

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis (EPID 369, 1 credit)

Instructor:

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Course description:

This seminar provides training and hands-on experience in meta-analysis. It is suitable for students who may be conducting meta-analyses as masters theses, as part of their doctoral dissertation work, for publication, or for other reasons. Problem definition and literature searching are covered didactically. Students then obtain experience in abstracting results and study characteristics from published reports, graphical and statistical analysis of publication bias, statistical analysis of overall heterogeneity, stratified and meta-regression analysis of study characteristics, influence analysis and sensitivity analysis. Fixed-effects and random-effects approaches are covered. Applications include etiologic and clinical research, observational studies and trials.

Prerequisite: EPID 710 or instructor's permission

Course requirements:

Attendance is required for a P. For an H, students may begin a meta-analytic collaboration intended for publication or conduct an analysis of a meta-analytic data set that will be provided and a brief report of the analysis.

Required readings:

Egger M, Davey Smith G, Altman DG. Systematic reviews in health care: meta-analysis in context. London: BMJ Books, 2001.

Strongly recommended:

Greenland S. Meta-analysis. Chapter 32 in: Rothman KJ, Greenland S. Modern epidemiology. Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven, 1998;643-73.

Schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Textbook Readings</u>
Tuesday, Oct. 3	Chapters 1-3, 12
Thursday, Oct. 5	Chapter 4
Tuesday, Oct. 10	Chapter 5
Thursday, Oct. 12	Chapter 11
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Chapter 16, 18
Tuesday, Oct. 24	Chapter 15
Tuesday, Oct. 31	Chapters 8, 9
Thursday, Nov. 2	Chapter 18
Tuesday, Nov. 7	Chapter 6
Thursday, Nov. 9	Chapter 7