



**Karolinska
Institutet**

Syllabus

Research Training Course at Karolinska Institutet 2 credit points
(3 ECTS credits)

Title: Ethics in Epidemiological and Public Health Research (Etik i epidemiologisk och folkhälsovetenskaplig forskning)

Course code: 1970

Department

Department of Public Health Sciences
Division of International Health

Date of approval 2005 09 12

Course offered to: Research training PhD students at Karolinska Institutet and partner universities, or equivalently qualified participants

Objectives and content

The aim of the course is to provide a conceptual and analytical framework for critical decision-making in epidemiological and public health research

After the course the students should be able to

- Identify ethical issues, problems and conflicts in epidemiological and public health research.
- Examine the ways in which ethical issues in epidemiology and public health are either similar or dissimilar to ethical issues in other health sciences
- Provide a decision making procedure for addressing ethical issues, problems and conflicts

- Clarify the connections between sound science and ethically and socially responsible science

Content

General

The course will present the current core values in conduct of research from a historical perspective. Students will be provided with tools necessary for the evaluation of various types of problems and issues and a yardstick for measuring and recognizing unethical research practice will be proposed

Specific focus:

Moral foundations

Duties, responsibilities and practice standard

Valid consent and refusal

Privacy and confidentiality

Risks, harm and wrongs

Sponsorship and conflict of interest

Communication, publication, intellectual property and education

Advocacy and intercultural conflict

Content and structure of the course

The course is held full time during the day for two consecutive weeks. It follows a pre-established course schedule based on lectures, seminars and plenary sessions after individual and group work. A variety of cases serve as a basis for the individual and group work. Computer-based interactive work is also included in the course.

Literature:

Louie Sana *Textbook of Research Ethics. Theory and Practice*. New York: Kluwer Academic 2000 (255 p)

Recommended

Coughlin Steven & Beauchamp Tom (Ed) *Ethics and Epidemiology* Oxford: Oxford University Press 1996 (303 p)

Oliver Paul *The Students Guide to Research Ethics* London: Open University Press 2005 (192 p)

Prerequisite qualifications: Research training PhD, or equivalent

Compulsory attendance: Yes

Examination:

Every day summarisation in small groups

Individual write-up on an ethical dilemma in your own research (3-4 p)

Examiner

Professor, Lucie Laflamme

Master in Medical Science, Maria Engström

Course evaluation

The course will be evaluated in accordance with the guidelines established by the Board of Research Education