



# **European Educational Programme in Epidemiology**

**37<sup>th</sup> RESIDENTIAL SUMMER COURSE  
FLORENCE, ITALY  
Specialized Courses 7 – 11 JULY 2025**



# European Educational Programme in Epidemiology

## Specialized Courses:

### **“GIS (Geographic Information Systems) in Epidemiology”**

*Danielle Vienneau, Kees de Hoogh & Benjamin Flückiger*

7 – 10 July 2025

### **“Computational Epidemiology”**

*Claus Thorn Ekstrøm & Anders Tolver*

7 – 10 July 2025

### **“Genetic and Epigenetic Epidemiology”**

*David Evans, Gibran Hemani, Matthew Suderman, Paul Yousefi*

7 – 11 July 2025

### **“Modern time series methods for public health and epidemiology”**

*Antonio Gasparrini, Ana Maria Vicedo-Cabrera & Francesco Sera*

7 – 11 July 2025

### **“Quantitative Bias Analysis for Epidemiologic Research”**

*Matthew Fox, Rich MacLehose*

7 – 10 July 2025

### **“Field epidemiology in humanitarian crises”**

*Chiara Altare, Francesco Checchi, Sandro Colombo*

7 – 11 July 2025

**Specialized Courses: 7 – 11 July 2025**

**WELCOME DRINKS:**

7 July, 18:30 – 19:30

## GIS (Geographic Information Systems) in Epidemiology

7 – 10 July 2025

*Danielle Vienneau, Kees de Hoogh and Benjamin Flückiger*

### Program Monday 7 July 2025

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08:30 – 09:00 **Software clinic** (optional, only if you need help)

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09:00 – 10:30 **Course Introduction**  
**Exercise 1** Starting Project

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Exercise 1** Starting Project

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:30 – 15:30 **Intro to R**  
**Exercise 2** Spatial analysis and interpolation

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Exercise 2** Spatial analysis and interpolation

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17.30 – 18.00 **Wrap up day 1**

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**Program Tuesday 8 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Exercise 3** Health impact assessment

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 13:00 **Exercise 3** Health impact assessment  
**R demo / exercise**

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:30 – 15:30 **Lecture 1** Mapping and communication  
**Exercise 4** Mapping

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Exercise 4** Mapping

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17:30 – 18:00 **Wrap up day 2**

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**Program**      **Wednesday 9 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30      **Extracting OSM data using R**  
**Exercise 5** Network Analysis

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10:30 – 11:00      **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30      **Exercise 5** Network Analysis

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13:00 – 14:00      **Lunch**

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14:30 – 15:30      **Lecture 2** Exposure assessment using GIS

**Exercise 6** Analysis malaria risk with raster data

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15:30 – 16:00      **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30      **Exercise 6** Analysis malaria risk with raster data

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17:30 – 18:00      **Wrap up day 3**

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**Program Thursday 10 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Exercise 7** Exposure assessment / linkage

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 Advanced Topics / “choose your own adventure”

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:30 – 15:30 **Lecture 3** GIS in environmental epidemiology

Advanced Topics / “choose your own adventure”

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:00 Advanced Topics / “choose your own adventure”

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## Computational Epidemiology

7 – 10 July 2025

*Claus Thorn Ekstrøm, Anders Tolver*

### Program Monday 7 July 2025

Topic: Computational tools for large scale epidemiological analysis

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09:00 – 10:30

#### Sessions 1

**Introduction to the course:** schedule, content, material, and R

**Lecture:** Predictions and the computational toolbox: overfitting, loss functions, data splitting, cross-validation, non-parametric and parametric bootstrap

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10:30 – 11:00

#### Coffee Break

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11:00 – 12:30

#### Sessions 2

##### Practical

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13:00 – 14:00

#### Lunch

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14:00 – 15:30

#### Sessions 3

**Lecture:** Penalized regression, lasso, variable selection

##### Practical

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15:30 – 16:00

#### Coffee Break

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16:00 – 17:30

#### Sessions 4

**Lecture:** Ridge regression and elastic net, de-lassoing

##### Practical

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**Program**      **Tuesday 8 July 2025**

**Topic: Non-parametric prediction using random forests and other ensemble learners**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Sessions 1**

**Lecture:** Decision trees and random forests

**Practical**

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Sessions 2**

**Lecture:** Random forest learners

**Practical**

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13:00 – 14:00

**Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30

**Sessions 3**

**Lecture:** Prediction errors and random forest tuning, and variable importance

**Practical**

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15:30 – 16:00

**Coffee Break**

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16:00 – 17:30

**Sessions 4**

**Lecture:** Other ensemble learners

**Practical**

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**Program**      **Wednesday 9 July 2025**

