Start of acceptance of admission requests: 1 December 2006.

The application form is also available on the website: www.rm.unicatt.it/igiene/epidemiology

A good command of both written and spoken English is required.

Terms and Condition

Participation is free, but there is a limited number of rooms available at around € 90 per night (including breakfast and dinner). A limited number of rooms will be available at around € 300 per night (including breakfast and dinner). The tuition fee includes course materials (no books), lunch and coffee breaks, course attendance, and the use of an internet connection.

Application

Please complete the application admission form and send it with your Curriculum Vitae to Servizio Formazione Permanente, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, L.go F. Vito, 1 • 00168 Rome, Italy. Please note that the application form is also available on the website: www.rm.unicatt.it/igiene/epidemiology

Application - the date of their application (priority will be given for prior requests)

The courses might be open to participants of other parallel courses.

Official Language

English. No translation in Italian will be provided.

Admission or non-admission will be communicated by email. Please note that C.M.E. accreditation is only for Italian citizens.

Further Information

Didactic Coordination
Dr. Stefania Boccia - Dr. Giuseppe la Torre
Institute of Hygiene
Tel: +39-06-30154396 - 35001527 (5) - Fax: +39-06-35001522
e-mails: sboccia@rm.unicatt.it; giuseppe.latorre@rm.unicatt.it

Organization staff (Accommodation, Venue, Payments)
Servizio Formazione Permanente
Tel: +39-06-30154297 - Fax: +39-06-3051732
e-mail: parisii@rm.unicatt.it

Catholic University of the Sacred Heart reserves the right to cancel the course if a minimum number of participants has not been reached.

Italian C.M.E.*
Italian C.M.E. accreditation has been applied for the Italian Ministry of Health for the following health care professionals:
• physician (MD) and biologists
• dentistry
For C.M.E. accreditation you are required to:
• attend the course in full
• undertake the course evaluation.
* Italian C.M.E. certificates will be sent in the post after the event.
Please note that C.M.E. accreditation is only for Italian citizens.

Venue
Aula Jenner
Collegio Nuovo Joanneum
Faculty of Medicine “A. Gemelli”
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart
Largo F. Vito, 1 • 00168 Rome, Italy

Accommodation
A limited number of rooms will be available around € 90 per night (including breakfast and dinner) inside the University Campus. To book contact the Organization staff. Less expensive rooms may be available within walking distance or within 5-10 minutes travel on the underground (email the organization staff for the specific request).

Accommodation

Organization staff (Accommodation, Venue, Payments)
Servizio Formazione Permanente
Tel: +39-06-30154297 - Fax: +39-06-3051732
e-mail: parisii@rm.unicatt.it

Catholic University of the Sacred Heart Faculty of Medicine “A. Gemelli” Institute of Hygiene

K.J. ROTHMAN A. HOFMAN S. LEMESHOW D.W. HOSMER

IN ROME for International Courses in
MODERN METHODS IN EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIOSTATISTICS
Nov-Dec 2007 1st Edition

Scientific Director
Prof. Walter Ricciardi

Didactic Coordinators
Dr. Stefania Boccia
Dr. Giuseppe La Torre

12-16 November Epidemiologic Principles & Methods.
Prof. Kenneth J. Rothman, Vice President for Epidemiology Research, RTI Health Solutions, Research Triangle Park, NC, USA.

19-23 November Clinical Epidemiology.
Prof. Albert Hofman, Professor of Epidemiology at the Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

26-30 November Regression Analysis.
Prof. Stanley Lemeshow, Professor of Biostatistics at the Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

3-7 December Survival Analysis.
Prof. David W. Hosmer, Professor of Biostatistics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, USA.
Rationale and Goals
Medical research increasingly depends on quantitative approaches, while physicians’ decision making is becoming strictly based on the evidence of quantified data. The courses aim to provide participants with insight into the principles and techniques to practice and interpret data, by providing introductory and advanced courses in epidemiology (study design, data analysis and clinical epidemiology) and biostatistics (regression and survival analysis).

At the end of these courses, participants will be able to apply the main epidemiological concepts to their practice and research; to verify the reliability of published results; as well as to manipulate simple and complex datasets and interpret the results. Furthermore, participants will learn how to use basic and more sophisticated data analysis software.

Courses are a useful refresher also for those already trained in epidemiology or public health. Participants may choose freely from the courses offered (the courses are independent one from each other).

Faculty
Epidemiologic Principles & Methods.
Ken Rothman has focused his career on the development and teaching of the concepts and methods of epidemiologic research. He has authored or co-authored more than 300 scholarly publications, most of which are original epidemiologic research studies. His research has spanned a wide range of health problems, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, neurologic disease, birth defects, injuries, mental exposure and adverse effects of pharmaceutical agents. In an editorial capacity, he has served as assistant editor of the American Journal of Public Health, editor of the American Journal of Epidemiology, editorial board member of the New England Journal of Medicine and the international editorial board of the Journal of Epidemiology. He is a past president of the Society for Epidemiologic Research, an honorary fellow of the American College of Epidemiology, and a fellow of the International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology. He has authored two well known textbooks: Modern Epidemiology and Epidemiology, An Introduction.

Clinical Epidemiology
Albert Hofman was appointed in 1988 as chairman of the Department of Epidemiology at Erasmus University, and since 1992 he is scientific director of the Netherlands Institute for Health Sciences. In 1998 he was appointed Professor of Epidemiology (adjunct) in the Department of Epidemiology of the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts. Dr Hofman is involved in studies of neurological and cardiovascular diseases. His research focuses on vascular factors for Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias. He is principal investigator of the Rotterdam Study, a large prospective cohort study that is being conducted since 1990 to investigate cardiovascular, locomotor, neurologic and ophthalmological diseases.

