Climate change and health – research methods

Location: Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden
Time: 4-15 June, 2012
Credit points: 3 ETCS
Subject: Epidemiology and Public Health – research methods
Level: Research level

Content
Impacts on global health from climate change are a reality. The challenge of developing and adapting scientific methods for the specific requirements of research on the link between climate change and health is the focus of this course. These challenges include techniques for attribution of risk/cause and effect, dealing with uncertainty and unusually large temporal and spatial scales, working with multi-sectorial datasets (e.g. meteorology, physical geography, agriculture and health) as well as using longitudinal data sets, both retrospectively and prospectively. The course will focus on a selection of research methods and will teach them to participants while at the same time give a chance to apply some of them. Examples are taken from Sweden and from low and middle-income countries. It builds on an introductory course on climate change and health offered at Umeå University or Heidelberg University or equivalent.

Expected learning outcomes
After the course the student will have knowledge on research methods used in the field of climate change and health and will have expertise in applying his/her analytical skills to complex data. The student will also have an understanding for methods to assess health impacts, adaptation and of vulnerable populations. Case studies will be used and whenever possible examples from both low income and high income countries will be drawn.

Required knowledge
The course is for PhD students and Post docs in Public Health or related fields. An introductory course on climate change and health like the one offered at Heidelberg University or an equivalent course/verified equivalent knowledge is a requirement. Basic knowledge in statistical methods and epidemiology.

Focus of instruction
Lectures and seminars/exercises at one course gathering in Umeå. Self studies.

Examination modes
Seminars, home work assignment and oral presentation.

Application
Contact us by e-mail maria.nilsson@epiph.umu.se for more information about how to apply.
Read more at www.climateandhealth.net