

***Epic Measures* and Global Burden of Disease Research Project**

For this project, you will be researching a question that is of genuine interest to you that came about as a result of reading *Epic Measures* and your searching through the Global Burden of Disease data visualization website (<http://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-compare/>).

Readings:

- *Epic Measures: One Doctor. Seven Billion Patients.*

See also:

- “Fatal Accidents as a Global Health Crisis” (<http://nyti.ms/17gJT8D>)
- “When ‘Moneyball’ Meets Medicine” (<http://nyti.ms/1yEZLcX>)
- “Lives Grow Longer, and Health Care’s Challenges Change” (<http://nyti.ms/1LcT5wL>)

Assignment (**100 points total**):

- Section 1: Type your approved research question at the top of your paper. **(2 points)**
- Section 2: Explain why this research question is of interest to you. In other words, you will be explaining why this topic seemed puzzling, remarkable, or important. This section should be roughly 8-10 sentences long. **(8 points)**
- Section 3: Before conducting research, offer three explanations for the current status of your topic. For example, if you are researching why India’s DALYs for neck pain are so much lower than China’s DALYs for neck pain, then you would offer three competing theories. Each theory should be based on an educated guess and should be 4-6 sentences long. **(10 points)**

- Section 4: Print out 10 relevant articles on your topic. Please number each article and write a sentence at the top of it in which you explain why this article is relevant to your research. **(10 points)**

- Section 5: E-mail five people who do not work for or with the IHME, Gates Foundation, or Global Burden of Disease project AND who could possibly assist you in understanding your research topic. **(5 points)**

- Section 6a: Conduct an interview with someone who clearly has relevant experience into your topic. **(10 points)**

- Section 6b: If you are unable to conduct an interview with someone who clearly has relevant experience into your topic, then you will need to find an additional 10 relevant articles. **(10 points)**

- Section 7a: After conducting your research, write up your findings and explain what you learned about why your approved topic has the results that it does. Students who fixate on word limits often earn poor grades because they become more concerned with generating quantity than with producing good quality, but be as thorough as possible. **(50 points)**

- Section 7b: Create a graph or other data visualization to display your findings. **(10 extra credit points)**

- Section 8: Discuss your final project in class. **(5 points)**