



LUND UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Medicine

SYLLABUS

Diary number

M2007/524

Approved by the Committee for Biomedical,
Medical and Public Health Education
(NBMFU), 2007-03-07

Revised 2011-07-05 according to decision
made by Programme Director M2011/1124

Master's Programme in Public Health

VLÄN01 Epidemiology and Biostatistics

15 credits Level A

General Information

Main Field of Study

Public Health

Subject

Epidemiology

Type of Course and its Place in the Education System

Compulsory course in the Master's Programme in Public Health

Language of Instruction

English

Goals

Knowledge and Understanding

On completion of the course, the student must be able to:

- account for basic concepts, study designs, and methods of analysis within the field of biostatistics and epidemiology
- explain and account for determining health factors at the individual, group and community levels by using basic concepts from within the field of epidemiology
- account for the philosophical and theoretical basis of the subjects of epidemiology and biostatistics

Skills and Abilities

On completion of the course, the student must be able to:

- independently identify and use different solutions to problems related to study design and mensuration, random errors, systematic errors and interaction
- utilise basic statistical methods in connection with the investigation of health risks, protection factors, illnesses and mortality in a population
- independently identify and use information systems, reports and research material in order to accomplish tasks that require certain competence within the subject area



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Judgement and Approach

On completion of the course, the student must be able to:

- independently draw inferences concerning ethical problems as well as examine and criticise epidemiological research from the point of ethical principles and guidelines
- examine critically and discuss methodologically current research within the subject area

Course Content

The course should provide an introduction to the subjects of epidemiology and biostatistics with an emphasis on epidemiology. The ability to apply epidemiological methods will be particularly stressed.

The course begins with an overview of basic epidemiological and statistical concepts. The course then follows the research process from problem statement via operationalisation and data acquisition to analysis and interpretation. Both ethical problems within the field of epidemiology as well as critical and self-critical examinations of epidemiological studies will be emphasised. Epidemiological problems in studies in low- and middle-income countries will also be reflected in both the tuition and the application exercises.

Teaching and Examination

1. The tuition consists of lectures, seminars and group work. Completing a group project is part of the course.
2. The examination consists of a written and oral presentation of a group project, as well as an individual written exam.

Examination credits:

Individual written exam, 12 credits

Group project, 3 credits



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Marks

1. Pass and Fail are the marks used.
2. The final mark for the course is based on the written examination and the result of the group project.

Access Requirements

A Bachelor's degree (180 credits) or equivalent and proficiency in English equivalent to English B.

Literature List

Available as a separate appendix.