

Unit Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School: Institute of Health and Wellbeing

Unit Title: EPIDEMIOLOGY

Unit ID: HEAPH6002

Credit Points: 15.00

Prerequisite(s): Nil

Co-requisite(s): Nil

Exclusion(s): Nil

ASCED: 061311

Description of the Unit:

This unit will provide the basic concepts of Epidemiology, which is one of the key disciplines of Public Health. Students will be able to understand the association between risk factors and disease outcome through utilizing different epidemiological study designs and analyses. They will also be able to understand the concepts of primary and secondary prevention of diseases, evaluation of outcomes, disease surveillance, outbreak investigations, comparisons of interventions and impact on relevant public health policies. Findings from epidemiological studies can direct individuals and community people to modify risk factors for a disease on one hand, and inform policy makers to adopt policy and practice changes on the other hand. In summary, this unit will prepare the students to understand how to use Epidemiology to respond to public health issues at local and international settings.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

No work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the Unit but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above, has completed all major assessment tasks (including all sub-components where a task has multiple parts) as specified in the Unit Description and is not eligible for any other form of supplementary assessment

Course Level:

Level of Unit in Course	AQF Level of Course					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory					✓	
Intermediate						
Advanced						

Learning Outcomes:
Knowledge:

- K1.** Appraise the epidemiologic approach to disease and intervention
- K2.** Describe a public health problem in terms of time, place and person
- K3.** Comprehend ethical issues underlying epidemiological research

Skills:

- S1.** Identify appropriate epidemiological study design to answer a research question
- S2.** Calculate basic epidemiological measures
- S3.** Critically appraise epidemiological studies

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply principles of epidemiology for identifying causes of diseases
- A2.** Apply epidemiology for evaluation of public health programs and impact on public health policies
- A3.** Evaluate biasness involved in epidemiological studies

Unit Content:

Topics may include:

- Introduction to Epidemiology
- Disease concepts in Epidemiology
- Descriptive studies
- Experimental studies
- Observational studies
- Bias in epidemiological studies
- Sampling, data collection and analyses
- Ethical issues in epidemiology
- Epidemiology for evaluation of health services
- Epidemiology for evaluation of screening programs
- Epidemiology and public health policies

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3	Structured quiz	Online quiz	20-40%
K1, K2, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A3	Critical appraisal of selected epidemiological study	Critical Analysis Essay	40-60%
K1, K2, K3, S1, A1, A3	Concept note on an epidemiological study design	Research concept note	10-30%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

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