

Teaching Team Code of Conduct for EPI 512/513

Teaching is a big responsibility. In EPI 512/513, we take that responsibility very seriously. For some students, our class will be their only exposure to formal training in epidemiology; for others, our class may be the introduction to a long career in the field. Regardless of where their future plans take them, it is our role as members of the Teaching Team to ensure that every student in EPI 512/513 is able to get as much out of our class as is possible for them. As such, **we commit ourselves to building and fostering a safe and supportive learning environment in EPI 512/513**. Realizing that commitment means acknowledging and embracing certain realities, as well as holding ourselves to a standard that our students deserve.

Thus, as a member of the EPI 512/513 Teaching Team, I agree to adhere to the following:

- I will treat all members of the EPI 512/513 learning community with respect. In particular, I will:
 - NOT comment on the physical appearance of any member of the learning community (regardless of intention)
 - NOT pass judgement on a student's performance on any class assessment, nor will I comment on a student's performance to any other student
 - Be mindful of pronouns that members of our learning community have shared with us
 - Respect the privacy of other members of our learning community
 - Keep feedback constructive
 - Mark and grade assignments in a consistent and transparent fashion
- I will treat all members of this learning community with empathy – acknowledging that we cannot always know what others are carrying with them on a day-to-day basis.
- I will use the epi512@uw.edu (Fall Quarter) or the epi513@uw.edu (Winter Quarter) email address for all correspondence with students (either by mailing directly from that account or cc'ing that account). This ensures that the Teaching Team is able to use consistent messaging when questions arise and that the whole Team can be in the loop with questions and solutions as they emerge.
- I will maintain a professional relationship with all students in EPI 512/513, as outlined by [Title IX regulations](#). (**NOTE:** Particularly for TA members of our Teaching Team, we acknowledge that some of the students in EPI 512/513 may become friends over the course of the year. However, in the context of any class where grades are assigned, there is an explicit power structure that we must all be mindful of.)
- I will openly admit when I don't have the answers and commit to following up to find those answers when possible.
- I will graciously acknowledge when I make a mistake or state something that is incorrect, recognizing that we are all learners, and will use those moments as learning opportunities.
- I will share with other members of the Teaching Team concerns as they arise, recognizing that this course works best when we are able to learn from each other.
- I will adhere to the University of Washington's standards for academic integrity. In particular, I will not share with any student in any way the answers to any exam or quiz questions prior to their submission deadline. If I suspect an instance of cheating, I will report my suspicions immediately to the course instructors.

As students of the UW, TAs are also expected to adhere to the UW Student Code of Conduct, detailed here:

<https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=478-121>

In striving to create a safe and supportive learning environment, members of the EPI 512/513 Teaching Team are encouraged to lean on and learn from each other. There are also many wonderful resources within the UW, including teaching resources from the UW Center for Teaching and Learning: <https://teaching.washington.edu/learn/teachinguw-strategies-for-tas/>

Together, we can make EPI 512/513 a positive experience for all our learners.