

College of Public Health & Health Professions  
Course Syllabus  
**PHC7925: Biostatistics Journal Club**  
Fall 2024  
Time: Tuesday, Period 9 (4:05 – 4:55)  
Location: HPNP G-307  
Course Website: UF e-Learning site - Canvas

**Instructor Information**

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**Course Overview**

This class will meet regularly to present, review and discuss current topics in biostatistics. Students will have the opportunity to present material related to their own thesis research or research of their interest. In addition, students will attend seminars in biostatistics and related areas and summarize/critique the seminar presentations.

**Prerequisites**

This course is intended for biostatistics Ph.D. students, although biostatistics MS students are also welcomed.

**Course Objectives**

Biostatisticians are important members of a research team and help formulate research questions, determine appropriate analysis methods, summarize results, and discuss implications. To accomplish this, effective communication with other researchers, who might have a variety of backgrounds, is required. Upon successful completion of this course, students should:

- be accustomed to presenting summaries of current research;
- critically review seminar presentations in biostatistics and related fields;
- be able to discuss broad issues in biostatistics.

## **Course Materials**

Articles and discussion material will be selected by students.

## **Course Requirements/Evaluation/Grading**

This course will be graded as satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U). Students are responsible for all course material. Participation in class discussion is required to achieve a satisfactory grade. Failure to complete assignments and/or poor class attendance will result in an unsatisfactory grade. **Please notify me if you will not be able to attend a class.**

## **Course Structure**

Each student will be responsible for at least one class day. S/he will present material related to her/his research interests. Presentation should be approximately 40-45 minutes in length. Presenting students may also select articles that classmates should read in advance. For each presentation, a department faculty member will be present to moderate the discussions and provide comments and suggestions.

In addition, students will attend biostatistics seminars, and hand in a brief summary or critique of at least one seminar.

## **Recording Within the Course**

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media

platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### **Statement of University's Honesty Policy (cheating, plagiarism, etc.)**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor of this class.

### **Policy Related to Class Attendance and Late or Missed Assignments:**

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc> ) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

### **Counseling and Student Health**

Students may occasionally have personal issues that arise in the course of pursuing higher education or that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing problems affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with the instructor and to seek confidential assistance at the Counseling and Wellness Center. For more information, contact the center at 392-1575 or visit their web site at <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>

### **Class Demeanor Expected by the Professor (late to class, cell phones)**

Students are expected to show up for class prepared and on time. Cell phones are to be silenced during class unless there is an emergency, in which case please inform the instructor.

## **Inclusive Learning Environment**

Public health and health professions are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act." If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: [www.multicultural.ufl.edu](http://www.multicultural.ufl.edu)

## **Diversity Statement**

The classroom is considered to be a place where you will be treated with respect. This course welcomes individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religious affiliations, sexual orientations, ability – and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment for every other member of the class.

## **Online Course Evaluation Process**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.