**American University of Beirut**

**Faculty of Health Sciences**

**Department of Epidemiology and Population Health**

**PBHL 317**

**Injury Seminar**

**(1 credit)**

**Course Syllabus**

**Academic Year 2023/2024**

**Course Instructor**

Name: Samar Al-Hajj, PhD (AUB)

Assistant Research Professor

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Office hours: TBA

**Class time and venue:**

Spring 2023/2024

Seminars meeting schedule: January 25, February 08, March 14, and April 17, 6:00 PM- 7:15 PM Beirut time.

**Course Description**

This injury seminar exposes students to various topics of injury research and methodologies. It advances students’ understanding of injury as a public health problem. Seminar topics include methodological approaches to several injuries, traumatic brain injury, occupational injury, road traffic injury, substance use and overdose and other emerging injury topics, as well as the application of policies and laws for injury prevention and control. Throughout the course, students are expected to learn about and understand injury-related topics via: (1) Reading and evaluation of the required journal articles and (2) Active engagement in class discussion related to a) Identification and appraisal of research and grey literature, b) Systematic Review and meta-analysis, c) Critical appraisal of research methodologies.

**Format**

Injury seminars will be scheduled once a month. Each session will encompass an injury topic introduced, presented and discussed by an injury expert during a 50-minute presentation followed by Q&A. Typically, injury experts are MENA PAIR mentors or invited guest lecturers in the field of injury. Further to the expert presentation, each session will include two presentations by MENA PAIR students that will summarize and present on two2 injury related articles.

Articles will be assigned by the mentors or selected by students from the recent literature and will reflect seminal findings, important controversies, or knowledge gaps related to the monthly discussed injury topic. Articles will be selected with an emphasis on literature from the MENA region or other low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Students’ presentations should follow the format of most articles:

* Background, Methods, Results, Discussion
* “Background” should include the rationale behind the conducted injury study.
* Future directions of research suggest by the students.

Students will have to prepare their presentations and submit to both the faculty lead for the seminar session as well as to Dr. Al-Hajj and Dr. Mowafi at least one week prior to each session. Students will receive feedback and suggested revisions to their presentations prior to the seminar session.

**Course learning objectives (LOs)**

**By the end of the course, students will be able to:**

LO1. Discuss the extent, distribution and determinants of selected injuries

LO2. Identify basic research methods to study injury in the population.

LO3. Demonstrate knowledge of the injury topic, the distribution of the morbidity, mortality and burden of the selected injury problem.

LO3. Evaluate appropriate injury research method to assess an injury problem.

LO4. Critically appraise injury peer reviewed research, systematic review, and meta-analysis.

LO5. Describe the main evidence-based policies and effective practices and models of prevention and management of selected injury problem.

**Assigned Text Book and Readings**

Selected articles will be provided to students as PDFs. There is no required textbook for this course.

Students are **required** to read assigned articles **PRIOR** to each session. This will enhance students learning experience and enrich class discussions.

Selected Articles: *see detailed outline*

**Course requirements and Student evaluation**

**Pre-requisites:** There are no pre-requisites for this course.

**Total Credits:** The course is 0 credit.

**Course delivery mode:** All lectures will be delivered online via Zoom; links will be provided to students at the beginning of each term.

**Attendance and participation:** Students must read assigned articles prior to each session and come prepared to actively engage in session discussion. **Students are required to attend all sessions online or in person**. Students who cannot attend a particular session should inform the course coordinator. All sessions will be recorded and available for review by all students through a secure class website using Moodle. Students are responsible for the material missed and for any announcements made.

**Student Evaluation:**

All students will receive a grade of Pass or Fail. A grade of Pass will be based on attendance and article participation, and presentation.

**Policies and other General Notes:**

**Academic Integrity:**

Education is demanding, and time management is essential. Do not hesitate to use the resources around you but do not cut corners. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Please review the Student Code of Conduct in your handbook and familiarize yourself with definitions and penalties. If you’re in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, ask your instructor because it is your responsibility to know. The American University of Beirut has a strict anti-cheating and anti-plagiarism policy. Penalties include failing marks on the assignment in question, suspension or expulsion from the university and a permanent mention of the disciplinary action in the student’s records.

**Students with Disabilities:**

Staff members of the AUB Office of Student Affairs, Room 113, West Hall, coordinate accommodations and services for students with special needs. If you have a disability, for which you may request an accommodation in AUB classes, consult the website for more information and arrange with the Coordinator (<https://www.aub.edu.lb/SAO/Pages/Accessible-Education.aspx>). Also, please see the instructor of this course privately about possible support services that can be provided to you.

**Non-Discrimination-Title IX-AUB:**

AUB is committed to facilitating a campus free of all forms of discrimination, including sex/gender-based harassment prohibited by Title IX. The University’s non-discrimination policy applies to, and protects, all students, faculty, and staff. If you think you have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. If you speak to a faculty or staff member about an issue such as harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, the information will be kept as private as possible. However, faculty and designated staff are required to bring it to the attention of the University’s Title IX Coordinator. Faculty can refer you to fully confidential resources, and you can find information and contacts at www.aub.edu.lb/titleix. To report an incident, contact the University's Title IX Coordinator Mitra Tauk at 01-350000 ext. 2514, or titleix@aub.edu.lb. An anonymous report may be submitted online via EthicsPoint at www.aub.ethicspoint.com.

**Student Portal**

Students are encouraged to use the Public Health Education Office (PHEO) student portal link for further guidelines: <https://sites.aub.edu.lb/fhspheostudent/>

**Detailed Course Outline**

| **Session** | **Date** | **Topic** | **Content** | **Speakers** | **Learning**  **Objective** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Session**  **1** | **Thursday January 25** | **The Atypical and Typical Manifestations of Suicide in Young People** | 1. Suicide and self-inflicted injury 2. Definitions, characteristics and risk factors of impulsive suicide attempts 3. Adolescent suicide: trends and common methods | Dr. Lilian Ghandour | All LOs |
| Required  Reading | Article 1: “*Annual Research Review: A meta-analytic review of worldwide suicide rates in adolescents”*  Article 2: “*Impulsive suicide attempts: A systematic literature review of definitions, characteristics and risk factors”* | | | | |
| **Session**  **2** | **Thursday Feb 08** | **Injury and Poisoning** | TBD | Dr. Iman Nuwayhid | All LOs |
| Required  Reading | TBD | | | | |
| **Session**  **3** | **Thursday**  **March 14** | **Motor Vehicle Crash Injury Epidemiology** | TBD | Dr. Federico Vaca | All LOs |
| Required  Reading | TBD | | | | |
| **Session**  **4** | **Wednesday**  **April 17** | **Elder Mistreatment** | TBD | Dr. Fuad Abujarad | All LOs |
| Required  Reading | TBD | | | | |