On February 2, 2020, amid the progression of the now COVID-19 pandemic, the World Health Organization released a situation report addressing concerns of a related global problem: “a massive ‘infodemic’—an over-abundance of information—some accurate and some not—that makes it hard for people to find trustworthy sources and reliable guidance when they need it.”

Mathematical models are commonly used to describe the spread of infectious disease within a population. In today’s age of information overload, the challenge of disease intervention is exacerbated by an urgent need to counteract widespread falsehoods that can threaten public health. In this course, we will use a combination of mathematical modeling, computer simulation, and data analysis to examine the interaction between infectious disease and information dynamics, as well as the efficacy of various control strategies.

NOTE: This course is only open to seniors majoring in mathematics at Bryn Mawr. Contact ejgraham@brynmawr.edu for more information.