencies
7. Emerging Technologies in Public Health Informatics
8. Implementing Public Health Informatics Solutions
9. The Future of Public Health Informatics

Required course materials:

- **Bookstore Link:** [Public Health Informatics | Middle Georgia State University](#)
- **Title:** Public Health Informatics and Information Systems



- Edition: 24
- Author(s): by Kassahun Dessie Gashu (Editor), Zeleke Abebaw Mekonnen (Editor), Moges Asressie Chanyalew (Editor), & 1 more
- ISBN 13: 978-3031711183
- Publisher: Springer CRS

Technology Requirement:

- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Camera & Microphone

Library/Learning Resources: As a Middle Georgia State University student, you have complete access to GALILEO (Georgia Library Learning Online), a virtual library of licensed commercial databases. It provides access to over 100 databases indexing thousands of periodicals and scholarly journals. There are over 10,000 journal titles available in full-text. Additional GALILEO resources include e-books, government documents, reference collections, and video databases. The Middle Georgia State University library also has core collection with locally purchased resources to support this graduate course. Currently the exclusive

holdings for the B.S. / M.S. in Information Technology graduate courses are as follows: e-Journals = 1,661, Print Books = 1,164, e-books = 4,325, and DVDs = 66.

The following are examples of online databases that support this undergraduate course. They are available to you through GALILEO and/or institutionally funded subscriptions:

- ACM Digital Library
- Computer Source
- Computing (ProQuest)
- Academic Search Complete
- Research Library (ProQuest)
- Wilson Omnifile: Full-Text Mega Edition
- Google Scholar
- Films on Demand

Tutoring is available free of charge on all MGA campuses for currently enrolled students. To view center contact information, subjects tutored, and tutor availability, go to the SSC website at <http://www.mga.edu/student-success-center/>. SSC tutoring sessions may be scheduled online and face-to-face through the “Book an Appointment” link on the Student Success Center website. Other services at the SSC include online academic workshops and a robust website with resources for academic assistance. The centers also have computer workstations, printing, and Internet access.

SECTION 3 - COURSE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Students in this course are evaluated on assignments and projects. Assignments require designing solutions to problems using Human-Computer interaction principles discussed in the textbook and other online resources.

In this course students are assessed through a combination of projects, quizzes, and discussions designed to measure both theoretical understanding and practical application of human and computer interaction. Each component targets distinct learning outcomes and fosters a comprehensive learning experience.

Projects

The mini-project assignments and the final project serve as cumulative demonstrations of the knowledge and skills gained throughout the course. These projects are designed to:

- Develop Practical Skills: By incrementally creating requirements documents, UML diagrams, data models, and final system architectures, students gain hands-on experience.
- Encourage Critical Thinking: Students must apply analysis and design principles to solve real or hypothetical business problems.
- Promote Collaboration and Reflection: Although work may be done individually, peer reviews and group discussions allow for broader perspective-taking and iterative improvement.

Each project component builds upon the previous one, culminating in a final submission that demonstrates a holistic understanding of systems analysis and design processes, from requirements elicitation through maintenance planning.

Quizzes

Quizzes are short, formative assessments administered throughout the course to ensure that students keep pace with weekly learning objectives. Key features include:

- Frequent Knowledge Checks: Quizzes typically follow lecture modules and assigned readings to confirm comprehension of terminology and core concepts.
- Immediate Feedback: Quick turnaround on grades and explanations helps students correct misunderstandings and reinforce learning.
- Cumulative Review: Occasional cumulative quizzes may be used to connect multiple topics (e.g., comparing various SDLC methodologies or relating data modeling to system design).

By integrating quizzes at various intervals, the course ensures continuous engagement and prevents last-minute cramming, thus promoting deeper retention of the material.

Discussions

Weekly discussion activities are conducted in an asynchronous online forum to facilitate idea exchange, analysis, and reflection. Discussion prompts focus on:

- Real-World Applications: Students relate theoretical concepts (e.g., requirements gathering) to workplace or industry scenarios.
- Critical Analysis: Learners debate methodologies (e.g., Agile vs. Waterfall) or architectural choices and propose evidence-based arguments.
- Peer Learning: Discussion threads promote collaboration by allowing students to read, respond, and build on each other's perspectives.

Through these discussions, students sharpen their communication and problem-solving skills, fostering a deeper, more contextualized understanding of course concepts.

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING THE FINAL COURSE GRADE

Final grades are computed based on percentages as follows:

Grading Summary

10 % Quizzes
20 % Discussions
30 % Assignments
40 % Final Project
100 % of Final Grade

Grading Policy

Letter Grade	Description	Grading Scale
A	Excellent work	90 to 100
B	Good work	80 to 89.9
C	Unsatisfactory	70 to 79.9
D	Unsatisfactory	60 to 69.9
F	Unsatisfactory	Below 60

SECTION 4 - INSTRUCTOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

Professional Communication

All emails from the instructor will be sent to your "Official" college email address. It is the student's responsibility to check their college email account at least 3 times per week. Please use your MGA email account to send emails to the instructor (**do NOT use D2L**). The best way to contact the instructor is by email or request a time to meet via email/MS

Teams. The instructor will respond to all emails within 24 hours during the work week (Monday-Friday) and 48 hours on weekends (Saturday-Sunday).

Course Design

This is a deadline class. All material for this class is due at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday. No late work will be accepted. All assignments will be uploaded to Turnitin.com by the professor.

