

Ph.D. in “Life Course Research” – Socio-demographic curriculum

Academic Year 2025-2026

Population Health and healthcare across the life course

May, 25-26, 2026

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Objectives

The goal of the course is to help students become familiar with the multifaced aspects of measurement and analysis of outcomes, access, quality, equity and costs of health and healthcare across the life-course. The course through a practice-oriented approach with examples of real-world applications, integrates concepts from social statistics, health economics, health policy, and health services research to provide a comprehensive understanding of healthcare performance at the population level. The students will, by the end of the course, develop a thorough appreciation of measurement, design and analyses of methods for population health and health service research and acquire an understanding of how these methods are presently being utilized to support evidence-based decision making.

Program

Monday May 25th 14-17 (Chiara Seghieri, Tallys Feldens):

- Introduction to population health and its determinants, healthcare systems and organizations, measuring health and health performance
- Presentation of empirical examples

Tuesday May 26th 10-13 (Tallys Feldens, Chiara Seghieri):

- Introduction to measurements of cost and equity

Tuesday May 26th 14-17 am (Tallys Feldens):

- Hands-on exercise of distributive cost-effectiveness

Prerequisites

Basic epidemiology and demography, regression models (including Generalized Linear Models), basic knowledge in R studio

Suggested lectures

- Donabedian A., *The quality of care: how can it be assessed?*, JAMA, 260 (1988)
- Iezzoni LI: The Risks of Risk Adjustment JAMA 1997; 278:1600-7
- Harrison C, Fortin M, van den Akker M, Mair F, Calderon-Larranaga A, et al. Comorbidity versus multimorbidity: Why it matters. J Multimorb Comorb. 2021 Mar 2;11
- Diana Kuh, the New Dynamics of Ageing (NDA) Preparatory Network. A Life Course Approach to Healthy Aging, Frailty, and Capability, The Journals of Gerontology: Series A, Volume 62, Issue 7, July 2007.
- Drummond, M. E., Sculpher, M. J., Torrance, G. W., O'Brien, B. J., Stoddart, G. L. (2005). Methods for the economic evaluation of health care programmes. In Oxford University Press eBooks. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198529446.001.0001>
- Gray AM, Clarke PM, Wolstenholme JL, Wordsworth S. Applied Methods of Cost-effectiveness Analysis in Health Care. New York: Oxford University Press; 2011.
- Robine, J. M., Jagger, C., Mathers, C. D., Crimmins, E. M., & Suzman, R. M. (Eds.). (2003). *Determining health expectancies*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Robine, J. M., & Jagger, C. (2010). Health and demography. *Demography-Volume I*, 267.
- Ferrari, A. J., Santomauro, D. F., Aali, A., Abate, Y. H., Abbafati, C., Abbastabar, H., El-Hafeez, S. A., Abdelmasseh, M., Abd-Elsalam, S., Abdollahi, A., Abdullahi, A., Abegaz, K. H., Zuñiga, R. a. A., Aboagye, R. G., Abolhassani, H., Abreu, L. G., Abualruz, H., Abu-Gharbieh, E., Abu-Rmeileh, N. M., . . . Murray, C. J. L. (2024). Global incidence, prevalence, years lived with disability (YLDs), disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs), and healthy life expectancy (HALE) for 371 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories and 811 subnational locations, 1990–2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021. *The Lancet*, 403(10440), 2133–2161. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736\(24\)00757-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(24)00757-8)