

PUBH 6350 SECTION 001

Epidemiologic Methods III: Lab
Fall 2019

COURSE & CONTACT INFORMATION

Credits: 1
Meeting Day(s): Mondays
Meeting Time: 3:50 - 5:45 p.m.
Meeting Place: Mayo A110

Instructor: Pam Schreiner, PhD, Professor
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Office Phone: 612-626-9097
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Office Hours: Mondays, 12 - 1 p.m., A310 Mayo (Collaboratorium)
Office Location: Room 490 WBOB
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the companion course to PubH 6343, Epidemiologic Methods 3. It is a hands-on SAS programming course that will use concepts from PubH 6343 to provide applied understanding of the SAS code presented in class examples. In addition, students will learn how to create a Powerpoint slide presentation appropriate for a scientific presentation at a national meeting.

Acknowledgments

The contents of PubH 6350 were developed with the contributions of Drs. Jim Pankow and Pam Schreiner.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

The course is required for all MPH students in Epidemiology and is designed as a companion course to PubH 6343, taken either concurrently or previously, or its equivalent with permission of the instructor. PubH 6420 (1 credit), Introduction to SAS Programming, or PubH 6325 (1 credit), Data Processing with PC-SAS, are prerequisites. For those wanting a more in-depth SAS programming class, PubH 6470 (3 credits), SAS Procedures and Data Analysis, is an excellent option. Permission of the instructor is needed for substitutions or exemptions.

COURSE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Connect the applied methods taught in PubH 6343 with the actual data using the appropriate study designs and analytic techniques
- Conduct basic SAS programming for epidemiologic methods presented in PubH 6343
- Understand why the specific procedures taught are used and be able to interpret the results in an epidemiologic as well as a statistical context
- Understand how to examine crude data for outliers, data errors and distributional assumptions
- Be able to debug SAS code when programs do not run correctly
- Prepare a scientific presentation with appropriate content for introduction/background, methods, results and discussion

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION AND WORK EXPECTATIONS

PubH 6350 is a 1-credit course. The University expects that for each credit, students will spend a minimum of three hours per week attending class or comparable online activity, reading, studying, completing assignments, etc., over the course of a 15-week term. Thus, this course requires approximately 45 hours of effort spread out over the course of the term in order to earn an average grade.

The class will meet every other week for two hours. Code will be presented in conjunction with the current topics in PubH 6343, homeworks reviewed, and practice time scheduled.

Like other work in the course, all student-to-student communication is covered by the Student Conduct Code (<https://z.umn.edu/studentconduct>).

COURSE TEXT & READINGS

There currently aren't any great SAS textbooks. Online resources such as <http://support.sas.com/> and <http://www.ats.ucla.edu/stat/sas/> are helpful; googling code also works and is often the most current version.

Laptop computers with SAS installed are provided for use in class. Students may wish to purchase and install the student version of PC-SAS on their own laptop. An individual student license through the University of Minnesota information technology site for \$48 for 1 year. Computers with SAS are also available in the School of Public Health SPHere.

COURSE OUTLINE/WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Activities/Assignments
Week 2: 9 Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to SAS datasets and linear regression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW1 assigned: Data cleaning and linear regression
Week 4: 23 Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tabular methods: creating levels, analyzing associations • Introduction to presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW2 assigned: Tabular methods for cross-sectional data • HW1 due
Week 6: 7 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logistic regression: Basics, confounding, independent predictors, and effect modification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW3 assigned: Logistic regression basics • HW2 due
Week 8: 21 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logistic regression: Methods for indicator coding and tests of statistical significance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW4 assigned: Practice with indicator variables in logistic regression • HW3 due • Hand in presentation topic/research question
Week 10: 4 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordinal and polytomous regression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW5 assigned: Multinomial regression • HW4 due
Week 12: 18 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidence density coding: Cox regression and Kaplan-Meier plots • Discussion of draft presentations and concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW6 assigned: Cox regression modeling • HW5 due
Week 14: 2 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data aren't always pretty or clean—how to work with real data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HW7 assigned • HW6 due
Week 15: 9 Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Powerpoint presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last homework due in class

SPH AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES & RESOURCES

The School of Public Health maintains up-to-date information about resources available to students, as well as formal course policies, on our website at www.sph.umn.edu/student-policies/. Students are expected to read and understand all policy information available at this link and are encouraged to make use of the resources available.

The University of Minnesota has official policies, including but not limited to the following:

- Grade definitions
- Scholastic dishonesty
- Makeup work for legitimate absences
- Student conduct code
- Sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking and relationship violence
- Equity, diversity, equal employment opportunity, and affirmative action
- Disability services
- Academic freedom and responsibility

Resources available for students include:

- Confidential mental health services
- Disability accommodations
- Housing and financial instability resources
- Technology help
- Academic support

EVALUATION & GRADING

Letter grades and associated points are awarded in this course as follows below. These will appear in the student's official transcript. See <http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/policies/gradingpolicy.html> for details.

