



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Course title: PUBH7610 Applied Research and Practice

Course coordinator: Dr Chris Bain

Mode: Internal and External

Course Introduction:

This intermediate level course emphasises practical application of knowledge and skills acquired in basic epidemiology, social science and biostatistics at the levels of the core courses of [PUBH7600 Introduction to Epidemiology](#), [PUBH7620 Social Perspectives in Health](#), and [PUBH7630 Introduction to Biostatistics](#). The course particularly focuses on utilising core skills to critically review evidence of various sorts, and to link the theoretical challenges posed by bias to the practicalities of study design.

Course Aims:

The course imparts a higher 'comfort level' when confronting, planning or commissioning public health research of all types. You will have extended your grasp of core concepts relevant to sound research design and execution, and embedded these in a more practical framework of evaluation that is widely applicable.

Course Content:

This course is delivered internally via interactive lectures, tutorials and web-based exercises. External students have access to all materials, and will interact with each other and their own tutor individually and via Internet options. Theme blocks include:

- Doing and judging research (overview)
- Asking smart health questions
- Has someone else got the answer? Targeted literature searching
- Architecture of the literature review: doing and using
- Quantitative or qualitative enquiry? No problem- public health needs both
- Current challenges (practical and ethical) for studies designed to answer public health questions
- Do these findings apply to my population?

Method of Assessment:

There will be three assessments in this course: a brief systematic literature review; your project proposal; and the workbook.

Recommended Text:

Abramson JH, Abramson ZH. *Survey Methods in Community Medicine*. 5th Ed. London: Churchill Livingstone, 1999.

Resources:

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

An online Blackboard site provides an interactive environment for students and teachers. Reliable and regular access to the Internet is essential.

Further details are provided in the [Course Profile](#)
http://www.uq.edu.au/study/course.html?course_code=PUBH7610