



Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Public Health Science

Syllabus

Epidemiology and public health work

Course Code:	FHGEF1
Course Title:	Epidemiology and public health work <i>Epidemiologi och folkhälsoarbete</i>
Credits:	15
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

Major Field of Study:
FHA (Public Health Sciences)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2023-01-31, and is valid from the Spring semester 2024 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Public Health Science, 22.5 ECTS credits, including Scientific Method, 7.5 ECTS credits, or equivalent

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- describe how health and illness can be measured and assessed through different epidemiological studies and statistical concepts and calculations, and
- give an account of how epidemiology can be applied in public health work.

Competence and skills

- suggest and argue for suitable study types in relation to different research questions in

epidemiology and public health work,

- use statistical and epidemiological concepts to analyse and interpret both quantitative and qualitative health-related data,
- reflect upon how epidemiological data can be related to public health policy and the UN sustainability objectives, and
- suggest health-promoting and preventive public health efforts based on epidemiological data.

Judgement and approach

- examine and assess scientific studies and interpret health messages based on epidemiological data,
- reflect upon ethics, equality, and gender equality in relation to public health work, and
- analyse and critically assess the research process, their own standpoints, and those of others.

Content

The course treats the area of epidemiology and statistics in public health work, including the most common epidemiological studies (such as cross-section, cohort, case, and control studies), the research questions addressed in different study types, and their application when analysing health-related data. The course covers how to interpret epidemiological data and how to suggest health-promoting and preventive measures based on the results, in relation to both local and international guidelines. Epidemiological and statistical concepts are used to analyse and interpret results based on data when using statistical software (such as SPSS).

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on individual written assignments, group assignments, and seminars.

If students have a decision from Karlstad University entitling them to Targeted Study Support due to a documented disability, the examiner has the right to give such students an adapted examination or to examine them in a different manner.

Grades

One of the grades Distinction (VG), Pass (G), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.