

THE VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY UNIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REPRODUCTION, OBSTETRICS AND
HERD HEALTH OF THE FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, GHENT UNIVERSITY,
ORGANIZES

8TH SUMMER COURSE ON VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY

12 SEPTEMBER – 23 SEPTEMBER 2016

<http://www.rohh.ugent.be/vetepisummercourse>

INTRODUCTION AND AIMS

Epidemiology in veterinary medicine is becoming increasingly important for many people active in veterinary practice, research, consultancy and organization and regulation of animal production.

The aim of this summer course is to make all participants familiar with the **key aspects of veterinary epidemiology** in a **practical and applied** manner. Upon completion of this course all participants should be familiar with all basic concepts of veterinary epidemiology, be capable of critically reading and understanding scientific literature and performing basic statistical and epidemiological analyses. Moreover the participants should be ready to design surveillance, analytical or clinical studies and to critically analyze the results. Furthermore the participants will be introduced to several aspects of more advanced epidemiological tools.

The course will be organized as a **two week summer course** (12 September – 23 September 2016) consisting of 10 course days. Every day will be filled with a mixture of theoretical training and practical applications. At the end of the course there will be the possibility to participate in a “take-home” exam.

The course will be taught by not less than **7 different experienced lecturers** with ample theoretical and practical knowledge.

PARTICIPANTS

The course is intended for everybody who is confronted with epidemiological questions in their professional activities (such as practice, disease control, scientific research and legislation) and is open to veterinarians as well as any other master degree in the field of biomedical sciences or bioengineering. No specific prior epidemiological or statistical knowledge is required. Although the majority of examples are from the field of veterinary medicine the course touches on all general principles of epidemiology and is therefore equally interesting to participants facing epidemiological questions in non-veterinary domains (e.g. human medicine, plant diseases, food safety,...).

PROGRAM

| Day | Date | Topic |
|-----|---------------|---|
| 1 | 12 Sept. 2016 | General introduction (J. Dewulf) + data management and frequency measures (S. De Vlieghe) |
| 2 | 13 Sept. 2016 | Statistics in epidemiology a practical approach (J. Dewulf and S. Sarrazin) |
| 3 | 14 Sept. 2016 | Diagnostics, accuracy and precision (J. Dewulf) |
| 4 | 15 Sept. 2016 | Observational studies, design and data analysis (J. Dewulf) and questionnaire design (S. Piepers) |
| 5 | 16 Sept. 2016 | Association and causality (J. Dewulf) Systematic review and meta-analysis (AC. Berge) |
| 6 | 19 Sept. 2016 | Introduction to qualitative and quantitative risk assessment (K. Stärk) |
| 7 | 20 Sept. 2016 | Sample size calculations (S. Sarrazin) and monitoring and surveillance part 1 (K. Stärk) |
| 8 | 21 Sept. 2016 | Monitoring and surveillance part 2 (K. Stärk) |
| 9 | 22 Sept. 2016 | Clinical trials (D. Maes) |
| 10 | 23 Sept. 2016 | Modeling of infectious diseases (J. Dewulf) |

TIMETABLE

The general timetable is as follows:

9:00 – 10:30 u: Epidemiology part I (Theory)

11:00 – 12:30 u: Epidemiology part II (Theory)

12:30 – 14:00 u: Lunch

14:00 – 17:00 u: Epidemiology part III (practical exercises)

This timetable may change in function of the different courses

Each participant is requested to bring a laptop with wifi, we will provide internet access and access to the required statistical programs.

LECTURERS

J. Dewulf (DVM, MSc, PhD, Dipl ECVPH, Dipl ECPHM)

Professor in Veterinary Epidemiology, Department of Reproduction, obstetrics and herd health. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University

S. De Vlieghe (DVM, MSc, PhD, Dipl ECVPH)

Associate Professor in Veterinary Legislation and practice management, Department of Reproduction, obstetrics and herd health. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University

K. Stärk (DVM, MSc, PhD, Dipl ECVPH, Dipl ECPHM)

Senior Consultant at SAFOSO, Professor Veterinary Public Health, Royal Veterinary College, University of London, United Kingdom.

