Schedule

- Classes are held in room 252 in the Basic Research Building (BRB) Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10:00 to 11:45 AM
- Spring recess begins at the end of classes on Friday, March 1 and ends at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, March 11.

Grades

- Grades will be based on class participation, homework, two quizzes, and a final examination.
- Quizzes and exams will be either "open book" or "take home."
Course Materials

• Most course materials — including the syllabus, lecture notes, most readings, homeworks, quizzes, and the final examination — will be distributed through Blackboard Academic Suite. These materials can be accessed at https://courseweb.library.upenn.edu

• Because Blackboard has discontinued a guest login, we will try to maintain a second version of the course website at: http://www.uphs.upenn.edu/dgimhsr/epi550.Sp2013.htm
Textbooks

• Some assigned readings are chapters in the following book and will not be available through Blackboard: Glick HA, Doshi JA, Sonnad SS, Polsky D. *Economic Evaluation in Clinical Trials*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. This book will be available for purchase in the University book store at 36th and Walnut streets.

• Other textbooks you should consider reading and purchasing:
TreeAge Software

• Students are expected to purchase computer software from TreeAge (we plan to start using the software in class on March 13th)

• The software is TreeAge Pro Suite (healthcare users), and is available for $45 at the following web site:
  http://server.treeage.com/treeagepro/purchase/stuLic.asp

• Do NOT purchase “TreeAge Pro Excel,” which can be confused with “TreeAge Pro Suite (healthcare users)”
Other Issues

- Class notes in PowerPoint format versus .pdf format
- Recording of class lectures
- Student participation in class
  - Critical analysis classes
- Homework schedule
  - Assigned on Wednesday, due the next Wednesday
- Post-course feedback from students
- Other issues
The overall goal of this course is to provide students with quantitative skills for understanding medical decisions. This course will help you

- Interpret diagnostic test results
  - Tests with dichotomous results
  - Tests with continuous results
- Create and analyze prediction rules
- Understand and use the costs that are related to health care
- Create and use mathematical models of decision making
  - Decision trees
  - Markov models
- Understand and use non-traditional outcomes
  - Utilities
  - Quality-Adjusted Life years (QALYs)
- Conduct and analyze cost-effectiveness analyses