

Title:	<b>Epidemiology Project 1: Thesis and Presentations</b>
Module/Unit Coordinator(s):	Dr Toby Landeryou

### Module/Unit Summary

Module/Unit Aims:
<p>This module aims to provide students with the opportunity to undertake an original piece of independent research work, by applying and further enhancing their skills and knowledge acquired from other parts of the course. Understanding of key epidemiological concepts will be deepened as students will be immersed into research tackling real world problems. The module aims to develop skills through first experiences of practical aspects of research, adherence to and modification where appropriate of relevant research protocols, the management and analyses of data, and the correct and appropriate presentation of research findings, as well as effective communication of such findings. Students will be required to write a traditional thesis based on their research and will defend their research through viva, further developing oral and written skills.</p>
Module/Unit Intended Learning Outcomes:
<p>On successful completion of this module/unit, learners will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Design, manage and deliver an independent and original research project</li> <li>2) Formulate and investigate appropriate hypotheses related to epidemiological studies</li> <li>3) Gather, manage and evaluate epidemiological data, implementing appropriate protocols.</li> </ol>

- 4) Evaluate epidemiological studies and their design, incorporating applicable approaches and findings into their own research projects.
- 5) Choose, justify, and implement appropriate methodological and analytical skills to solve real world problems, and produce conclusions and/or recommendations based on these analyses.
- 6) Present and defend study findings to an expert academic audience, displaying professional and appropriate communication skills.

Module/Unit Content:

The student will select an appropriate topic in consultation with their supervisor. Students can take this opportunity to develop an idea of particular interest to them. Students are expected to show competence in either the analysis of epidemiological data, the systematic review of epidemiological literature, or applied research. The structure of the dissertation may vary depending on the nature and the objective of the study. A typical dissertation will contain an introduction and review of the relevant literature, an explanation of methods used in the work, a description and analysis of the results obtained, and a critical discussion of the significance and relevance of these findings. It will not always be possible for students to be involved in the collection of the data on which they will report, analyse, and evaluate. However, there may be opportunities for students to generate/collect their own data through either laboratory, field, or survey work. This will be agreed through discussion with relevant supervisors. A Viva examination will provide an opportunity for students to defend their research output.