UCL Université catholique de Louvain

WFSP2202

2015-2016

Health interview survey

5.0 credits	20.0 h	2q

Teacher(s) :	Tafforeau Jean (coordinator) ; Lorant Vincent (coordinator) ; Demarest Stefaan ; Gisle Lydia ; Van Der Heyden Johan ; Charafeddine Rana ;
Language :	Français
Place of the course	Bruxelles Woluwe
Prerequisites :	The course is limited to students having a good level of English. Introductory courses in epidemiology and biostatics are required *The prerequisite(s) for this Teaching Unit (Unité d'enseignement – UE) for the programmes/courses that offer this Teaching Unit are specified at the end of this sheet.*
Main themes :	Evidence-based decision making in health policy requires to have health data readily available and monitored over time. One way to achieve this goal and obtain valid health-related information is to conduct health surveys. Such surveys also offer an important source of data for epidemiologic research as they allow estimating, amongst other, the prevalence of disorders in a specific population, the use of and access to health care services, the distribution of risky health behaviours across various population groups, or the observance of preventive behaviours. This course is intended to introduce students to the principles of survey methodology and practical aspects of survey design and implementation in the context of health research. It will allow students to conceive and design a survey to gather health-related information that meets a specific research question. This course is instrumental for all students planning to gather their own data/ or use survey data in the context of their master or PhD thesis.
Aims :	By the end of this course, the student will have learned how to develop a complete survey protocol to answer a specific research question. More specifically, he/she will understand how to: § formulate a research question and develop testable hypotheses that can be studied using survey methods. § define a sampling frame and determine an appropriate sample method and sample size for a survey § define and operationalize constructs and variables for survey research. § select and evaluate scales and develop basic questions used in health-related surveys. § develop and test a reliable and valid survey questionnaire. § select and apply the mode of data-collection that best fits for a particular survey research. § understand the advantages and disadvantages of new methods of data collection and develop a short web-based questionnaire. § prepare the survey data for analysis (e.g. creating a data dictionary, checking for errors, data entry, data cleaning, etc.). § communicate the results of the survey to different audiences. *The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".*
Evaluation methods :	The students will be evaluated based on the development of a health survey protocol (50% of the final grade) and a written exam (50% of the final grade). The student can choose to do the protocol and the exam either in English or in French. The topic of the survey protocol will be chosen by the student. This topic must be approved by the tutors before the start of the exercise. For this, each student must provide a brief description of (1) the aim of the survey; (2) the target population; (3) the content of the survey. More details on this exercise will be added to iCampus website later on. The survey must address the aspects discussed during this course (conceptual definitions, sampling issues, development of instruments and questionnaire, outline of fieldwork procedures, '). The protocols are assessed in terms of completeness, originality and feasibility (i.e. in budgetary terms and fieldwork organisation terms). For this protocol, the students can (but are not obliged to) work in groups.
Content :	This course is organized in 7 sessions. Every session starts with a theoretical and practical introduction of the relevant topics, followed by an interactive discussion and applied exercises with students. An active involvement of all students is thus necessary. The sessions are as follows: -- Survey protocol -- Instruments and validation -- Development of questionnaires -- Survey sampling --

	Data collection -- Web based surveys -- Data management/Communication of survey results
Bibliography :	Hand outs of the lectures provided by the tutors, as well as papers and references mentioned in the hand outs. Also, the book of L. Aday and L. Cornelius is an important (optional) reference textbook: Aday LA, Cornelius LJ. Designing and conducting health surveys: a comprehensive guide. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2006
Other infos :	The professors (Lydia Gisle , Stefaan Demarest, Rana Charafeddine, Jean Tafforeau and Johan Van der Heyden) are senior researchers and high-level professionals working at the Scientific Institute of Public Health. Their team is responsible since 1997 for carrying out the Belgian Health Interview Survey. They thus have both practical skills and extensive expertise in this field. They have published several papers related to the topic.
Faculty or entity in charge:	FSP

Programmes / formations proposant cette unité d'enseignement (UE)				
Intitulé du programme	Sigle	Credits	Prerequis	Acquis d'apprentissage
Master [120] in Public Health	ESP2M	5	WFSP2100	🔍