CTSC 5300
Introduction to Clinical Epidemiology

Faculty: Janet E. Olson, Ph.D.
Credits: 1
Quarters: Summer & Winter
Prerequisites: None

Overview
This online course is the first in a series of three that comprise the introduction to clinical epidemiology. The course will present basic terminology and methodological concepts in epidemiology from a clinical perspective. Topics will include issues related to measurement, testing, prevalence, incidence, causation, study design, bias and confounding. The self-guided learning modules will typically include a presentation, self-check quiz, practice worksheet, and discussion thread.

Objectives
- To describe the difference between observational and experimental study designs
- To discuss the differences between accuracy and precision and their implications in epidemiologic studies
- To compare and contrast the basic epidemiologic study designs and their relative strengths and weaknesses
- To discuss the concepts of confounding and bias and how they might influence inference in epidemiologic studies
- To interpret the standard measurements used for evaluating diagnostic tests, discuss how these are applied in the population context, and how screening programs are evaluated

Evaluation
The final grade will be determined by two tests and a comprehensive final exam.

Students should expect to spend approximately two to four hours of time per week on this 1-credit course.

Additional online modules related to this topic are available on the Continuous Professional Development website.

For specific dates and times this course is provided, please see the quarterly detailed course schedule.