D. Maes (DVM, MS, MSc, PhD, Dipl ECVPH, Dipl ECPHM)

Professor in Porcine Herd Health Management, Department of Reproduction, obstetrics and herd health. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University

S. Piepers (DVM, PhD)

Senior researcher in udder health and milk quality, Department of Reproduction, obstetrics and herd health. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University

S. Sarrazin (DVM, PhD, MSc)

Senior researcher in veterinary epidemiology with a focus on statistical data analysis, Department of Reproduction, obstetrics and herd health. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University

AC. Berge (DVM, MSc, PhD)

Academic consultant, Department of Reproduction, obstetrics and herd health. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University and private consultant in Veterinary Epidemiology.

REGISTRATION

The course fee is € 1400. For PhD students, members of the Flemish society of Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (VEE) as well as residents or internes of a European College (member of EBVS) the fee is reduced to € 1200. PhD students that are **member of the Doctoral School life science and medicine (DS LSM) of Ghent University receive a co-financing of €400** (final fee is then €800).

The registration fee includes:

- All theoretical and practical courses
- The book "Veterinary Epidemiologic Research" (Dohoo, Martin, Stryhn)
- All course notes
- Coffee and lunches during all course days

Registration is done by sending all relevant information to the course organizer Jeroen Dewulf: Jeroen.Dewulf@UGent.be before **15 July 2016**. The subscription is only final after having paid the registration fee (you will receive an invoice after registering). Be careful since the registrations will be treated on a first come, first serve basis and the maximum number of participants is limited to 25. After registration you will receive a password that allows you to download all course material from the course website: <http://www.rohh.ugent.be/vetepisummercourse>

COURSE/SOFTWARE/BOOK

For the exercises every student is requested to bring his / her own laptop. If you do not have access to a laptop please contact us on beforehand so that we can try to find a solution.

During the course the book "Veterinary Epidemiologic Research" (Dohoo, Martin, Stryhn) will be used. Besides that several free-ware software packets will be demonstrated and used. As the statistical analysis course is concerned students are encouraged to bring their own software packets if you are familiar working with this. If you have not been working with a specific software packet before we will provide you access to SPSS. As the quantitative risk assessment is concerned we will provide you (shortly before the start of the course) a link to @risk free trial version to be installed at your computer before the start of the course.

All courses will be given in English. The course is **recognized by the Doctoral School life science and medicine (DS LSM) of the Ghent University**. The **course can be included as one of the three specialist courses in the minimum set of activities**. All PhD students that are member of the DS LSM receive a € 400 co-funding by the doctoral school.

LOCATION

Unit for Veterinary Epidemiology
Department of Reproduction, Obstetrics and Herd Health
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Ghent University
Salisburylaan 133
B-9820 MERELBEKE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

<http://www.rohh.ugent.be/vetepisummercourse>

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THE CLASS OF 2011



THE CLASS OF 2012



THE CLASS OF 2014



SOME TESTIMONIALS

Basic, logic, sequential and clear explanations. I liked the exercises during the explanations. Presentation well planned also with the timings. Content perfect for the available time. Practical session was sometimes a bit hard for me.

Course extraordinary and outstanding! Enthusiastic teachers

All questions answered, good examples, many things became clear --> perfect! Can feel emphasis for epidemiology and it infects the listener

Sometimes difficult topics but very well explained, like it if he uses the black board and develops the subjects with the students.

Lectures are excellent, for all of them the tempo is just perfect, explanation and examples are extremely good.

It was very clarifying session, these things are previously taught to me by a statistician without examples, so this was "another point of view" just what I needed.

Appreciate relevant examples and the obvious deep knowledge of the lecturer.