

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
2022
Epidemiology 2200B
Introduction to Epidemiology

Lecture: Tuesday: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Location: North Campus Building NCB-113
(Online, synchronous January)
Tutorial: Thursday 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Location: North Campus Building NCB-113
(Online, synchronous January)

Instructor: Neil Klar
Office Hours: By appointment
E-mail: nklar@uwo.ca

Course Information

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from the Undergraduate Chair to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Syllabus

Date Topics and Readings (Gordis) Tutorials and Assignments

Jan. 11 Introduction to Epidemiology (*Chapter 1*)
Jan. 13 Tutorial 1
Jan. 18 Dynamics of Disease Transmission (*Chapter 2*)
Jan. 20 Tutorial 2 – Assignment 1 Posted
Jan. 25 Occurrence of Disease (*Chapters 3 & 4*)
Jan. 27 Tutorial 3 – Assignment 1 due
Feb. 1 Validity and Reliability of Diagnostic and Screening Tests (*Chapter 5*)
Feb. 3 Tutorial 4 – Assignment 2 posted
Feb. 8 Natural History of Disease (*Chapter 6*)
Feb. 10 Tutorial 5 – Assignment 2 due
Feb. 15 Observational Studies (*Chapter 7*)
Feb. 17. Midterm Exam During Tutorial
CONFERENCE WEEK Feb. 19-27
March 1 Cohort Studies and Comparison to Case-Control Studies (*Chapters 8 & 9*)
March 3 Tutorial 6 – Assignment 3 posted
March 8 Randomized Trials (*Chapters 10 & 11*)
March 10 Tutorial 7 – Assignment 3 due

March 15 Estimating Risk (*Chapters 12 & 13*)

March 17 Tutorial 8 – Assignment 4 posted

March 22 From Association to Causation (*Chapter 14*)

March 24 Tutorial 9 -Assignment 4 due

March 29 Bias, confounding and interaction (*Chapter 15*)

March 31 Tutorial 10 – Assignment 5 posted

April 5 Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (*Chapter 19, pp. 387-389*)

April 7 Tutorial 11 – Assignment 5 due

Notes will be posted on OWL before each lecture.

Assignments may make use of additional readings not listed above.

Course Materials

Celentano DD, Szklo M.

Gordis Epidemiology, 6th Edition,

Philadelphia: Elsevier Saunders 2019.

Methods of Evaluation

Weekly Tutorial One Question Quiz: 10% of course grade

Assignments: 5 in all for a total of 20% of course grade

Mid-term exam* (multiple choice/short answer) 25% of course grade

Final exam* (multiple choice/short answer) 45% of course grade

Must pass final exam to pass the course

Western Academic Policies and Statements

Absence from Course Commitments

[Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences](#)

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, you must seek approval for the absence as soon as possible. Approval can be granted either through a **self-reported absence or via the Academic Counselling unit**. Students have two self-reports to use throughout the academic year; absence from course commitments including tests, quizzes, presentations, labs, and assignments that are worth 30% or less can be self-reported. Self-reported absences cover a student for 48 hours (yesterday + today or today + tomorrow). Your instructor will receive notification of

your consideration; however, you should contact your instructor immediately regarding your absence. Students are expected to submit missed work within 24 hours of the end of the 48-hour period. Please review Western's [Academic Consideration for Student Absences](#) policy for more details.

If you have used both their self-reported absences or will miss more than 48 hours of course requirements, a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) should be signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner and you should contact academic counselling. Academic Counselling will be operating virtually this year and can be contacted at scibmsac@uwo.ca.

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents.

To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

Support Services

As part of a successful student experience at Western, we encourage students to make their health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students, as part of their registration, receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page <http://www.music.uwo.ca/>, and our own McIntosh Gallery <http://www.mcintoshgallery.ca/>.

Registrarial Services: <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

USC Student Support Services: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Academic Support and Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>

Students seeking help regarding mental health concerns are advised to speak to someone they feel comfortable confiding in, such as their faculty supervisor, their program director (Graduate or Undergraduate Chair), or other relevant administrators in their unit. Health and Wellness-related information and services are available at <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Accessible Education Western (AEW)

Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members. More information and access to services is available on the AEW website:

http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

Department & Faculty Offices

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics is located on the third floor of the Western Centre for Public Health & Family Medicine (PHFM) on Western University's Main Campus.

Undergraduate Students requiring academic counselling should contact the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Counselling Office: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>

Technology Requirements

You are responsible for all required course materials and announcements posted to the course's OWL website. Please ensure after the first class that when you log in you are able to access the course site. A copy of the course outline will be available on both OWL and the departmental website.