PUBLIC * HEALTH Seminars & Courses



Scuola di Specializzazione IGENE & MEDICINA PREVENTIVA Direttore: Prof.ssa Anna Odone UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA





COURSE

ADVANCED COURSE ON SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS AND META-ANALYSIS: METHODS AND PRACTICE

COURSE OBJECTIVE & OVERVIEW:

Aim of the course is to provide the foundational theoretical knowledge and practical methodological skills for **planning and conducting systematic reviews and meta-analyses.** The course is designed to support students in applying the skills and knowledge they will acquire to their research projects and fields of interest.

It includes lectures and practical sessions on all phases of a systematic review and meta-analysis: defining the research question, drafting the protocol, systematic searching of sources, applying inclusion and exclusion criteria, extracting data, assessing the quality of primary studies, performing qualitative synthesis and meta-analysis, and reporting.

Throughout the course, students will have the chance to develop their own research project and will have access to the resources of the University of Pavia, statistical software for meta-analyses and bibliography management.

STUDENTS' TARGET:

The course is targeted to PhD students belonging to the Life Science research area.

DATES & FORMAT:

The 2025 course edition will be face-to-face: the course will start on the 2^{nd} of April 2025 (Aula Master, 2^{nd} floor, Istituto di Igiene, via Carlo Forlanini 2, Pavia). The course will be structured in 5 sessions (one per week, see the programme below). Each session is scheduled in the morning (h 9.30-13.00).

LANGUAGE:

The course will be taught in Italian.

PROGRAMME & CONTENT:

 Session 1 2nd April h 9.30-13.00 	Lecture: Introduction to systematic reviews and meta-analyses. The PRISMA guidelines Lecture: Basics of epidemiology: study designs and measures
■ Session 2 ^{9th} April h 9.30-13.00	Workshop: Crafting a research question using the PICO(s) model. Initial steps in developing a systematic review protocol on Prospero Workshop: Search strategy development for systematic retrieval of sources. Practical application of search strings and introduction to reference management tools
■ Session 3 17 th April h 9.30-13.00	Lecture: Selecting studies and applying inclusion/exclusion criteria. Data extraction and data synthesis techniques: qualitative, meta-analysis and meta-regression Workshop: Qualitative and quantitative synthesis: hands-on session with Rayyan, Prometa and RevMan for screening and data management
Session 4 23 rd April h 9.30-13.00	Lecture: In-depth review of PRISMA steps. Quality assessment and tools for quality appraisal Workshop: PRISMA checklist compliance and practical exercises on risk of bias assessment
■ Session 5 30 th April h 9.30-13.00	Lecture: New frontiers in systematic reviews: umbrella reviews, multiple treatments meta-analysis, network meta-analysis; the role of Al in systematic reviews Workshop: Practical session on developing a draft for a systematic review manuscript

COURSE DIRECTOR & FACULTY:

Prof Anna Odone, School of Public Health, University of Pavia – Course Director Dr Giacomo Pietro Vigezzi, School of Public Health, University of Pavia – Course Coordinator

Prof Maddalena Gaeta, School of Public Health, University of Pavia – Faculty Dr Paola Bertuccio, School of Public Health, University of Pavia - Faculty Dr Giansanto Mosconi, School of Public Health, University of Pavia – Faculty

Dr Chiara Barbati, University of Pavia - Teaching assistant

Dr Luca Viviani, University of Pavia - Teaching assistant

REGISTRATION:

Register on the form provided by the PhD Office before the 1st of March 2025 (registration will be limited to 25 participants on a "first come, first served" basis)

INFORMATION: For information, please contact phd.onehealth@unipv.it.

2026 EDITION: The 2026 edition will be provided as distance learning: details will follow next January.