



Graduate Course Syllabus

IHP 515: Population-Based Epidemiology

Center: Online

Credits: 3

Course Prerequisites

None

Course Description

This course focuses on research designs and methods to describe measures of disease occurrence and risk factor associations utilizing quantitative information to ascertain whether relationships exist between risk or protective factors and diseases in population. When looking at potential causal associations, it explores the role of chance, bias, and confounding and effect modification and how this may influence the design and interpretation of epidemiologic studies.

Course Outcomes

- Evaluate key sources of epidemiological data for their suitability in informing solutions to public health problems
- Analyze public health problems employing fundamental epidemiological definitions and terminology for informing solutions to public health problems
- Execute fundamental epidemiological computations with precision and accuracy in producing meaningful data for interpretation
- Interpret epidemiologic data using appropriate statistical constructs for revealing the characteristics of public health problems
- Evaluate epidemiologic reports for their strengths and limitations in informing initiatives that protect and promote public health

MPH Foundational Competencies (CEPH)

- Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice (CEPH.01)

MPH Foundational Public Health Knowledge (FKO)

- Explain the role of quantitative and qualitative methods and sciences in describing and assessing a population's health (FKO.03)
- List major causes and trends of morbidity and mortality in the US or other community relevant to the school or program (FKO.04)
- Explain the critical importance of evidence in advancing public health knowledge (FKO.06)

Required Materials

Using your learning resources is critical to your success in this course. Please purchase directly through the [SNHU Online Bookstore](#) rather than any other vendor. Purchasing directly from the bookstore ensures that you will obtain the correct materials and that the IT Service Desk, your advisor, and the instructor can provide you with support if you have problems.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association

American Psychological Association

2020

Seventh Edition

ISBN: 978-1-4338-3216-1

Epidemiology for Public Health Practice

Friis, R. H., & Sellers, T. A.

2021

Sixth Edition

Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning.

ISBN: 978-1-284-17543-1

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

As indicated in our core values, SNHU is committed to “embrace diversity where we encourage and respect diverse identities, ideas, and perspectives by honoring difference, amplifying belonging, engaging civilly, and breaking down barriers to bring our mission to life.”

This may or will be reflected in SNHU’s curriculum as we embrace and practice diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) to provide the most transformative experience for our students, faculty, and staff. Because topics pertaining to DEI can be sensitive, please remember that embodying and practicing diversity, equity, and inclusion is one of our core values that you will encounter throughout the academic experience. In higher education, we are expected to think and engage critically. Use a growth mindset to embrace the diverse readings, course assignments, and experiences of your peers and faculty.

For more information about DEI at SNHU, please visit our website at the [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#).

Instructor Availability and Response Time

Your class interaction with the instructor and your classmates will take place on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be actively engaged within the course throughout the week. You will normally communicate with your instructor in the weekly discussions or the General Questions discussion topic so that your questions and the instructor’s answers benefit the entire class. You should feel free, however, to communicate with your instructor via SNHU email at any time, particularly when you want to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature. Your instructor will generally provide a response within 24 hours. Instructors will post grades and feedback (as applicable) within seven days of an assignment’s due date, or within seven days of a late submission.

Grade Distribution

Assignment Category	Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Discussions	9	25	225
Textbook Questions	5	55	275
Quizzes	4	50	200
Final Exam	1	300	300
			Total Course Points: 1,000

This course may also contain practice activities. The purpose of these non-graded activities is to assist you in mastering the learning outcomes in the graded activity items listed above.

University Grading System: Graduate

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
A	93–100	4.00
A-	90–92	3.67
B+	87–89	3.33
B	83–86	3.00
B-	80–82	2.67
C+	77–79	2.33
C	73–76	2.00
F	0–72	0.00
I	Incomplete	
IF	Incomplete/Failure *	
W	Withdrawn	

* Please refer to the [policy page](#) for information on the incomplete grade process.

Grading Guides

Specific activity directions, grading guides, posting requirements, and additional deadlines can be found in the Assignments and Rubrics section of the course.

Weekly Assignment Schedule

All reading and assignment information can be found within each module of the course. Assignments and discussion posts during the first week of each term are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. Assignments and discussion posts for the remainder of the term are due by 11:59 p.m. of the student's local time zone.

In addition to the textbook readings that are listed, there may be additional required resources within each module.