Regression Analysis.
Stanley Lemeshow was appointed Dean of the Ohio State University School of Public Health in 2003. He has been with the University since 1999 as a biostatistics professor in the School of Public Health and the Department of Statistics, director of the biostatistics core of the Comprehensive Cancer Center and director of the University’s Center for Biostatistics. His biostatistics research includes statistical modeling of medical data, sampling, health disparities and cancer prevention. Dean Lemeshow is internationally known for his expertise in biostatistics and epidemiology. He has published extensively in the applied and methodological literature and has co-authored three textbooks for John Wiley & Sons’ series, a leading publisher for the scientific, technical and medical communities worldwide. The textbooks Dean Lemeshow authored are: Applied Logistic Regression (now in its 2nd Edition), Applied Survival Analysis (2nd edition currently under preparation) and Sampling of Populations: Methods and Applications (4th edition currently under preparation). In 2003, Dean Lemeshow was awarded the Wiley Lifetime Award. In 2003 Dr. Lemeshow was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and was selected Distinguished Graduate Alumnus (Biostatistics) by the University of North Carolina Graduate School Centennial. In 1995, Dr. Lemeshow was elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association and was awarded the Statistics Section Award of the American Public Health Association. Since 2001, he has served as associate editor of the Stata Journal, and in 2005 was appointed to the editorial board of Preventive Medicine.

Survival Analysis
David W. Hosmer is Professor (Emeritus) of Biostatistics in the Department of Public Health at the University of Massachusetts and an Adjunct Professor of Statistics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Vermont. He is coauthor with Stanley Lemeshow of two texts: Applied Logistic Regression / Second Edition and Applied Survival Analysis: Regression Modeling of Time to Event Data, both published by John Wiley & Sons Inc. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association. His research has focused on assessing fit of logistic regression and survival time models as well as applications to epidemiology, medicine and public health.

Courses Content
This course will present the conceptual foundations of epidemiologic research, and the methodologic approaches that stem from these conceptual foundations. The course objective is to unify the approach to epidemiologic research around a coherent set of concepts. Specific topics will include a discussion of a general model of causation, causal inference, measurement of disease frequency and exposure effects, the principles of epidemiologic study design, cohort studies, case-control studies, the principles of epidemiologic data analysis, the assessment and control of confounding factors, stratified analysis, multivariable analysis, the evaluation of interaction, and the evaluation of dose-response trends. The course will include group discussions of published epidemiologic studies and computer laboratory exercises.


19-23 November 2007, Prof. Albert Hofman. Clinical Epidemiology
This course is primarily directed to physicians, clinical researchers and epidemiologists interested in understanding the scientific basis of clinical research and of clinical practice. The course will give an introduction to clinical epidemiology, with examples from cardiovascular diseases, neurologic diseases, infectious diseases and cancer. The topics that will be covered include risk (determinants of disease, pathogenesis), diagnosis (evaluation of diagnostic tests), prognosis (prediction of disease course) and therapy (assessment of efficacy and of safety). The methods that will be discussed include the retrospective follow-up study (for prognosis studies), the clinical trials and meta-analysis (for treatment efficacy) and the case-control study (for treatment safety). Statistical techniques to be addressed are the life table, the Kaplan-Meier actuarial method, Cox’ proportional hazards regression model and the log-rank approach. The course will feature interactive lectures and small group exercises. A basic knowledge of epidemiologic methods would be useful, but it is not a pre-requisite.

26-30 November 2007, Prof. Stanley Lemeshow. Regression Analysis
This intermediate level course aims to provide theoretical and practical training for statistical modelling with particular emphasis on linear, multiple and logistic regression. Topics included are: review of straight line regression, ANOVA for straight line regression, appropriateness of straight line modelling, polynomial regression, multiple regression analysis, partial F-test, dummy variables, statistical interaction, comparing straight line regressions, analysis of covariance, the logistic regression model and estimation and interpretation of its coefficients, goodness-of-fit, model validation and statistical adjustment, interaction and confounding, stratified analysis via logistic regression.


3-7 December 2007, Prof. David W. Hosmer. Survival Analysis
This course focuses on applications of the analysis of time to event data. The first part of the course deals with methods for estimation, interpretation and comparison of survival functions. The second part of the course considers regression methods within the context of the semi-parametric proportional hazards model (Cox model). Topics covered in this section include: variable selection, scaling of continuous covariates, inclusion of interaction, assessment of model fit and diagnostics for the proportional hazards assumption and individual subject influence on the fitted model. Special emphasis is placed on the interpretation and presentation of the results. Examples are drawn primarily from epidemiological and medical studies.

Admission Form

To the Chancellor
Of the Catholic University of Sacred Heart

Surname _________________________________________
Name ____________________________________________
Place and date of birth ____________________________
Address  _________________________________________
Town __________________________________________
CAP/Zip Code __________________
Country  _________________________________________
Telephone________________________________________
Fax ______________________________________________
E-mail ___________________________________________
Graduation  ______________________________________

I would like to apply for (check the box(es) on the left):

❑ 12-16 November 2007: Prof. Kenneth J. Rothman
  Epidemiologic Principles & Methods
❑ 19-23 November 2007: Prof. Albert Hofman
  Clinical Epidemiology
❑ 26-30 November 2007: Prof. Stanley Lemeshow
  Regression Analysis
❑ 3-7 December 2007: Prof. David W. Hosmer
  Survival Analysis

Please find enclosed my Curriculum Vitae.

In accordance with Italian law 196/2003 and successive modifications, I authorise you to file my personal information to be used for evaluation purposes.

Date __________________
Signature ______________________________

Mail to: Servizio Formazione Permanente, Catholic University of Sacred Heart, L.go F. Vito, 1 - 00168 Rome;
or fax to +39-06-3051732.