



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Public Health

2122-4-H4102D030-H4102D115M

Aims

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Contents

After an introduction to fundamental concepts of public health, the course will focus on the use of epidemiology as an analytical method to describe the health of a population and its drivers.

Both descriptive and analytical epidemiology will be reviewed, describing the main measures of frequency and association, and their application in real life.

Detailed program

Introduction

- Basic concepts of public health, with the comparison of medicine and public health perspective.
- Definition of epidemiology.
- Focus on frameworks to describe determinants of health.
- Identification of key concepts of a study.

Descriptive epidemiology

- Definition and aims.
- Definition and computation of prevalence (point and period).
- Definition and computation of incidence (risk and rate).
- Rate standardization and its use to compare different settings.
- The epidemiologic transition.

Analytical epidemiology

- Definition and aims.
- Review of the most common study designs.
- Focus on cohort studies, with definition and computation of relative risk and incidence rate ratio.
- Focus on case-control studies, with definition and computation of the odds ratio.

Easy practical exercises will be included in the lessons, with the aim of solidifying the concepts.

The discussion of a final group assignment, focused on a current public health issue, will conclude the course.

Prerequisites

Teaching form

Lectures in presence or via distance learning. The course will be held in English.

Textbook and teaching resource

- Slides
- Textbook. Introduction to Epidemiology, Ilona Carneiro, Natasha Howard. McGraw-Hill Education, 2011.

Available as an e-book in the UNIMIB online library.

- Other teaching resources that will be made available on the e-learning platform.

Semester

Second semester.

Assessment method

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- Multiple choice questions, with the aim of testing the overall competence acquired on the program.
 - Open questions to test the skills of critical appraisals regarding the key concepts of the program.
 - Exercises to evaluate the acquisition of the basic mathematical concepts of the course.

Optional oral exam, with the discussion of the written exam.

Office hours

By appointment required by e-mail.
