



EMORY

ROLLINS  
SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH

**DEPARTMENT:** BIOS

**COURSE NUMBER:** 599R

**SECTION NUMBER:**

**CREDIT HOURS:** 5

**SEMESTER:** Spring 2019

**COURSE TITLE:** Thesis

**CLASS HOURS AND LOCATION:** NA

**INSTRUCTOR NAME:** Howard Chang

### **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

EMAIL: hhchang@emory.edu

**Teaching Assistant(s):** NA

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

MPH and MSPH Biostatistics students complete a thesis research project as their culminating experience. Thesis research includes the conceptualization, design and implementation of a project that is supervised by a thesis committee consisted of a Biostatistics & Bioinformatics faculty and at least one additional committee member/reader. Thesis research is summarized by a scholarly document that represents a student's original and innovative work product.

### **MPH/MSPH FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES:**

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate
- Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice

### **CONCENTRATION COMPETENCIES:**

- Identify statistical issues in contemporary public health problems.
- Communicate the results of statistical analyses to a broad audience.

### **EVALUATION**

A Satisfactory grade requires successful completion of BIOS 598 and on-time submission of the thesis, approved by the thesis advisor and reader.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

The thesis project should involve data analysis, simulation study, or software development. Projects on systematic review, database creation, and research protocol development are not acceptable.

The individual BIOS thesis advisor is responsible for the following tasks.

- Help conceptualize and define the project topic, scope, and expectations.
- Serve as the primary advisor on project decisions.
- Develop a timeline of the project completion process in line with the Thesis Mentor course schedule.
- Provide ongoing consultation during the project and determine the schedule and mode of communications.
- Review of project associated-written documents.

MPH/MSPH Foundational Competency assessed	Representative Assignment
Analyze quantitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate	The Methods and Results sections of the written thesis will include descriptions of quantitative data analysis.
Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice	The Results and Discussion sections of the written thesis will include interpretation of data analysis results.
BIOS Concentration Competencies assessed	Representative Assignment
Identify statistical issues in contemporary public health problems.	The Introduction section of the written thesis will require discussion of the statistical issues to be addressed in the application.
Communicate the results of statistical analyses to a broad audience.	The Results and Discussion sections of the written thesis will require communication of project findings in a non-technical manner.

## COURSE POLICIES

Students must also register for BIOS 598 Thesis Mentorship, which will provide lectures on best practices in managing research project,

As the instructor of this course I endeavor to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me and the Office for Equity and Inclusion, 404-727-9877.

## RSPH POLICIES

### **Accessibility and Accommodations**

Accessibility Services works with students who have disabilities to provide reasonable accommodations. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must contact the Office of Accessibility Services (OAS). It is the responsibility of the student to register with OAS. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and that disability accommodations are not provided until an accommodation letter has been processed.

Students who registered with OAS and have a letter outlining their academic accommodations are strongly encouraged to coordinate a meeting time with me to discuss a protocol to implement the accommodations as needed throughout the semester. This meeting should occur as early in the semester as possible.

Contact Accessibility Services for more information at (404) 727-9877 or [accessibility@emory.edu](mailto:accessibility@emory.edu). Additional information is available at the OAS website at <http://equityandinclusion.emory.edu/access/students/index.html>

### **Honor Code**

**You are bound by Emory University's Student Honor and Conduct Code.** RSPH requires that all material submitted by a student fulfilling his or her academic course of study must be the original work of the student. Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating dishonesty or a lack of integrity in academic ethics. *Academic dishonesty refers to cheating, plagiarizing, assisting other students without authorization, lying, tampering, or stealing in performing any academic work, and will not be tolerated under any circumstances.*

The RSPH Honor Code states: "Plagiarism is the act of presenting as one's own work the expression, words, or ideas of another person whether published or unpublished (including the work of another student). A writer's work should be regarded as his/her own property."

([http://www.sph.emory.edu/cms/current\\_students/enrollment\\_services/honor\\_code.html](http://www.sph.emory.edu/cms/current_students/enrollment_services/honor_code.html))