

Individual Home Exam IN5330/IN9330 Spring 2021

Write an essay in response to **all of the three** discussion points in the assignment below. Please assume that the reader is familiar with the course curriculum. Refer to concepts and models from lecture slides and the course literature as you see fit. The exam submission should contain **no more than 3000 words** excluding title page, table of contents and references.

Assignment

Health information is often fragmented across different health programs, organizations, disciplines, sectors, and geography. Read the article "[Beyond Ebola: a new agenda for resilient health systems](#)" from 2015. The authors argue that we can learn from the Ebola outbreak in West Africa to prepare for the future. A key argument presented in the article is that the health sector and the delivery of health services is too *fragmented*.

- 1) What are the disadvantages of fragmented health information systems and what are some of the challenges of integrating them?
- 2) What role can information technology (IT) play in mitigating the fragmentation challenges described in the article?
- 3) Similar to Ebola, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is a global public health threat. Discuss the learning potential from the article in monitoring and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Feel free to provide examples of how countries have developed responsive health information systems in different ways.

You can refer to news articles from reliable media outlets, research papers or official reports and web pages to support your argument/discussion.