

Spring 2025 PhD Research Seminar

Name of course: PhD Research Seminar (II) (IV)

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Time & Place: Wednesday **15:15-17:05**, Room 08077 at Dept. of Public Health, 8th floor, Out-Patient Building, NCKU Hospital (Time and place may vary for joined class with the Master’s students; please check the schedule each week).

Course descriptions: Through invited lectures, students’ presentations, and in-class discussion, this course aims to provide the enrolled students with a platform for dialogue in health policy research, community health, epidemiology, and biostatistics. Students are expected to enhance their capabilities of communication and oral presentation skills by integrating various courses into this seminar. The formal language is English.

Teaching objectives: Through the process of presentation and discussion, this seminar aims to help students continuously improve their knowledge, skills, and communication for conducting public health research and field practices, and in turn, to help students become public health professionals with both capabilities of conducting independent research while keeping in mind the health of people and the society as a whole.

Course requirements:

- All enrolled students (1st and 2nd year PhD/Masters) must attend the weekly seminars and guest lectures. No more than 2 absences are expected for the entire semester.
- All PhD students, within one year after passing the written qualification exam, must present their PhD research proposal in the research seminar. While the PhD students are required to enroll in the seminar courses for 4 semesters only, all students who have already completed this requirement must attend the seminar course in the Spring Semester of every academic year to give 5 min report on the current status of their PhD research. Even if not compulsory, it is also recommended that the PhD students who have already completed the 4 seminar courses attend the lectures by invited guest speakers on the topics of interest and participate in the discussion.

Course contents: In addition to the guest lectures, this course includes the student’s presentation of selected articles based on their topics of interest, commentary by the fellow students, and the presenters’ responses to the commentary. Details are illustrated below:

A. Literature reports:

1. For the 1st and 2nd year PhD students, and the Master students enrolled in the PhD

seminar course:

Please select **ONE (1ST year) or TWO (2nd year or above)** articles from the SCI/SSCI journals (should be published within 5 years and ranked in Q1/Q2 in a specific category) that are related to your research interest. For 2nd year or above students, the TWO articles must deal with the same research questions. Please select an original research paper that follows the IMRD (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion) structure to present it. (See 3. Key points of presentation).

Masters students only need to present ONE article in the PhD seminar course. Masters students who present their research proposals need to do a core literature presentation in the same semester.

2. For the 3rd year or higher students:

Students in the 3rd year or higher must attend the seminar once in the Spring Semester, and a present progress report for 5 minutes. It contains three parts: 1) the PhD student study checklist; 2) research introduction; 3) research progress.

3. Key points of presentation:

- The presenters should first provide background knowledge related to the study and report the current gaps in knowledge. Then present the study with respect to its arguments, viewpoints, as well as the methodology, results and conclusions. Also, please deliver your comments on the strengths and weaknesses of the paper based on basic principles of critical appraisal, and on why the paper can be accepted for publication in specific journals.
- For each presentation, a total of 20-25 minutes is allowed; and another 20-25 minutes for discussion. Presenters should rehearse and check the time needed to complete the presentation and make adjustments whenever necessary. For two articles, we suggest presenting each article within 10 minutes and leaving 5 minutes to compare these two articles.
- Presenters are encouraged to include two interactive polling questions to engage their audience by using tools such as Slido or Zuvio during their presentation.
- The key points of presenting articles include:
 - *What are the knowledge gaps addressed by this study?*
 - *What are the aim(s) or research question(s) of this article?*
 - *Are the methods (including statistical analysis employed) appropriate?*
 - *What are the main results and conclusions?*
 - *What are your comments on the methodology, results, and conclusions?*
 - *What have you learned from these studies?*
 - *What are the strengths and limitations?*
 - *Also, please comment on why the papers were published.*

4. Language of presentation:

To make the presentation understandable to the international students, and to

increase English proficiency for every student, all PhD students should give their presentations in English. However, both Mandarin and English can be used in the after-presentation discussion to facilitate communication. Please also note that all slides must be shown in English as well. The size of fonts in the presenting slides should be ≥ 28 .

If you are fluent in English, please do not read off a script. It is a very boring style of presentation and is the best way to lose your audience.

5. Uploading your files:

All presenters must upload the selected articles to “Moodle” 14 days before the presentation, by midnight (24:00) of the Wednesday 2 weeks prior to the date of presentation. The slides (PPT) to be presented must be uploaded to “Moodle” one week before the presentation (i.e., before 24:00 of the Wednesday one week before).

