**Worst Epidemics in World History**

* + [The Black Death](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027547,00.html)
  + [The Plague of Justinian](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027546,00.html)
  + [The 1918-19 Influenza Pandemic](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027496,00.html)
  + [The Third Plague Pandemic](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027498,00.html)
  + [The 1916 Polio Epidemic](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027527,00.html)
  + [The First Cholera Pandemic](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027497,00.html)
  + [The Plague of Athens](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027505,00.html)
  + [India's Smallpox Epidemic](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027524,00.html)
  + [Memphis Yellow Fever](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027509,00.html)
  + [SARS](http://content.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/0,28804,2027479_2027486_2027519,00.html)

Who: Who started it? Who was affected by it?

What: What is/was it? What are its symptoms?

When: When did it occur?

Where: Where did it occur? How did it spread?

Why: Why is it important to study?