Digital Public Health Graduate Program

PREREQUISITES YOU SHOULD COMPLETE

MSc PUBLIC HEALTH DATA SCIENCE





Ce travail a bénéficié d'une aide de l'État gérée par l'Agence Nationale de la Recherche au titre du Plan France 2030 portant la référence ANR-17-EURE-0019.





This document is a compendium of resources about prerequisite concepts you should be familiar with before beginning the Master program in Public Health Data Science. We encourage you to read and/or train with the materials listed below.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

As the classes are taught in English, candidates must meet the required standards:

- IELTS (Academic Test): 6.0
- TOEFL: Paper-based 550 / Computer-based 213 / Internet-based 80
- TOEIC: 900-990

Or any other document certifying a C1 level in English upon review (University certificates...)

BIOSTATISTICS

• General statistical theory concepts

Read through the 6 chapters of this interactive online book: <u>http://students.brown.edu/seeing-theory/</u>

• Introductory statistics & basics of R programming

Following <u>http://swirlstats.com/students.html</u> instructions, install *Rstudio*, *R* and the *swirl* package, and complete the following courses in the given order:

- 1. R Programming
- 2. Exploratory Data Analysis
- 3. Getting and Cleaning Data
- 4. Statistical Inference
- 5. Regression Models
- 6. Statistical Inference

An additionnal resource on *statistical hypothesis testing* can be found on the *Statistics in Action with R* website: <u>http://sia.webpopix.org/statisticalTests1.html</u>. Read through it, then play around with the Shiny application at <u>http://shiny.webpopix.org/sia/testMean/</u>.

• Basic ideas about causality

The article "Confounding in health research" from Greenland, S. and H. Morgenstern (in Annual review of public health, 2001 22(1): 189-212) gives a good overview of the

fundamental concepts of causality and confounding in health science. You can read it here: <u>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11274518</u>.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

- Basic concepts
- Epidemiological concepts compulsory in **basic tools**:
 - Introduction the most common types of epidemiological study designs (experimental, cross-sectional, cohort, case-control).
 - Introduction to bias (selection, information, confounding) and effect modification.
 - Differences between measures of health status (prevalence, incidence, risk) and association (risk ratio, rate ratio, odds ratio).
- Recommended readings
- For students with <u>no background</u> in epidemiology: Rothman KJ. Epidemiology. An introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 2012.
- For students with <u>intermediate background</u> in epidemiology: Szklo M, Nieto FJ. Epidemiology: beyond the basics. Burlington: Jones & Bartlett Publishers; 2014.
- For students with <u>advanced background</u> in epidemiology: Rothman KJ, Greenland S, Lash TL. Modern epidemiology (Vol. 3). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2008.

MEDICAL INFORMATICS

• Notions of relational database design and implementation

Normalisation First, Second and Third Normal Forms Entity-relationship modelling Relational modelling SQL language

You can follow this course: <u>https://www.coursera.org/learn/database-management</u> or this one: <u>https://www.udemy.com/relational-database-design/</u>

• Object-oriented programming

Data structure and algorithm

Object-oriented design: classes and objects, inheritance, polymorphism, encapsulation Basics of Python programming: basic instructions, introduction to Object Oriented programming with Python Enroll in the following udemy course (until OOP in Python section): https://www.udemy.com/python-masterclass-for-beginners/

It could be completed by the following course on OpenClassRoom

 $\underline{https://openclassrooms.com/fr/courses/2304731-learn-python-basics-for-data-analysis}$

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