ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

UBC's Point Grey Campus is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam people, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title	Course Code Number	Credit Value
Epidemiologic Methods II	SPPH 503	3

PREREQUISITES

SPPH 502 (Introduction to Epidemiology); SPPH 400 (Statistics for Health Research)

CONTACTS

Course Instructor(s)	Contact Details	Office Location	Office Hours
Amee R. Manges, MPH, PhD	604-822-9203 (office at SPPH) 604-707-2743 (office at BCCDC) amee.manges@ubc.ca (email preferred)	SPPH 314A-2206 East Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3	Friday 13:00-14:00 by Zoom or by appointment

OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Janette Lan - lanqingyi27@126.com
Maggie Guo - maggie.guo@ubc.ca

COURSE STRUCTURE

This is a second level (intermediate) epidemiologic methods course. The goal of the course is to reinforce and extend student knowledge in epidemiologic methods and facilitate the practical application and mastery of epidemiologic skills. Topics covered will include study design, causal inference, confounding, effect measure modification, common biases, and elements of data analyses.

Classes will consist of lectures, seminar style discussion (large and small group) and in-class problem-solving; hence in-person attendance will be very important. Students are expected to complete the required textbook and non-textbook readings and pre-class quizzes prior to class and actively participate. TA and instructor office hours are available. The purpose of office hours is to provide additional support for students and to provide more time to work through problems (not from the homework). Portions of some lectures or course content (but not all) may be recorded and posted to the Canvas course website. These recordings are for your use only. Audio or video recordings should not be distributed or posted publicly.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS

Please refer to the Course Canvas website for the most up-to-date schedule and list of topics.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Introduce causal inference in epidemiology
- Apply study design principles to research questions in epidemiology
- Understand, identify and quantitatively evaluate major sources of bias in epidemiologic studies
- Master basic techniques for analyzing epidemiologic data

LEARNING MATERIALS

Szklo M, Nieto FJ. Epidemiology: Beyond the Basics (4th Edition). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett, 2018 is the required text. The textbook can be purchased at the UBC Bookstore, on-line vendors, and an electronic copy is available for download from the UBC library. The complete course schedule, non-textbook required readings and supplementary readings via pdf files or URL link, homework assignments (and solutions), statistical software information, reference materials and other web-based tools or resources are provided on the Canvas course website. Students should consult the course website regularly for announcements.

Statistical computing resources:
http://cran.r-project.org/ (download R)
http://www.rstudio.com/ (download RStudio)

ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING

The methods of learning assessment for SPPH 503 include:

- Four homework assignments (40%)
- In-class exercises (5%)
- Pre-class quizzes (5%)
- Mid-term exam (20%)
- Final exam (30%)

The homework assignments for the course are very important. These assignments allow you to integrate and practice your epidemiology skills. Some homework assignments will require the analysis of data. We recommend you use R, but you can use other statistical programs, although we will not be able to provide support for any other statistical programs. You may work together on the assignments, but each person must submit their own work. The assignments should be submitted to the Canvas website at 5pm on the date they are due. Late assignments are penalized 10% per day and a zero will be assigned if the work is submitted after the solutions become available. If you feel there has been error in marking either an assignment or an exam, please bring your concern to our attention. However, be aware that an entire assignment or exam may be reviewed and points may be awarded OR subtracted from the total.

If a submitted homework assignment, pre-class quiz or in-class exercise will be late or missed, please contact the TAs immediately to arrange for a time to complete the assignment, if possible. Please contact the instructor immediately if an exam will be missed.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions.

Details of the policies and how to access support are available on **the UBC Senate website.**

LEARNING ANALYTICS

In this course, Canvas is used to track student progress, including but not limited to:
- View overall class progress
- Track student progress in order to provide individual feedback
- Review statistics on course content being accessed to support improvements in the course
- Track participation in discussion forums

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

A detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures around violations of academic integrity and honesty may be found in the Academic Calendar. Please ensure that the work you turn in (homework, exams and other assignments) represents your own work.

http://calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,0

RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENTS

UBC and all Members of the UBC Community share responsibility for ensuring and maintaining an environment that is free from Discrimination. UBC regards Discrimination as a serious offence that is subject to a wide range of remedial or disciplinary measures, including dismissal or expulsion from UBC.

https://universitycounsel.ubc.ca/policies/discrimination-policy/

GETTING SUPPORT FOR CONCERNS ABOUT DISCRIMINATION OR CULTURAL SAFETY

SPPH is committed to providing a positive education experience free from discrimination. If you have had an experience in this course where you feel unsafe, have been mistreated or have witnessed mistreatment, please let us know. If you want to raise this beyond the course instructor the School recommends the following. You may contact your academic supervisor, the education manager for your program or the Associate Director-Education. You may also report your concerns to the Faculty of Medicine Office of Respectful Environments, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (REDI) at:

https://mistreatmenthelp.med.ubc.ca/

Both SPPH and the REDI Office have procedures in place for recording and acting on reports of mistreatment in the educational environment.

GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

The use of Chat GPT or other generative AI tools is permitted in this course. If you use generative AI to get ideas and/or partial answers for an assignment and/or to generate any text for a draft or final version of any part of an assignment, you must declare that you have used it. You must also add a couple of sentences describing the extent to which it was used, and you must save any generated text from this tool in case it is requested. A TA or the instructor may ask you to provide the generated text in order to help with grading decisions.

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