

# HGEN 6400: Professional Development for Genetic Counselors (Fall)

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**Credit Hours: 1.0**

## Contact Information

Name	Position	Phone	Email
Faculty TBD			UUGPGC@utah.edu

## Course Information

### Brief Description of Course

This course covers the basic principles of public health, epidemiology and statistics, from a clinical and historical perspective. It will enable the student to understand research methodologies and gain the ability to evaluate and present literature relevant to clinical practice and research. They will discuss how the clinical and historical perspectives of research intersect with the role of the genetic counselor in the current healthcare system. Prerequisite: University of Utah Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling (UUGPGC) students or permission of instructor; undergraduate course in genetics.

### Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course students will be able to:

1. Gain a thorough understanding of epidemiological study designs.
2. Utilize various search tools to locate high-quality articles as it relates to biomedical and clinical research data.
3. Improve the ability to provide clear, concise, and informative summaries of research publications.
4. Promote ethical research practices with consideration of individuals from all backgrounds.
5. Practice computational skills for genetic counseling risk assessment

### The ACGC Practice-Based Competencies Addressed in this course:

- Genetics and Genomics Expertise: 1; 1.a
- Risk Assessment: 2, 2.a, 2.b, 2.c, 2.d
- Communication: 4, 4.a., 4.b., 4.c
- Research: 5, 5.a., 5.b., 5.c
- Healthcare Systems: 6, 6.a
- Professional Identity: 7; 7.a; 7.b; 7.c

## Course Format & Schedule

### Timeline

One semester

### Educational and Instructional Modalities

This course is held in person for one 60-minute session a week. There will be some asynchrony work and occasional recorded lectures within class discussion.

### Role of the Student in this Course

You will be expected to engage in a variety of learning activities including reading, viewing videos, sharing with peers, writing and creating educational presentations.

### Required Textbooks/Readings

Optional Textbook: Genetic Counseling Research. A Practical Guide MacFarlane, Veach, LeRoy, 2014. 1st edition  
Optional Textbook: "Clinical Epidemiology: The Essentials" Grant S. Fletcher (5th or 6th ed)



Optional Textbook: Introduction to Risk Calculation in Genetic Counseling: Young, Ian D.

Assigned Readings, Optional Readings, Resources:

Readings will be found in Canvas under each individual class and may be printed or downloaded on your home computer. Make sure you read the headers and footers, as they contain textbook chapter information and websites that are required reading.

Supplemental Materials:

- Epidemiology: The Basic Science of Public Health a free online Coursera course.  
<https://www.coursera.org/learn/epidemiology>

## Assessment & Grading

### Evaluation Methods

Homework assignments in Canvas (50 pts), attendance, one presentation (20 pts), and class participation (30 pts). Please note attendance and participation are required. Late homework assignments will have one point deducted per day late.

### Grading System

Students will receive a final letter grade. To pass this course you must achieve an overall score of at least 80% (a B- equivalent) as required by the Department of Human Genetics.

Grading Scale

A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	86-89
B	82-85
B-	79 – 81
C+	76-78
C	73-75
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
F	Below 60

## Standard Policies

### **The Americans with Disabilities Act.**

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodation. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

### **Addressing Sexual Misconduct.**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

### **Campus Safety.**

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit [safeu.utah.edu](http://safeu.utah.edu).

### **Alternate Name and/or Personal Pronoun**

Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name as well as 'Preferred' first name (if previously entered by you in the Student Profile section of your CIS account). While CIS refers to this as merely a preference, we will honor you by referring to you with the name and pronoun that feels best for you in class, on papers, exams, group projects, etc. Please advise us of any name or pronoun changes (and please update CIS) so we can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun will be respected.

### **Current COVID-19 Campus Guidelines**

COVID-19 Guidelines change rapidly. Please access the most current information COVID-19 Central @ The U. [coronavirus.utah.edu](http://coronavirus.utah.edu)