BIOS6903: COMMUNICATION AND PROJECT STUDY

Effective Term
Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title
Communication and Project Study

Subject Code
BIOS - Biostatistics
Course Number
6903

Academic Unit
Biostatistics (BIOS)

College/School
College of Computing (CC)

Course Duration
One Semester

Credit Units
3

Level
P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction
English

Medium of Assessment
English

Prerequisites
Nil

Precursors
Nil

Equivalent Courses
Nil

Exclusive Courses
Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to provide students with the skills and experience needed to:
1) Formulate and produce graphical displays of quantitative information that effectively communicate analytic findings;
2) Translate research objectives into testable hypotheses;
3) Compare and contrast different study designs and their implications for inference in biomedical/public health research;
4) Interpret quantitative findings in accurate, accessible language for audiences outside of biostatistics. Students work in consultation with a faculty advisor who approves both a proposed project prior to its initiation and the report submitted at its conclusion. The project should be tailored to the individual interests and goals of the student.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Understand the importance of effective communication of biostatistical findings	40	x	x	
2	Ability to interpret quantitative results in accurate and accessible language	40	x	x	x
3	Appreciate the relevance of inference in biomedical/public health research	20	x	x	x

A1: Attitude
Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability
Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments
Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

	LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Teaching	Learning through consultation with a faculty advisor.	1, 2, 3	
2	Assignments	A project approved by the faculty advisor prior to its initiation, and a report submitted at its conclusion.	1, 2, 3	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Oral presentation	1, 2, 3	30	-	No
2	Written report	1, 2, 3	60	-	Yes
3	Participation	1, 2, 3	10	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)
100

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

50

Additional Information for ATs

To pass the course, students are required to obtain a minimum of 50% in continuous assessment.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

Oral presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Communication skills and comprehensive understanding

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Displays a thorough understanding of project details and effectively communicates them in the oral presentation

Good

(B+, B, B-) Adequately demonstrates an understanding of project details and communicates them in the oral presentation

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Demonstrates an intermediate understanding of project details and effectively communicates them during oral presentations.

Marginal

(D) Exhibits a basic understanding of project details and conveys them in the oral presentation

Failure

(F) Lacks comprehension of project details and is unable to effectively communicate them in the oral presentation

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Assessment Task

Written report (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

Problem solving based on comprehensive understanding

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) Consistently exhibits a thorough understanding of the research project in the written report

Good

(B+, B, B-) Sufficiently demonstrates comprehension of the research project in the written report

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Displays a moderate and intermediate grasp of the research project, clearly articulated in the written report.

Marginal

(D) Demonstrates some understanding of the research project in the written report

Failure

(F) Demonstrates little understanding of the research project in the written report

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Assessment Task

Participation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion
Communication skills

Excellent
(A+, A, A-) Engages actively in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities

Good
(B+, B, B-) Participates in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities, but not consistently or actively

Fair
(C+, C, C-) Engages with a moderate level of involvement in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities.

Marginal
(D) Minimally participates in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities

Failure
(F) Rarely participates in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities

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Assessment Task
Oral presentation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion
Communication skills and comprehensive understanding

Excellent
(A+, A, A-) Displays a thorough understanding of project details and effectively communicates them in the oral presentation

Good
(B+, B) Adequately demonstrates an understanding of project details and communicates them in the oral presentation

Marginal
(B-, C+, C) Exhibits a basic understanding of project details and conveys them in the oral presentation

Failure
(F) Lacks comprehension of project details and is unable to effectively communicate them in the oral presentation

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Assessment Task
Written report (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion
Problem solving based on comprehensive understanding

Excellent
(A+, A, A-) Consistently exhibits a thorough understanding of the research project in the written report

Good
(B+, B) Sufficiently demonstrates comprehension of the research project in the written report

Marginal
(B-, C+, C) Demonstrates some understanding of the research project in the written report

Failure
(F) Demonstrates little understanding of the research project in the written report

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Assessment Task
Participation (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion
Communication skills

Excellent
(A+, A, A-) Engages actively in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities

Good
(B+, B) Participates in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities, but not consistently or actively

Marginal
(B-, C+, C) Minimally participates in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities

Failure
(F) Rarely participates in project team meetings, group discussions, and activities

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Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus
Study design; translation of research objectives into testable hypotheses; interpretation of quantitative findings; effective communication of results to audiences outside biostatistics.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

	Title
1	Nil

Additional Readings

	Title
1	Textbooks and course lecture notes in the MSc in Biostatistics programme.