**Topic: Neural networks and deep learning, and the SuperLearner**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Sessions 1**

**Lecture:** Introduction to supervised machine learning and the prediction competition.

**Practical:** Prediction competition

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Sessions 2**

**Lecture:** Neural networks, network architecture and flexibility

**Practical:** Prediction competition

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13:00 – 14:00

**Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30

**Sessions 3**

**Lecture:** Deep learning, deep learning vs traditional statistical models

**Practical:** Prediction competition

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15:30 – 16:00

**Coffee Break**

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16:00 – 17:30

**Sessions 4**

**Lecture:** Pitfalls, AI, ensemble predictions and the SuperLearner

**Practical:** Prediction competition

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**Program Thursday 10 July 2025**

**Topic: Causal inference: introduction and data-driven causal structure learning**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Sessions 1**

**Lecture:** DAGs and causality

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Sessions 2**

**Lecture:** Causal inference, average treatment effects, and machine learning

**Practical**

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13:00 – 14:00

**Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30

**Sessions 3**

**Lecture:** Causal discovery / structure learning. The PC algorithm for causal discovery

**Practical**

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15:30 – 16:00

**Coffee Break**

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16:00 – 17:30

**Sessions 4**

**Lecture:** The temporal PC algorithm for including exogeneous temporal information in causal discovery

**Practical**

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## Genetic and Epigenetic Epidemiology

7 – 11 July 2025

David Evans, Gibran Hemani, Matthew Suderman & Paul Yousefi

### Program Monday 7 July 2025

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08:00 – 09:00 **Optional refresher session on R**  
- **R Practical session:** Basics of R; Using packages; Simple plotting  
(Practical) – Gibran Hemani

09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
- **Course Outline / Introduction**  
(Lecture) – David Evans  
  
- **Genetics Theory:** Molecular and biological basis of inheritance;  
Hardy-Weinberg; Biometrical Genetics; Complex traits and Diseases;  
Linkage disequilibrium; Haplotypes and tagging  
(Lecture) – David Evans

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
- **Introduction to genetic data:** Genetic data formats; PLINK software;  
Quality control in GWAS  
(Practical) - Gibran Hemani

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
- **Genetic Association Studies and GWAS:** GWAS studies of  
quantitative and dichotomous traits  
(Lecture + Practical) – David Evans

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
- **Population stratification:** Using genetic data to uncover and control  
for underlying population structure; Mixed models in GWAS  
(Lecture + Practical) – David Evans

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**Program Tuesday 8 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
- **Imputation:** Imputation of genetic data in GWAS  
(Lecture + Practical) – Gibran Hemani

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
- **Meta-analysis:** EasyQC; GWAS Meta-analysis; MTAG  
(Lecture + Practical) – Gibran Hemani

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
- **Follow up of findings:** Interpretation of genome-wide significant associations and follow up of findings  
(Lecture + Practical) – Gibran Hemani

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
- **Polygenic approaches:** Polygenic scores; SNP heritability; Genetic correlation; G-REML and GCTA; LD Score regression  
(Lecture + Practical) – Gibran hemani

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**Program Wednesday 9 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
**- Introduction to Mendelian randomization:** Mendelian randomization studies  
(Lecture) – David Evans

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
**- Introduction to Epigenetic epidemiology:** Gene regulation, cell differentiation, different epigenetic mechanisms, why epidemiologists might be interested in epigenetics  
(Lecture) – Matthew Suderman

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
**- Epigenome wide association studies:** Theory, examples from the literature, data prep, practical in R  
(Lecture + Practical) – Paul Yousefi

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
**- Beyond EWAS:** EWAS functional interpretation, DMRs, meta-analysis, data integration, mQTLs, practical in R  
  
(Lecture + Practical) – Matthew Suderman

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**Program Thursday 10 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
**- Clinical epigenetics:** Examples from the literature, study design, translational applications, practical in R  
  
(Lecture + Practical) – Matthew Suderman and Paul Yousefi

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
**- Epigenetic predictors:** Predictive vs. explanatory modelling, resampling methods, performance metrics, practical in R  
  
(Lecture + Practical) – Paul Yousefi

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
**- Causal inference in Epigenetics:** Theory and examples from the literature, e.g. negative control designs, 2 step MR, MR or negative control  
  
