



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Course title: NUTR7002 Evidence in Public Health Nutrition

Course coordinator: Assoc Professor Geoff Marks

Mode: Internal and External flexible delivery

Course introduction:

The course identifies and examines the distinctive methods used in public health nutrition to gather and evaluate evidence. Students completing this course will gain an understanding of the field of public health nutrition and develop practical skills and expertise related to analysing food and nutrition problems in a community and taking action to address them.

The first half of the course focuses on the major methods of nutritional assessment (including dietary, anthropometric & biochemical). The second half considers common and recommended approaches for surveys, program monitoring and evaluation, and critical appraisal. This provides a basis for considering the evidence in support of nutrition programs, policy and research, and gives guidance on best practice in the field.

This course is one of the plan defining courses for the MPH (Nutrition).

Course aims:

After successfully completing the course, students will be able to:

- Appropriately select, apply and interpret the main methods of nutritional assessment (including dietary, anthropometric & biochemical),
- identify and explain the significance of methodological issues in using nutritional measures in both developing and developed countries
- critically analyse, compare and interpret nutritional data from surveys, reports and other sources
- evaluate common and recommended methods used in nutrition surveys, surveillance, evaluation and research
- evaluate reviews summarizing evidence from the literature on the efficacy or effectiveness of nutrition interventions
- competently use Blackboard as a communication tool to interact with colleagues, course facilitator, web-based resources and assessment activities

Course content:

Specific topics include:

- Issues in choosing nutritional assessment methods
- Dietary assessment
- Anthropometric assessment
- Biochemical assessment
- Other nutritional assessment agendas
- Common and recommended methods used in nutrition surveys, surveillance, evaluation and research – evaluation of a selection of case studies
- Critical appraisal as applied to evidence for efficacy or effectiveness of nutrition interventions – evaluation of a selection of case studies

Method of assessment:

Two brief written assignments, discussions and a project.

Recommended text:

Margetts BM and Nelson M. (1997) *Design Concepts in Nutritional Epidemiology*, 2nd Ed. Oxford University Press

Gibson, R. S. (2005) *Principles of Nutritional Assessment*, 2nd edition, Oxford University Press, New York

Required resources:

Study guide: This contains the week-by-week learning materials for each module. These include clear learning objectives, the required reading, introduction, a brief synopsis and key definitions, case studies, and then a series of practical exercises.

Online Blackboard site: This provides an interactive environment for you and teachers. Reliable and regular access to the Internet is required.

Further details are provided in the [Course Profile](http://www.uq.edu.au/study/course.html?course_code=NUTR7002):
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