Module	Topics and Assignments
1	<p>What Is Epidemiology?</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 1</p> <p>1-1 Group Discussion: Module One Study Group</p> <p>1-2 Textbook Questions: Chapter 1</p> <p>1-3 Discussion: Epidemiology and Other Disciplines</p>
2	<p>Applying Epidemiology</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 2</p> <p>2-1 Group Discussion: Module Two Study Group</p> <p>2-2 Discussion: Prevention Strategies in Epidemiology</p> <p>2-3 Quiz: Module Two</p>
3	<p>Quantifying Epidemiology</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 3</p> <p>3-1 Group Discussion: Module Three Study Group</p> <p>3-2 Textbook Questions: Chapter 3</p> <p>3-3 Discussion: Incidence and Prevalence</p>
4	<p>Describing Epidemiology</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 4</p> <p>4-1 Group Discussion: Module Four Study Group</p> <p>4-2 Discussion: Person, Place, and Time Descriptive Analysis</p> <p>4-3 Quiz: Module Four</p>
5	<p>Epidemiology Data Sources</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 5</p> <p>5-1 Group Discussion: Module Five Study Group</p> <p>5-2 Textbook Questions: Chapter 5</p> <p>5-3 Discussion: Linking Public Health Data</p>
6	<p>Study Designs</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 6</p> <p>6-1 Group Discussion: Module Six Study Group</p> <p>6-2 Discussion: Ebola in the United States</p> <p>6-3 Quiz: Module Six</p>
7	<p>Cohort Studies in Epidemiology</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 7</p> <p>7-1 Group Discussion: Module Seven Study Group</p> <p>7-2 Textbook Questions: Chapter 7</p> <p>7-3 Discussion: Toy Factory Cohort Study</p>
8	<p>Experimental Studies in Epidemiology</p> <p><i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i>, Chapter 8</p> <p>8-1 Group Discussion: Module Eight Study Group</p> <p>8-2 Discussion: The Tuskegee Study</p> <p>8-3 Quiz: Module Eight</p> <p>8-4 Review: Final Exam Study Guide</p>

Module	Topics and Assignments
9	Analyzing Epidemiology <i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i> , Chapter 9 9-1 Group Discussion: Module Nine Study Group 9-2 Textbook Questions: Chapter 9 9-3 Discussion: Models of Causation
10	Interpreting Data in Epidemiology <i>Epidemiology for Public Health Practice</i> , Chapter 10 10-1 Group Discussion: Module Ten Study Group 10-2 Final Exam

Attendance Policy

Online students are required to submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class. If a student does not submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class, the student is automatically dropped from the course for non-participation. Review the [full attendance policy](#).

Late Assignments Policy

Meeting assigned due dates is critical for demonstrating progress and ensuring appropriate time for instructor feedback on assignments. Students are expected to submit their assignments on or before the due date. Review the [full late assignment policy](#).

SNHU Student Handbook

Review the [student handbook](#).

ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is dedicated to providing equal access to individuals with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008.

SNHU prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability and takes action to prevent such discrimination by providing reasonable accommodations to eligible individuals with disabilities. The university has adopted this policy to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints regarding any action prohibited by Section 504, the ADA, or the ADAAA.

For questions about **support services, documentation guidelines, general disability issues, or pregnancy accommodations**, please visit the [Online Accessibility Center](#) (OAC).

As a student, you must complete an interactive intake process, with supporting documentation, in order to be granted accommodations. Once reasonable accommodations are approved by the OAC, you will receive an accommodations letter. You are then responsible for sharing the letter with your instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive.

If you feel you've been subject to discrimination on the basis of disability, by any party, you may file a complaint or grievance. For more information on the ADA/504 Grievance Policy, go to the [Disability and Accessibility Services](#) website.

Academic Honesty Policy

Southern New Hampshire University requires all students to adhere to high standards of integrity in their academic work. Activities such as plagiarism and cheating are not condoned by the university. Review the [full academic honesty policy](#).

Copyright Policy

Southern New Hampshire University abides by the provisions of United States Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). Any person who infringes the copyright law is liable. Review the [full copyright policy](#).

SNHU Withdrawal Policy

Review the [full withdrawal policy](#).

Southern New Hampshire University Policies

More information about SNHU policies can be found on the [policy page](#).