

Semester: II

Elective Course

2. Course Code & Title: MPC 50 04 & Minor Research Project

Credits: 3

Course Description:

This course enables the MPH students to hone research skills through conducting a minor research project. Specifically, it also aims to contribute to understanding of secondary data analysis, using secondary data sources and methodologies to conduct public health research. This course is relevant to post graduate students of public health and allied disciplines. To enroll into the course the students are expected to have a basic understanding of research methods.

Objectives:

- 1) To acquaint the students with the theory and practice of carrying out research project
- 2) To orient the students to various types of research (Primary data based, Secondary data based, Published literature based) and how to conduct them.
- 3) To enable the students to develop a research proposal and conduct analysis based on a secondary data.
- 4) To orient the students about research report writing and publishing.

Skills developed:

On successful completion of course the student will be skilled in Secondary data analysis, systematic reviews, content analysis.

Sl.No	Module	Topic	Readings
1	Introduction	Overview of Research, Difference between Project and Programme, Types of Research	Bell (2014);
		Research Based on Primary Data	Hox and Boieji (2005); Bell (2014)
		Research Based on Secondary Data - Secondary Analysis of Quantitative data	

			Bibb (2007); Miharshai et al (2010);
		- Secondary Analysis of Qualitative data (Thematic Analysis and Content Analysis)	Heaton (1998), available at http://sru.soc.surrey.ac.uk/SRU22.html . Hinds, Vogals and Steffen (1997); Irwin (2013); Haeton (2008)
		Research Based on Published Literature - Reviews a) Narrative Reviews b) Systematic Reviews c) Meta Analysis	Wolf (2015); Julious (2013); Castro and Zarate (2014)
		Critical Appraisal of Scientific Literature	Docherty (1999); Loney et al (1998); du Prel et al (2009)
2	Developing research proposal	Developing a Research Proposal for a) Quantitative Studies (Descriptive, Analytical and Experimental Studies) b) Qualitative Studies c) mixed methods and multi-methods approaches d) systematic reviews	Bell (2014); Bryman (2016)
3	Report writing and	a) Writing Public Health Research i) Writing an Abstract (structured and unstructured) ii) General considerations for report writing in public health (structure, language, tense etc.,)	Halsted (undated)

	iii) Reporting the tables, figures and statistical results	http://abacus.bates.edu/~ganderso/biology/resources/writing/HTWtoc.html
	b) Reporting methods used in public health research (CONSORT; SRQR; COREQ; STROBE; PRISMA; MOOSE)	Stroup, Smith and Truman (2017)
	c) Writing a research article	Perneger and Hudelson (2004); Lang (2017); http://abacus.bates.edu/~ganderso/biology/resources/writing/HTWgeneral.html
	d) Recognizing and avoiding plagiarism (Academic Honesty; Types of plagiarism; documentation, citation and reference; documenting sources to avoid plagiarism).	http://abacus.bates.edu/cbb/quiz/intro/integrity.html http://plagiarism.arts.cornell.edu/tutorial/index.cfm

Essential Readings:

Bell, J. (2014). *Doing Your Research Project: A guide for first-time researchers*. McGraw-Hill Education (UK).

Bibb, S. C. G. (2007). Issues associated with secondary analysis of population health data. *Applied Nursing Research*, 20(2), 94-99.

Bryman, A. (2016). *Social research methods*. Oxford university press.

Docherty, M., & Smith, R. (1999). The case for structuring the discussion of scientific papers: Much the same as that for structuring abstracts.

du Prel, J. B., Röhrig, B., & Blettner, M. (2009). Critical appraisal of scientific articles: part 1 of a series on evaluation of scientific publications. *Deutsches Arzteblatt International*, 106(7), 100.

González-Castro, T. B., & Tovilla-Zárate, C. A. (2014). Meta-analysis: a tool for clinical and experimental research in psychiatry. *Nordic journal of psychiatry*, 68(4), 243-250.

Halsted (undated). Argument, Structure, and Credibility in Public Health Writing. Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health. Available at <https://cdn1.sph.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2096/2017/02/Argument-Structure-and-Credibility-in-Public-Health-Writing.pdf>

Heaton, J. (2008). Secondary analysis of qualitative data: An overview. *Historical Social Research/Historische Sozialforschung*, 33-45.

Hinds, P. S., Vogel, R. J., & Clarke-Steffen, L. (1997). The possibilities and pitfalls of doing a secondary analysis of a qualitative data set. *Qualitative health research*, 7(3), 408-424.

Hox, J. J., & Boeije, H. R. (2005). Data collection, primary versus secondary.

Irwin, S. (2013). Qualitative secondary data analysis: Ethics, epistemology and context. *Progress in Development Studies*, 13(4), 295-306.

Julious (2013). Meta Analysis in Clinical Research. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*. 22(2) 115-116.

Lang, T. A. (2017). Writing a better research article. *Journal of Public Health and Emergency*, 1(12).

Loney, P. L., Chambers, L. W., Bennett, K. J., Roberts, J. G., & Stratford, P. W. (1998). Critical appraisal of the health research literature: prevalence or incidence of a health problem. *Chronic Dis Can*, 19(4), 170-6.

Mihrshahi, S., Kabir, I., Roy, S. K., Agho, K. E., Senarath, U., Dibley, M. J., & South Asia Infant Feeding Research Network (SAIFRN)*. (2010). Determinants of infant and young child feeding practices in Bangladesh: secondary data analysis of Demographic and Health Survey 2004. *Food and nutrition bulletin*, 31(2), 295-313.

Perneger, T. V., & Hudelson, P. M. (2004). Writing a research article: advice to beginners. *International journal for quality in health care*, 16(3), 191-192.

Stroup, D. F., Smith, C. K., & Truman, B. I. (2017). Reporting the methods used in public health research and practice. *Journal of public health and emergency*, 1.

Wolf, L. A. (2015). Clinical Research: The Importance of Meta-Analysis and Systematic Reviews in Determining Appropriate Practice Changes. *Journal of Emergency Nursing*, 41(4), 360-361.

Ziebland, S., & Hunt, K. (2014). Using secondary analysis of qualitative data of patient experiences of health care to inform health services research and policy. *Journal of health services research & policy*, 19(3), 177-182.