Pass/Fail Grading: An alternative to traditional A-F scale grades is the S/N grading scale. The "S" grade does not carry points but credit will count toward completion of student's degree if permitted by college or program. An "N" is given for student's exercising the S/N grading option but who fail to meet minimum course requirements. Students may change grading options without written permission as specified by the University and without penalty during the initial registration period or during the first two weeks of the semester. The grading option may not be changed after the second week of the term. Epidemiology MPH majors are required to take this course for a letter grade.

The maximum number of points a student can earn is 100. There are seven programming assignments, each worth 10 points. The final presentation is worth 20 points, based on content and appropriate structure. The presentations will be made on the last day of class with PowerPoint, and the slides (and code) turned in as a handout for critique and grading. The remaining 10 points will be for class attendance, with 1 point given for attending each of the seven labs and 3 points for attending the final presentations.

Please refer to the University's Uniform Grading Policy and Grading Rubric Resource at <https://z.umn.edu/gradingpolicy>

Grading Scale

The University uses plus and minus grading on a 4.000 cumulative grade point scale in accordance with the following, and you can expect the grade lines to be drawn as follows:

% In Class	Grade	GPA
92.5 - 100%	A	4.000
90.0 - 92.4%	A-	3.667
87.5 - 89.9%	B+	3.333
82.5 - 87.4%	B	3.000
80.0 - 82.4%	B-	2.667
77.5 - 79.9%	C+	2.333
72.5 - 77.4%	C	2.000
70.0 - 72.4%	C-	1.667
67.5 - 69.9%	D+	1.333
62.5 - 67.4%	D	1.000
< 62%	F	

- A = achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
- B = achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
- C = achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
- D = achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
- F = failure because work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I (Incomplete).
- S = achievement that is satisfactory, which is equivalent to a C- or better
- N = achievement that is not satisfactory and signifies that the work was either 1) completed but at a level that is not worthy of credit, or 2) not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and student that the student would receive an I (Incomplete).

Evaluation/Grading Policy	Evaluation/Grading Policy Description
<p>Scholastic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, Cheating, etc.</p>	<p>You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis (As defined in the Student Conduct Code). For additional information, please see https://z.umn.edu/dishonesty</p> <p>The Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: https://z.umn.edu/integrity.</p> <p>If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class-e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam.</p> <p>Indiana University offers a clear description of plagiarism and an online quiz to check your understanding (http://z.umn.edu/iuplagiarism).</p>
<p>Late Assignments</p>	<p>Please contact instructor as early as possible for accommodations</p>

Course Evaluation

The SPH will collect student course evaluations electronically using a software system called CourseEval: www.sph.umn.edu/courseeval. The system will send email notifications to students when they can access and complete their course evaluations. Students who complete their course evaluations promptly will be able to access their final grades just as soon as the faculty member renders the grade in SPHGrades: www.sph.umn.edu/grades. All students will have access to their final grades through OneStop two weeks after the last day of the semester regardless of whether they completed their course evaluation or not. Student feedback on course content and faculty teaching skills are an important means for improving our work. Please take the time to complete a course evaluation for each of the courses for which you are registered.

Incomplete Contracts

A grade of incomplete "I" shall be assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, due to extraordinary circumstances (e.g., documented illness or hospitalization, death in family, etc.), the student was prevented from completing the work of the course on time. The assignment of an "I" requires that a contract be initiated

and completed by the student before the last official day of class, and signed by both the student and instructor. If an incomplete is deemed appropriate by the instructor, the student in consultation with the instructor, will specify the time and manner in which the student will complete course requirements. Extension for completion of the work will not exceed one year (or earlier if designated by the student's college). For more information and to initiate an incomplete contract, students should go to SPHGrades at: www.sph.umn.edu/grades.

University of Minnesota Uniform Grading and Transcript Policy

A link to the policy can be found at onestop.umn.edu.

Other Course Information and Policies

Grade Option Change (if applicable):

For full-semester courses, students may change their grade option, if applicable, through the second week of the semester. Grade option change deadlines for other terms (i.e. summer and half-semester courses) can be found at onestop.umn.edu.

Course Withdrawal:

Students should refer to the Refund and Drop/Add Deadlines for the particular term at onestop.umn.edu for information and deadlines for withdrawing from a course. As a courtesy, students should notify their instructor and, if applicable, advisor of their intent to withdraw.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course after the noted final deadline for a particular term must contact the School of Public Health Office of Admissions and Student Resources at sph-ssc@umn.edu for further information.

