

University of Adelaide, Discipline of Public Health

## **On-line Course in Environmental and Occupational Health for Military Health Personnel**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This is an introductory course in environmental and occupational health at Masters level. The course is usually run in the first Semester of every year. There are four primary aims within this course:

1. To introduce a range of environmental factors, which may pose a risk to the health of human populations.
2. To introduce risk assessment and management methods for evaluating and controlling such risks.
3. To discuss a variety of diseases associated with exposure to common occupational and environmental factors.
4. To briefly introduce the historical, legislative and administrative aspects of occupational health.

There are no formal academic prerequisites, but students may benefit from having a basic understanding of toxicology, epidemiology and basic scientific terms and concepts. Students will be expected to have access to the Internet and a computer with a CD drive and a sound card.

### **OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Describe the nature of environmental health hazards and the ways in which they impinge upon communities and occupational groups.
- Outline the types of factors that influence the distribution of health disorders, within an exposed population.
- Explain “RISK” as a central concept in describing, evaluating and managing OEH problems.
- Describe the role of key research disciplines (including epidemiology, toxicology, environmental measurement and occupational hygiene) in addressing the study and management of these problems.

### **MODE OF DELIVERY**

This course will be delivered online using the University of Adelaide web portal ‘MyUni’ – [www.myuni.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.myuni.adelaide.edu.au).

In addition to standard content on web pages, there are a number of discussion boards relating to selected topics.

## TOPIC MODULES

The course is split into two parts – Occupational Health and Environmental Health. In total, the course comprises 7 modules, 4 for Occupational Health and 3 for Environmental Health.

### *Occupational Health and Safety*

Module 1: OHS Management/Legislation/Disease Causation

Module 2: Chemical Hazards

Module 3: Physical Hazards

Module 4: Special Topics

### *Environmental Health*

Module 5: Introduction to Environmental Health Risk Assessment (EHRA)

Module 6: Core Environmental Health Issues

Module 7: Special Topics

## SUPPLEMENTARY CONTENT \*

Basic Science Concepts

Toxicology

Epidemiology

\* This content provides background information but is not an assessable component of the course. Supplementary content can be downloaded from the website.

## TUTORIALS

There are 4 online tutorials (2 for each part). Students provide a response to the tutorial questions on the MyUni discussion board and then comment on the contributions of other participants.

## ASSIGNMENTS

There are two major assignments, one for Occupational Health and one for Environmental Health. Assignments relate to a topic of the student's choice, but must use the Occupational Health Hazard management paradigm in addressing the first topic and the Environmental Health Risk Assessment paradigm in addressing the second topic.

## ASSESSMENT

Assessment of this course will be based on assignments and tutorials as follows:

### *Occupational Health*

Tutorial 1	10%
Tutorial 2	10%
Assignment 1	30%

### *Environmental Health*

Tutorial 3	10%
Tutorial 4	10%
Assignment 2	30%

### **Assumed Prior Knowledge and English Language Proficiency**

There are no formal academic prerequisites. However, participants would benefit from some background reading in toxicology and epidemiology.

For international students, the required minimum English language proficiency corresponds to an overall IELTS score of 6.5, and a minimum of 6.0 in each category.

### **Course Cost**

To be advised.

**Contacts:** For more information please contact Adelaide Liaison on 08 8303 6971 or at [michel.devine@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:michel.devine@adelaide.edu.au), or the Postgraduate Secretary, Discipline of Public Health, University of Adelaide. Phone: (08) 8303 4637 or fax (08) 8303 6885. Email: [publichealth@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:publichealth@adelaide.edu.au)

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