

Emerging Approaches for Measuring Population Health

An e-Learning Coursera course that shares the latest innovative approaches to measure and understand population-level health behaviors and outcomes, such as mobile phone and web-based surveys, health information systems, and cancer registries.

Course Overview

In this course, you will learn about traditional and emerging techniques in data collection that can be used to strengthen public health programs and policies. Experts from around the world will describe various sources and methodologies for obtaining population health data, with an emphasis on digital methods. The overarching goal is to empower learners with tools for accurately gathering the data needed for evidence-based programming and policymaking.

Who is this course for?

- Global public health professionals who are interested in, or responsible for, the management of population-level data
- Professionals who will benefit from a foundation in evidence-based methodologies for collecting population health data
- MPH-degree holders who need to refresh or expand their knowledge and skills with the latest digital survey techniques



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Course Modules:

1. Population-based and Household Surveys
2. Emerging Techniques for Population-level Data Collection
3. Health Service Data: Opportunities and Challenges
4. Population-based Health Registries

Course Objectives:

- Compare and contrast strengths and limitations of traditional survey methods and emerging survey methods across contexts
- Discuss the role, attributes, and challenges of health information systems in understanding population health patterns and for program decision making
- Describe components, development, and management of population-based paper and digital registries
- Use gender transformative approaches through appropriate integration of gender measures in population-based surveys

Launched by Johns Hopkins Center for Global Digital Health Innovation with support from Bloomberg Philanthropies' Data for Health Initiative, this course resulted from a collaboration of many global health experts. Multiple partners contributed to its content, including Vital Strategies, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Foundation, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, United Nations, CDC, Rwanda Ministry of Health, University of Colombo, and the World Health Organization. Bloomberg Philanthropies funded this course, with co-funding from the Australian government and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.