(Lecture) – Matthew Suderman

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
**- Mendelian randomization and Epigenetic Studies:** 2 step MR practical in R  
  
(Practical) – Matthew Suderman

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**Program Friday 11 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Session 1**

**-Power and Type 1 error in Genetic Epidemiology:** Statistical Power; Significance; Type I error; Mini-practical involving Purcell's Genetic Power Calculator and Mendelian Randomization power calculator

(Lecture + Practical) – David Evans

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Session 2**

**-Current topics in Genetic and Epigenetic Epidemiology (L) (DE, GH, MS, PY):** Tutors present 30mins on a current research topic of theirs

(Lecture) – David Evans, Gibran Hemani, Matthew Suderman, Paul Yousefi

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## Modern time series methods for public health and epidemiology

7 – 11 July 2025

*Antonio Gasparrini, Francesco Sera, Ana Maria Vicedo-Cabrera*

### Program Monday 7 July 2025

Topic: Time series in epidemiology and public health

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09:00 – 10:30

#### Sessions 1

**Introduction to the course:** schedule, content, material, and R

**Lecture:** Introduction to time series data and analysis

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10:30 – 11:00

#### Coffee Break

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11:00 – 12:30

#### Sessions 2

**Lecture:** Time series analysis in environmental epidemiology

**Demo:** An analysis of short-term effects of air pollution in London

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13:00 – 14:00

#### Lunch

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14:00 – 15:30

#### Sessions 3

**Lecture:** Interrupted time series (ITS) design

**Demo:** Effect of the indoor smoking ban on cardiovascular events

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15:30 – 16:00

#### Coffee point available

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16:00 – 17:30

#### Sessions 4

**Real-data practical**

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**Program Tuesday 8 July 2025**

**Topic: Modelling complex temporal relationships**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Sessions 1**

**Lecture:** Distributed lag models (DLMs)

**Demo:** Investigating lagged effects of air pollution

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Sessions 2**

**Lecture:** Distributed lag non-linear models (DLNMs)

**Demo:** Investigating risk associations of temperature

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13:00 – 14:00

**Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30

**Sessions 3**

**Lecture:** Extensions of DLMs and DLNMs

**Demo:** DLMs/DLNMs in cancer epidemiology using cohort data

**Demo:** DLMs/DLNMs in clinical research and pharmaco-epidemiology

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15:30 – 16:00

**Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30

**Sessions 4**

**Real-data practical**

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**Program**      **Wednesday 9 July 2025**

**Topic: Health impact assessments with time series data**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Sessions 1**

**Lecture:** Health impact assessment

**Lecture:** An analysis of excess mortality during the COVID-19 pandemic

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Sessions 2**

**Demo:** Computing attributable risks of environmental exposures

**Demo:** Health impact projections under climate change scenarios

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13:00 – 14:00

**Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30

**Sessions 3**

**Demo:** Attribution of health impacts to climate change

**Demo:** Projections of temperature-related mortality in London

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15:30 – 16:00

**Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30

**Sessions 4**

**Real-data practical**

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**Program Thursday 10 July 2025**

**Topic: Novel time series designs and data methods**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Sessions 1**

**Lecture:** Data resources for time series analysis

**Demo:** The case time series (CTS) design

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Sessions 2**

**Demo:** CTS analysis of electronic health records of clinical data

**Lecture:** Application of the CTS design in smartphone studies

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13:00 – 14:00

**Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30

**Sessions 3**

**Lecture:** Small-area analysis with the CTS design

**Demo:** Complex linkage and GIS methods for time series data

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15:30 – 16:00

**Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30

**Sessions 4**

**Real-data practical**

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**Program Friday 11 July 2025**

**Topic: Multi-location time series studies**

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09:00 – 10:30

**Sessions 1**

**Lecture:** Two-stage designs in environmental research

**Demo:** Mortality risks of heat across regions of England and Wales

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10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30

**Sessions 2**

**Lecture:** Multi-location ITS studies

**Demo:** Nationwide analysis of a smoking ban and cardiovascular risk

**Final Q&A**

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## Quantitative bias analysis for epidemiologic research

7 – 10 July 2025

**Matthew Fox, Rich MacLehose**

### Program Monday 7 July 2025

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09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
**- Rational for Quantitative Bias Analysis**  
(Lecture) – Matthew Fox

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
**- Selection Bias – Simple Bias Analysis Methods for Selection Bias**  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
**- Selection Bias – Probabilistic bias analysis for selection bias**  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
**- Information Bias – Simple Bias Analysis Methods for Information Bias**  
(Lecture) – Matthew Fox

