

Welcome to PUBH7600! (BCA students enrolled externally to UQ)

We wish you a very warm welcome to Introduction to Epidemiology! We look forward to working with you this semester. The following information is an overview of the course to get you started and contains vital information about the course, so please read it carefully.

Electronic Course Profile

Every course at UQ has an ECP, and they can be found by entering the relevant course code (e.g. PUBH7600) into the search field at <http://www.uq.edu.au/study/>. Then select the relevant semester and study mode. The ECP can also be accessed via mySI-net or the Blackboard site. The ECP is like the 'legal document' for PUBH7600. It includes information on timetabling, required learning resources, learning activities schedule, assessment due dates, and other vital information. The most recent version is always available online (so it is advisable not to print a copy, as it may change slightly throughout the semester).

Blackboard and LearnX

Blackboard is the gateway to this course for both internal and external students. Blackboard is the web-based e-learning system used by the University of Queensland. We will use Blackboard to give you access to LearnX, information about assignments and voice-over recordings of any in-class sessions. All emails will be sent using Blackboard announcements. You are encouraged to log on to Blackboard on a regular basis to check announcements and updates. You can access Blackboard at: <http://www.elearning.uq.edu.au/>

All learning activities are on the LearnX course site. This includes course content, knowledge checks, tutorial activities and the Discussion Board. You can access LearnX via the Learning Resources tab in Blackboard, or directly via <https://learnx.uq.edu.au/>

Access: BCA students who are external to UQ will be manually added to Blackboard and LearnX. You will receive emails to your BCA nominated email address from UQ IT and LearnX. These emails have links asking you to activate these accounts within a set time period (usually 24 hours). Sometimes these emails can end up in your SPAM or JUNK email so please check those also. If you encounter difficulties please contact our Teaching Support Officer, Alison Manley (a.manley@sph.uq.edu.au), who will arrange for the links to be re-sent.

Course Structure

There are no lectures for PUBH7600. The course is designed to be online and self-paced. We have put a recommended schedule here to help you plan your time. You should work through each module, and do the readings before attempting the knowledge checks and the tutorial activities. We expect you to work through these exercises yourself, which is essential preparation for the assignments. Answers are provided for all of these activities, but it is in your best interest to try to answer the questions first, before revealing the answers!

PUBH7600 - SEMESTER 2 2021 - RECOMMENDED STUDY SCHEDULE:

DATES	WEEKS	MODULE	TOPIC	WORKSHOP @ 2-4 PM	ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES
21/02 - 27/02	1	1	What is Epidemiology?	W1 - Wed 23 February	
28/02 - 06/03	2	2	Measuring Disease Frequency	W2 - Wed 02 March	
07/03 – 20/03	3-4	3	Association	W4 - Wed 16 March	
21/03 – 03/04	5-6	4	Real World Applications	W6 - Wed 30 March	WEEK 6
04/04 – 17/04	7-8	5	Alternative Explanations	W7 - Wed 06 April W8 – Wed 13 April	
18/04 – 24/04	MID-SEMESTER BREAK				
25/04 – 15/05	9-11	6	Integration and Interpretation	W9 - Wed 27 April	WEEK 10
16/05 – 29/05	12-13	7	Recap and Revision	W12 - Wed 18 May	

In addition you will have the opportunity to recap key content, discuss your understanding of key concepts with your peers and instructors, and ask questions, in eight 1.5 hour workshop sessions held on the Herston campus in Brisbane. All students are welcome to attend the workshops. These sessions will also be recorded (access through Blackboard).

We will also hold Zoom drop-in sessions throughout the semester to allow you to ask questions about the assessment and get extra personalised feedback about your marks and progress. The dates and times of these will be emailed in advance.

All questions outside of these workshops and sessions should be posted on the LearnX discussion board. We have set up a discussion for each module and the assignments. Karen Tuesley, your online tutor, will monitor this each working day, so make sure you check to see what questions have already been posted and answered. Make sure you engage with fellow learners and ask good questions!

Course textbook

To be able to successfully complete this course you will need the following textbook (essential course content, readings and exercises are provided in this book):

Webb P, Bain C and Page A. Essential epidemiology: An introduction for students and health professionals, 4th Ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 2020

The 2011 (2nd Edition) version of the textbook is available to most students at online via the library websites of their home universities. For anyone interested in continuing on in epidemiology, this 2020 edition of the textbook is highly recommended. We have provided page references for each edition for each module.

Communication Policy

The [Discussion Board on LearnX](#) should be used for **ALL** communications about course content.

Students sending emails to the course coordinator related to course content will be directed to place their question on the Discussion Board. This is to ensure that all students have equal access to the same information (and to ensure that the course coordinator doesn't get the same question via email 50+ times... it has happened...).

Any other practical issues relating to Blackboard or LearnX access, personal messages not suitable the discussion board etc. should be addressed to the course coordinator, Dr Melinda Protani (m.protani@uq.edu.au). Please always include [PUBH7600], the UQ course code, or [EPI] in your e-mail subject line so we know what course you are contacting us about.

Any information will be sent to the email account you have provided to the BCA. It is your responsibility to check that e-mail address regularly for important messages relating to this course.

Consultations with the course coordinator

Online "office" hours will be arranged during the semester to provide extra support and feedback about assessment. During the semester other consultations with the course coordinator are available (either face-to-face or by phone or Zoom) by appointment only. If you wish to book a consultation appointment, please send Dr Melinda Protani (m.protani@uq.edu.au) an email with suggested times. Please note that a few days' notice will be needed to ensure availability.

Assignment Extensions

You will **not** have access to the online UQ system to request assignment extensions. Please contact the course coordinator directly via email – Dr Melinda Protani (m.protani@uq.edu.au) , with appropriate supporting documentation if an extension is required.