

BMI 536/636 - Evidence-Based Medicine

2013 Short Course

[William Hersh, M.D.](#)

Oregon Health & Science University
Course Director

Last updated: June 21, 2013

Objectives

The goal of this course is to teach the basic skills of applying evidence-based medicine (EBM). By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Phrase a clinical question in a way that allows seeking and application of evidence
- Find the best evidence for a given clinical question
- Critically appraise the evidence for the major types of clinical questions
- Describe the limitations of EBM

Time and Location

The course is taught in two parts. The first part consists of a pre-campus portion that consists of online lectures and assignments consisting of critical appraisals of different question types. The content will be posted starting August 19, 2013. This content consists of 9 units, listed in the syllabus below, that will all be posted when the course opens. The activities for each unit of the course consist of:

- Reading assignment from textbook
- Short on-line lecture
- Critical appraisal of a study (one each for units 2-8, for a total of 7) using a template, submitted via Sakai

The second part of the course is the on-campus session from September 23-25, 2013. In mid-September, students will sign up for presentations at the on-campus session, which they are all expected to attend. Students should have their articles for appraisal selected by the due date for signing up, and complete first versions of their appraisal templates before September 23, 2013.

Readings

The course textbook is: Sharon E. Straus, W. Scott Richardson, Paul Glasziou, and R. Brian Haynes, *Evidence-Based Medicine: How to Practice and Teach EBM* (Fourth Edition), Churchill-Livingstone, 2010.

Registration

This course is open to all OHSU biomedical informatics students and others by permission of the course director.

Syllabus

Unit	Topic	Reading
1	Introduction – questions and evidence	1-3
2	Intervention – single studies	4 (67-93)
3	Intervention – systematic reviews and pre-appraised evidence	4 (98-110)
4	Intervention – qualitative studies, clinical decision analyses, economic analyses, and clinical practice guidelines	4 (110-136)
5	Diagnosis – diagnostic tests	5 (137-158)
6	Diagnosis – clinical prediction guides, screening	5 (158-167)
7	Prognosis	6
8	Harm	7
9	Evaluation and limitations	8

Assignments

The course assignments consist of critical appraisal of seven different study types (one each for units 2-8, for a total of 7) using a template provided with the course materials. The instructor or TA will provide feedback on all submitted assignments as they are submitted, and assignments that are incorrect (e.g., wrong study type selected, wrong information entered on to template, etc.) may need to go through one or more cycles of “revise and resubmit.” Ultimately, all appraisals must be done correctly. All appraisals must be finalized by October 16, 2013 to pass the course. (There is no final examination nor any other course projects.)

Support

Technical support is provided by the Sakai Help Desk. Students also have access to all of the on-line resources of the OHSU Library.

Sakai Help Desk is available:

Mon – Fri, 8 am – 10 pm

Weekends and holidays, 12 pm – 5 pm

Contact Information:

(Local) 503-494-7074 (4-7074 on campus)

(Toll-free) 877-972-5249

(Web) <http://atech.ohsu.edu/help>

(Email) sakai@ohsu.edu

Grading

Student grades will consist of critical appraisals (80%) and on-campus class presentation and participation (20%).

Graduate Studies in the OHSU School of Medicine is committed to providing grades to students in a timely manner. Course instructors will provide students with information in writing at the beginning of each course that describes the grading policies and procedures including but not limited to evaluation criteria, expected time needed to grade individual student examinations and type of feedback they will provide.

Class grades are due to the Registrar by the Friday following the week of finals. However, on those occasions when a grade has not been submitted by the deadline, the following procedure shall be followed:

- 1) The Department¹ /Program Coordinator² will immediately contact the Instructor requesting the missing grade, with a copy to the Program Director and Registrar.

- 2) If the grade is still overdue by the end of next week, the Department¹ /Program Coordinator² will email the Department Chair directly, with a copy to the Instructor and Program Director requesting resolution of the missing grade.
- 3) If, after an additional week the grade is still outstanding, the student or Department¹ /Program Coordinator² may petition the Office of Graduate students for final resolution.
 - 1 For courses that are run by a specific department.
 - 2 For the conjoined courses (course number is preceded by CON_ that are run by Graduate Studies.

Student Access

Our program is committed to all students achieving their potential. If you have a disability or think you may have a disability (physical, learning, hearing, vision, psychological) which may need a reasonable accommodation please contact Student Access at (503) 494-0082 or e-mail at studentaccess@ohsu.edu to discuss your needs. You can also find more information at www.ohsu.edu/student-access. Because accommodations can take time to implement, it is important to have this discussion as soon as possible. All information regarding a student's disability is kept in accordance with relevant state and federal laws.

Academic Honesty

Course participants are expected to maintain academic honesty in their course work. Participants should refrain from seeking past published solutions to any assignments. Literature and resources (including Internet resources) employed in fulfilling assignments must be cited. See http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/library/research-assistance/plagiarism.cfm?WT_rank=1# for information on code of conduct for OHSU and <http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/teaching-and-learning-center/for-students/index.cfm> for more information on citing sources and recognizing plagiarism.

See <http://ozone.ohsu.edu/som/faculty/docs/graduatecouncil/profconductpolicy.pdf> for the OHSU School of Medicine Professional Conduct Policy.

Copyright Information

Every reasonable effort has been made to protect the copyright requirements of materials used in this course. Class participants are warned not to copy, audio, or videotape in violation of copyright laws. Journal articles will be kept on reserve at the library or online for student access. Copyright law does allow for making one personal copy of each article from the original article. This limit also applies to electronic sources.

To comply with the fair use doctrine of the US copyright law, Sakai course sites close three weeks after grades are posted with the Registrar. Please be sure to download all course material you wish to keep before this time as you will have no further access to your courses.

Course Instructor

William Hersh, M.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Medical Informatics & Clinical Epidemiology
Oregon Health & Science University
BICC
3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Rd.
Portland, OR 97201-3098
Voice: 503-494-4563
Fax: 503-494-4551
Email: hersh@ohsu.edu
Web: <http://www.billhersh.info>