Late material will be considered only with an excused notification, verified by the professor or the CSI department chair. The instructor will discuss the completed assignments with any student in attendance after 24 hours has passed, and a written argument with bullet points has been turned into the professor. The bullet points should professionally discuss the reasons for a grade change or extension. All students are required to upload his or her daily threads and assignments, midterm, and final to the online platform/ gradebook. All students are required to keep a full copy of all their work, including the notes, research tools, raw images, audio clips, on a backup server, or the school's server, and where possible and legal a back-up hard drive. I would suggest that each student creates a digital archive of all raw material, research and images/videos on a personal hard drive or DVD weekly and or after each assignment's finalization. There will be no excuses for lost information, damaged hard drives, or stolen information and data. All students are responsible for the data collection and storage.

AI USAGE POLICY FOR COURSEWORK

To maintain a culture of integrity and respect, the use of generative AI tools in this course follows a traffic light model:

- **Green Light:** You are free to use generative AI tools in any way you see fit for your coursework. Any AI-generated content must be properly cited. Example: "Feel free to use generative AI tools for idea generation, writing assistance, or research. Ensure that any work not originally created by you is properly cited."
- **Yellow Light:** You may use generative AI tools in specific, instructor-approved ways. Ensure that any AI-generated work is cited. Example: "You are encouraged to explore AI tools for brainstorming or research. However, all writing and final submissions must be your own. AI-generated content must be cited appropriately."
- **Red Light:** Generative AI tools are not allowed for any part of your coursework. Example: "All work in this class must be entirely your own. The use of AI tools is prohibited at any stage of the work process unless specifically authorized."

Note: If no specific signal or light is given for an assignment, you may assume a **Green Light** approach. However, always cite AI-generated content and use these tools responsibly.

SECTION 5 - TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE AND OUTLINE

The schedule below contains class activities, assignments, and deadlines. Note that the course schedule is "tentative" and subject to change based on student and/or pedagogical needs. All changes will be announced and posted on the course website.

Date	Readings	Activities	Due Date
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Week 1: Mar 9-Mar 15	Module 1 Chapters 1 & 2	Introduction to Public Health Informatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 1 • Entry Quiz • Sample Submission Assignment • Quiz 1 	Mar 15
Week 2: Mar 16-Mar 22	Module 2 Chapters 3 & 4	Health Data and Information Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 2 • Case Study Assignment 1 	Mar 22
Week 3: Mar 23-Mar 29	Module 3 Spring Break	Spring Break	Mar 29
Week 4: Mar 30-Apr 5	Module 4 Chapters 5 & 6	Data Analytics in Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 3 • Quiz 2 	Apr 5
Week 5: Apr 6-Apr 12	Module 5 Chapters 7 & 8	Health Information Exchange (HIE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 4 • Case Study Assignment 2 	Apr 12
Week 6: Apr 13-Apr 19	Module 6 Chapters 9 & 10	Public Health Policy and Informatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 5 • Quiz 3 	Apr 19
Week 7: Apr 20-Apr 26	Module 7 Chapters 11 & 12	Privacy, Security, and Ethics in Public Health Informatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 6 • Case Study Assignment 3 	Apr 26
Week 8: Apr 27- May 3	Module 8 Chapters 13 & 14	Global Health Informatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion 7 • Quiz 4 	May 3
Week 9: May 4-May 10	Module 9 Chapter 15 & 16	Emerging Technologies in Public Health Informatics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Research Project 	May 10

SECTION 6 – INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES

Students are responsible for reading, understanding, and adhering to all Middle Georgia State University student policies, including those linked on the Institutional Policies page. <https://www.mga.edu/center-excellence-teaching-learning/syllabi-policies.php>

STUDENT ATTENDANCE & WITHDRAWAL POLICY

The instructor is required to report “no-shows” or students who do not show up the first day of class. Therefore, all students enrolled in the course must verify their enrollment. This can affect financial aid, and you may be dropped from the class. Your instructor will notify you as to how to verify your enrollment before the beginning of the term to ensure that you are not reported as a “no-show”.

Students are encouraged to read the withdrawal policy found at <https://www.mga.edu/registrar/registration/drop-add.php> before dropping/withdrawing from the class.

Students who wish to withdraw from the University must complete the Withdrawal Form, obtaining the required signature from the advisor, and submitting it to the Office of the Registrar at the Macon campus or the administrative offices at other campuses. Withdrawal is not complete until all withdrawal procedures have been properly executed.

<https://www.mga.edu/registrar/>

Students may withdraw from the course and earn a grade of “W” up to and including the midterm date, which occurs on **April 22, 2025**. After this date students who withdraw will receive a grade of “WF.”

<https://www.mga.edu/academics/calendars/index.php>

DELAYED OPENING OR CLOSING OF THE UNIVERSITY

If class is unable to occur for an opening or closing of the university, go to the online webpage of the course for additional instructions. If there are no additional instructions provided on the course homepage news section, then just plan to meet at the normal next regularly scheduled meeting for the course. Knight Alert can be used to check or

<https://www.mga.edu/police/alert/index.php>

STUDENT USE OF AI IN COURSEWORK

To maintain a culture of integrity and respect, generative AI tools should not be used in the completion of course assignments unless an instructor for a given course specifically authorizes their use. Some instructors may approve of using generative AI tools in the academic setting for specific goals. However, these tools should be used only with the explicit and clear permission of each individual instructor, and then only in the ways allowed by the instructor.