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**Program Tuesday 8 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
**- Information Bias – Simple Bias Analysis Methods for Information Bias with Practical Exercise**

(Lecture + Exercises) – Matthew Fox

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
**- Probabilistic Bias Analysis for Information Bias**  
Summary Level QBA  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Matthew Fox

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
**- Probabilistic Bias Analysis for Information Bias**  
Record Level QBA  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Matthew Fox

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
**- Probabilistic Bias Analysis for Information Bias**  
Record Level QBA  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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**Program Wednesday 9 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
**- Confounding – Simple Bias Analysis Methods for Uncontrolled Confounding**  
(Lecture and Exercises) – Matthew Fox

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
**- Confounding – Simple Bias Analysis Methods for Uncontrolled Confounding**  
(Lecture and Exercises) – Matthew Fox

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
**- Confounding – Probabilistic Bias Analysis Methods for Uncontrolled Confounding**  
Summary Level Approaches  
(Lecture and Exercises) – Matthew Fox

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
**- Confounding – Probabilistic Bias Analysis Methods for Uncontrolled Confounding**  
Record Level Approaches  
(Lecture and Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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**Program Thursday 10 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30 **Session 1**  
**- Bayesian Methods for QBA**  
  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:30 **Session 2**  
**- Bayesian Methods for QBA**  
  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch**

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14:00 – 15:30 **Session 3**  
**- Multiple Bias Analyses**  
  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 17:30 **Session 4**  
**- Multiple Bias Analyses**  
  
(Lecture + Exercises) – Rich MacLehose

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## Field epidemiology in Humanitarian crises

7– 11 July 2025

**Chiara Altare, Francesco Checchi, Sandro Colombo**

Program	Monday 7 July 2025
09:00 – 10:00	<b>Course Introduction:</b> review of course’s objectives, presentation of participants, housekeeping, Q&A
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Lecture 1:</b> The humanitarian context
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:45	<b>Lecture 1 (contn.):</b> Public health information in/for humanitarian crises; the role of epidemiology; quality issues and data interpretation
11:45 – 13:00	<b>Lecture 2:</b> Health indicators, uses and sources: surveys, surveillance, routine health information system
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 15:45	<b>Lecture 3:</b> Needs assessment; Public health situation analysis
15:45 – 16:15	Coffee point available
16:15 – 17:45	<b>Exercise session</b>
17.45 – 18.00	<b>Wrap up day 1</b>

**Program**                      **Tuesday 8 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30                      **Lecture 4:** Methods to estimate affected population size

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10:30 – 11:00                      **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 13:00                      **Lecture 5:** Surveys; sampling

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13:00 – 14:30                      **Lunch**

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14:30 – 16:00                      **Lecture 6:** Estimating mortality in humanitarian crises

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16:00 – 16:30                      **Coffee point available**

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16:30 – 17:45                      **Lecture 7:** Assessment of nutritional status, IPC, famine

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17:45 – 18:00                      **Wrap up day 2**

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**Program**                      **Wednesday 9 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30                      **Lecture 8:** Infectious diseases, epidemics & outbreaks: surveillance systems

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10:30 – 11:00                      **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 13:00                      **Lecture 8 (contn.):** Infectious diseases, epidemics & outbreaks: investigation

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13:00 – 14:30                      **Lunch**

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14:30 – 16:00                      **Lecture 9:** Stephane Besançon. Non-communicable diseases in humanitarian crises

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16:00 – 16:30                      **Coffee point available**

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16:30 – 17:45                      **Lecture 10:** Hanna Fahmy. Mental health in humanitarian crises

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17:45 – 18:00                      **Wrap up day 3**

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**Program Thursday 10 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:00 **Simulation exercise:** instructions, handouts, reading, group work

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10:30 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 13:00 **Simulation exercise:** continuation

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13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch**

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14:30 – 15:30 **Simulation exercise:** presentations and discussion

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15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee point available**

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16:00 – 18:00 **Simulation exercise:** presentations and discussion

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**Program**                      **Friday 11 July 2025**

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09:00 – 10:30                      **Lecture 11:** Analysis of disrupted health systems, basic principles

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10:30 – 11:00                      **Coffee Break**

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11:00 – 12:00                      **Lecture 12:** Neha Singh. Sexual and Reproductive Health

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12:00 - 13:00                      **Closure:** Q&A, final remarks, course evaluation

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13:00 – 14:30                      **Lunch**

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# European Educational Programme in Epidemiology

**FACULTY MEMBERS**

## Faculty Members

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