Student Conduct Code:

The University seeks an environment that promotes academic achievement and integrity, that is protective of free inquiry, and that serves the educational mission of the University. Similarly, the University seeks a community that is free from violence, threats, and intimidation; that is respectful of the rights, opportunities, and welfare of students, faculty, staff, and guests of the University; and that does not threaten the physical or mental health or safety of members of the University community.

As a student at the University you are expected adhere to Board of Regents Policy: *Student Conduct Code*. To review the Student Conduct Code, please see:

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf.

Note that the conduct code specifically addresses disruptive classroom conduct, which means "engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor's ability to teach or student learning.

The classroom extends to any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements or related activities."

Use of Personal Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Using personal electronic devices in the classroom setting can hinder instruction and learning, not only for the student using the device but also for other students in the class. To this end, the University establishes the right of each faculty member to determine if and how personal electronic devices are allowed to be used in the classroom. For complete information, please reference:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>.

Scholastic Dishonesty:

You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research

procedures, or data analysis. (Student Conduct Code:

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf) If it is determined that a student has cheated, he or she may be given an "F" or an "N" for the course, and may face additional sanctions from the University. For additional information, please see:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/INSTRUCTORRESP.html>.

The Office for Community Standards has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: <https://communitystandards.umn.edu>. If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor for the course. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class (e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam).

Makeup Work for Legitimate Absences:

Students will not be penalized for absence during the semester due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances. Such circumstances include verified illness, participation in intercollegiate athletic events, subpoenas, jury duty, military service, bereavement, and religious observances. Such circumstances do not include voting in local, state, or national elections. For complete information, please see:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/MAKEUPWORK.html>.

Appropriate Student Use of Class Notes and Course Materials:

Taking notes is a means of recording information but more importantly of personally absorbing and integrating the educational experience. However, broadly disseminating class notes beyond the classroom community or accepting compensation for taking and distributing classroom notes undermines instructor interests in their intellectual work product while not substantially furthering instructor and student interests in effective learning. Such actions violate shared norms and standards of the academic community. For additional information, please see: <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>.

Sexual Harassment:

"Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment in any University activity or program. Such behavior is not acceptable in the University setting. For additional information, please consult Board of Regents Policy:

https://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Sexual_Harassment_Sexual_Assault_Stalking_Relationship_Violence.pdf

Equity, Diversity, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action:

The University will provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. For more information, please consult Board of Regents Policy: http://regents.umn.edu/sites/default/files/policies/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.pdf.

Disability Accommodations:

The University of Minnesota is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center Student Services is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact DRC at 612-626-1333 or drc@umn.edu to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with DRC and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, please contact your instructor as early in the semester as possible to discuss how the accommodations will be applied in the course.

For more information, please see the DRC website, <https://disability.umn.edu/>.

Mental Health and Stress Management:

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance and may reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Student Mental Health Website: <http://www.mentalhealth.umn.edu>.

The Office of Student Affairs at the University of Minnesota:

The Office for Student Affairs provides services, programs, and facilities that advance student success, inspire students to make life-long positive contributions to society, promote an inclusive environment, and enrich the University of Minnesota community.

Units within the Office for Student Affairs include, the Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education, Boynton Health Service, Central Career Initiatives (CCE, CDes, CFANS), Leadership Education and Development – Undergraduate Programs (LEAD-UP), the Office for Fraternity and Sorority Life, the Office for Community Standards, the Office for Student Engagement, the Parent Program, Recreational Sports, Student and Community Relations, the Student Conflict Resolution Center, the Student Parent HELP Center, Student Unions & Activities, University Counseling & Consulting Services, and University Student Legal Service.

For more information, please see the Office of Student Affairs at <http://osa.umn.edu/>.

Academic Freedom and Responsibility: *for courses that do not involve students in research:*

Academic freedom is a cornerstone of the University. Within the scope and content of the course as defined by the instructor, it includes the freedom to discuss relevant matters in the classroom. Along with this freedom comes responsibility. Students are encouraged to develop the capacity for critical judgment and to engage in a sustained and independent search for truth. Students are free to take reasoned exception to the views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.*

Reports of concerns about academic freedom are taken seriously, and there are individuals and offices available for help. Contact the instructor, the Department Chair, your adviser, the associate dean of the college (currently being recruited, SPH Dean of Student Affairs), or the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs in the Office of the Provost.

** Language adapted from the American Association of University Professors "Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students".*

Student Academic Success Services (SASS): <http://www.sass.umn.edu>:

Students who wish to improve their academic performance may find assistance from Student Academic Support Services. While tutoring and advising are not offered, SASS provides resources such as individual consultations, workshops, and self-help materials.

CEPH COMPETENCIES (SPECIFIC TO EPIDEMIOLOGY)

- Using statistical software, examine associations in epidemiologic data with appropriate statistical assumptions and analytic approaches.
- Collect new data or select appropriate and valid sources of data collected by others, including those in public databases, needed to perform descriptive and analytic epidemiologic investigations.