

29315 - Epidemiology and Public Health

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 29315 - Epidemiology and Public Health

Faculty / School: 229 - Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud y del Deporte

Degree: 442 - Degree in Odontology

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 2

Semester: First semester

Subject type: Compulsory

Module:

1. General information

In order to influence the health of individuals and populations, it is essential to have a public health framework. The objective of the subject is for students to know and apply the basic instruments essential for the interpretation, control and evaluation of population health problems.

The subject is relevant because:

- It is essential to take into account the population and public health point of view in order to be able to act on health problems.
- A crucial part of public health practice is the use of methodological tools to describe health problems and relate them to their causes.
- The healthcare context is complex and changing, so a specialized professional needs these tools to be able to intervene on problems.
- This subject is a prerequisite to be able to face other subjects of the degree. More generally, the entire degree requires the knowledge and skill base provided here.

On the other hand, the approach of the subject and its objective are aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030 (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>), in such a way that the acquisition of the learning results of this subject provides training and competence to contribute in some extent to their achievement: Goal 3) Health and well-being; Goal 4) Quality education; and Goal 10) Reduction of inequalities.

For a better understanding of the subject, it is recommended to complement personal work with attendance to the sessions and to review the basic concepts of the biostatistics subject. During the development of the subject it will be necessary to handle documentary sources and apply computer tools for the resolution of cases.

2. Learning results

- Interpret the determinants that influence health from a population versus individual point of view.
- Acquire information to be able to act on health problems.
- Manage the sources of scientific information.
- Manage the basic methodological tools in public health.
- Know the basics of research methodology.
- Construct and interpret basic demographic indicators.
- Apply epidemiology to act on health problems.
- Know how to use the key elements of health planning.
- Interpretation of the Spanish health system. Use the methodology of intervention through health programs.
- Interpret the main interventions for public health and oral public health problems.

3. Syllabus

The following contents will be worked on during the theoretical and practical sessions:

--Introduction to Public Health

- Health information systems
- Demographics and health
- Concept and applications of epidemiology
- Causality in epidemiology
- Frequency measures in epidemiology
- Measures of association and potential impact
- Public health research designs

- Validity of diagnostic tests
- Health conditions
- Public health strategies
- Action on public health and oral health issues
- Health management and planning
- Public health policies

4. Academic activities

The program offered to the student to help them achieve the expected outcomes comprises the following activities:

- Master classes (20h)
- Seminars, problem solving, case studies and computerized practices (40h)
- Individual work (27h)
- Study (60h)
- Evaluation tests (3h)

5. Assessment system

Continuous evaluation*:

1. -Work with presentation (20%)

2. -Two written tests (40% each). The tests will include between 20-30 multiple choice questions, with 4 answer options for each item and only one correct answer; and 1-2 short questions on cases and/or exercises. It will be necessary to pass both tests with a 5/10 points.

*Those who do not pass the subject by continuous evaluation, or those who have passed it and want to improve their grade, may take the final evaluation.

Final evaluation:

1. -Written test (100%) with 40 multiple-choice questions, with 4 answer options for each item and only one correct answer; and 2-4 short questions on cases and/or exercises.