B. Commentary:

1. The oral comments must be made in class immediately after the seminar presentation. Those who are scheduled to make the commentary should read and review the materials related to the presentation and slides in advance. Contents of the commentary should also be presented with slides (PPT) in English, which must be uploaded to “Moodle” latest at midnight of Friday in the previous week.
2. Each commentator may ask up to two questions or provide two comments, with a time limit of 5 minutes per person to allow for a general discussion afterwards. The first commentator shall also host the general discussion if there are more than two commentators.

C. Responses to commentary:

1. All presenters must respond to the commentary first in class and also complete a point-to-point responses file by outlining all comments they received during class, especially for those questions you could not respond to in class.
2. Responses to commentary must be uploaded to “Moodle” latest by midnight of Wednesday two weeks after presentation.

D. Class Requirements

1. Given the diversity of public health related issues, all participating faculty and PhD students are encouraged to learn from each other with an open mind. The commentary should be constructive, and the responses to the comments must be humble and made with an open-minded manner.
2. It is the common responsibility for both presenting students and their supervisors to work together on both the seminar reports and review of the comments from others.
3. Please turn your cell phones into silent mode, and be reminded not to use cell phones inside the classroom. You may only answer the phone calls outside the classroom if it is necessary to do so.

Evaluation:

1. Seminar reports: 40% (Scored by all faculty)

2. Oral commentary: 20% (Scored by all faculty)
3. In-class Discussion: 10% (Scored by the faculty in charge for each session according to the scale below; all students will receive the same overall grade that is the average across all class sessions)

65: lack of discussion
75: minimal discussion
85: average discussion
95: educational discussion

4. Attendance: 30% (Scored by the faculty in charge of the course; 20% according to the binary scale below) and 10% for uploading detailed responses to comments after the seminar report)

70: More than 2 absences
85: No more than 2 absences

Wk	Date	Presenter	Type	Commentator	Note
1	02/19	PhD progress report	Progress report (D3 and above)		
2	02/26	林倩宇老師研究專長介紹 M1 吳建翰 M1 陳蔡瑋 M3 洪宜萱	Faculty introduction Master proposal presentation		
3	03/05	古鯉榕 D3 王碧玲 M2 蘇惠儀 Nicole	Course introduction Progress report (D3 and above) Progress report		
4	03/12	D2 曾元聰 D2 吳政彥	Literature presentation	D2 宋莎媃 Swati / D1 林泱瀚 D2 曾智偉 / D2 謝雅玲	
5	03/19	D2 張秋文 D2 雷蒂米 Mita	Literature presentation	D2 曾元聰 / D2 陳宏睿 D2 張秋文 / D1 三輪岳史 Takeshi	
6	03/26	Shih-Chun Candice Lung Research Fellow, Academia Sinica	Guest Lecture	The development and application of a science-based heat-health warning system	Joined Class: Room 303D 15:20-17:10
7	04/02	Break			
8	04/09	D2 曾智偉 D2 宋莎媃 Swati	Literature presentation	D2 吳政彥 / D1 德拉天貝 Precious D2 雷蒂米 Mita / D3 王碧玲	

9	04/16	D2 陳宏睿 D3 王碧玲	Literature presentation	D2 張秋文 / D1 王彥鈞 D2 宋莎媿 Swati / D2 曾元聰	
10	04/23	Timothy J. Lane Professor, Taipei Medical University	Guest Lecture	Systemic ignorance and institutional neglect in the care of patients who suffer from Disorders of Consciousness: Can Public Health help design and implement a nationwide solution?	Joined Class: Fengbei Lecture Hall 15:20-17:10
11	04/30	Break			
12	05/07	D2 謝雅玲 D1 三輪岳史 Takeshi	Literature presentation	D2 陳宏睿 / M1 畢可嵐 Birkham D2 曾智偉	
13	05/14	Shu-Sen Chang Professor, National Taiwan University	Guest Lecture	Suicide prevention: public health approach	Joined Class: Fengbei Lecture Hall 15:20-17:10
14	05/21	D1 林泱瀚 D1 德拉天貝 Precious	Literature presentation	D2 謝雅玲 D2 雷蒂米 Mita	
15	05/28	D1 王彥鈞 M1 畢可嵐 Birkham	Literature presentation	D2 吳政彥 D3 王碧玲	
16	06/04	Li-Jung Elizabeth Ku Associate Professor, National Cheng Kung University	Special lecture	Tips on academic writing	
17	06/11	Chung-Yi Li	Special lecture	How to choose the right journal to submit your manuscript	

		Professor, National Cheng Kung University			
18	06/18	Jung-Der Wang Professor, National Cheng Kung University	Special lecture	Comprehensive prevention as a strategy in public health	Joined Class: Fengbei Lecture Hall 15:20-17:10