

Syllabus of the teaching unit “A Primer of Epidemiology”

Module 105, 106, 107	A Primer of Epidemiology
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Dates	December 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21 January 29, 30, 31 February 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 March 4, 5, 6, 7
Credits/ECTS	10,5 ECTS
Course format	Readings, lectures, conferences, case studies, labs, homework, group works & field study
Location	EHESP Paris, 20 avenue George Sand, La Plaine Saint-Denis
Description	Lectures, exercises, case studies and group works are proposed. On the occasion of invited conferences, students will be in contact with researchers of high professional experience. A special attention is given to allowing the students to gain experience in field epidemiology, through a real-life survey.
Course learning objectives	Students who successfully complete this course will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand key concepts in epidemiology; • discuss the appropriate design for investigating an epidemiologic question; • read critically an epidemiology research paper;

¹The epidemiology and biostatistics modules are deliberately mixed over time.

Course structure	<p>Most of the time, topics will be studied as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevant chapter from textbook recommended before the lecture - Lectures - Homework - Labs, including STATA sessions <p>This will be completed by invited speakers for seminars, case studies and field study (group work).</p> <p>Detail of the sessions: Please see the schedule.</p>
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Readings	<p>The following textbook is recommended: “Epidemiology” by Leon Gordis. Chapters from this book may be read before the lecture.</p> <p>Articles may be recommended if relevant for a given lecture.</p>
Course requirement	<p>Reading of selected textbook chapters and papers before the sessions Preparation of homework and assignments Involvement in group work Attendance to all sessions (see overall policy below) Participation in class discussions</p>
Grading and assessment	<p>40% final exam (2-hour table individual assignment) 60% for other assignments during the course: quiz (individual), homework (individual), field survey, labs</p> <p>Note also that students may complete a questionnaire that assesses their own and their teammates' contributions to group work for assignments. All team members will receive the same grade except if it is clear that a student has not participated effectively (attended and contributed to meetings; made timely, helpful contributions; been constructive, etc.). In that case, the student's grade will be lowered accordingly.</p>
Course policy	<p>Attendance & punctuality</p> <p>Regular and punctual class attendance is a prerequisite for receiving credit in a course. Students are expected to attend each class when synchronous or in face-to-face. Attendance will be taken at each class. The obligations of attendance and punctuality cover every aspect of the course: - lectures, conferences, group projects, assessments, examinations, as described in EHESP Academic Regulations http://mph.ehesp.fr EHESP Academic Regulation Article. 3). If students are not able to make it to class, they are required to send an email to the instructor and to the MPH program coordinating team explaining their absence prior to the scheduled class date. All supporting documents are provided to the end-of-year panel.</p> <p>Students who miss class are responsible for content. Any student who misses a class has the responsibility for obtaining copies of notes, handouts and assignments. If additional assistance is still necessary, an appointment should be scheduled with the instructor. Class time is not to be used to go over material with students who have missed class.</p> <p>Lateness: Students who are more than 10 minutes late may be denied access to a class. Repeated late arrivals may be counted as absences (See http://mph.ehesp.fr EHESP Academic Regulation Article. 3 Attendance & Punctuality)</p> <p>Maximum absences authorized & penalty otherwise Above 20% of absences will be designated a fail for a given class. The students will be entitled to be reassessed in any failed component(s). If they undertake a reassessment or they retake a module this means that they cannot normally obtain more than the minimum pass mark (i.e. 10 out of 20)</p> <p>Exceptional circumstances Absence from any examination or test, or late submission of assignments due to illness, psychological problems, or exceptional personal reasons must be justified; otherwise, students will be penalized, as above mentioned. Students must directly notify their professor and the MPH academic secretariat before the exam or before the assignment deadline. Before accepting the student's justification, the professor and the MPH academic secretariat have the right to request either a certificate from the attending physician or from a psychologist, or from any other relevant person (See http://mph.ehesp.fr EHESP Academic Regulation Article 4 Examinations).</p> <p>Courtesy: All cell phones/pages MUST be turned off during class time. Students are required to conduct themselves according to professional standards; eating during class time is not permitted during class time, such as course or group work.</p>

Valuing diversity	Diversity enriches learning. It requires an atmosphere of inclusion and tolerance, which oftentimes challenges our own closely-held ideas, as well as our personal comfort zones. The results, however, create a sense of community and promote excellence in the learning environment. This class will follow principles of inclusion, respect, tolerance, and acceptance that support the values of diversity. Diversity includes consideration of: (1) life experiences, including type, variety, uniqueness, duration, personal values, political viewpoints, and intensity; and (2) factors related to “diversity of presence,” including, among others, age, economic circumstances, ethnic identification, family educational attainment, disability, gender, geographic origin, maturity, race, religion, sexual orientation and social position.
Course evaluation	EHESP requests that you complete a course evaluation at the end of the school year. Your responses will be anonymous, with feedback provided in the aggregate. Open-ended comments will be shared with instructors, but not identified with individual students. Your participation in course evaluation is an expectation, since providing constructive feedback is a professional obligation. Feedback is critical, moreover, to improving the quality of our courses, as well as for instructor assessment.