Course Title: Environmental Exposure Measurement and Assessment

Course Number: ENOH 0695-030

Course Pre- and Co-requisite(s): General Statistics

Course Location: EOHSI Conference Room C

Course Date & Time: Monday 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Course Instructors: Panagiotis (Panos) G. Georgopoulos, Ph.D.
Professor
Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute, Room 308
Department of Environmental and Occupational Health and Justice
Rutgers School of Public Health
(via canvas or by email: panosg@ccl.rutgers.edu; ccl.rutgers.edu)

Guest Lecturers: Drs. Kathy Black, Brian Buckley, Guillermo Cedeno Laurent, Zhi-hua (Tina) Fan, Stella Tsai

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Website: canvas.rutgers.edu

Required Course Text: None.

Readings/Resources: Reading materials will be distributed through Canvas.

Course Description: This course is a required course for MPH and PhD students in the Environmental and Occupational Health Program of Rutgers School of Public Health and for doctoral students in the Exposure Science Graduate Program, an option within the Department of Environmental Science of Rutgers. This course provides students basic scientific knowledge of sources of exposure, exposure measurement and assessment, and prevention and mitigation of hazardous environmental exposure. Topics include basic concepts of exposure science, the specific types and sources of environmental agents that people are exposed to, specific exposure measurement, assessment and modeling methods, and emerging environmental exposure issues. Skills will also be developed for designing exposure studies applicable to epidemiological investigations and health risk assessment.
Course Competencies:

Each Department identifies competencies for each degree offered. The competencies addressed in this course for the **PhD in Environmental and Occupational Health** include:

1. Design a testable hypothesis and execute research activity to investigate the effects of a toxicant, or toxin, or hazard event in a community;
2. Explain the importance of differences of susceptibility and vulnerability to environmental toxicant/toxins based upon age, gender, race, ethnicity, genetics and socioeconomic status in different populations;
3. Provide an informed expert opinion to government and/or community leaders regarding the extent or level of risk associated with a particular environmental or occupational hazard or condition;
4. Explain basic principles in environmental and occupational health sciences including toxicology, quantitative exposure assessment, epidemiology, and exposure science; and
5. Develop and/or apply novel and cutting-edge research methods in the laboratory and/or in the field.

The competencies addressed in this course for the **MPH in Environmental Health Sciences** include:

1. Describe the major environmental health problems facing the general public as well as among specific communities or susceptible, vulnerable sub-populations
2. Develop a testable model of environmental exposures (one or more agents) and adverse health outcomes (causing injury, disability, other measure of morbidity or mortality)
3. Specify current environmental risk assessment approaches and methods for a particular hazard or risk in a community.

The competencies addressed in this course for the **MPH in Occupational Safety and Health** include:

1. Identify occupational safety and health issues in the workplace and as applicable the related exposure risks to the general public as well as to vulnerable communities or susceptible sub-populations
2. Apply federal and state regulatory standards which are related to worker (occupational) safety and health protection
3. Develop testable models to validate occupational exposures (one or more agents) and adverse health outcomes (causing injury, disability, or other morbidity or mortality)

Please visit the Department webpages on the School of Public Health’s website at [http://sph.rutgers.edu/](http://sph.rutgers.edu/) for additional competencies addressed by this course for other degrees and departments.

Course Objectives: By the completion of this course, students will be able to:

a. Understand the basic concepts of exposure science.
b. Understand principles and methodologies of exposure analysis.
d. Be aware of the modeling tools for quantifying exposures.
e. Be able to select or use proper techniques to measure or estimate human exposures.
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<tr>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Course Objectives(s)</th>
<th>Lessons</th>
<th>Assessment(s)</th>
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<td>a, b, c, d, e</td>
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**MPH in Environmental Health Sciences**

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**MPH in Occupational Safety and Health**

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Course Requirements and Grading:

- Activities, assignments, projects, exams, etc. that contribute to course grade, and the respective point/percentage value of each

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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework/Discussion</td>
<td>40 points (Late -1 point/day)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25 points</td>
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Class participation will be based on presence and on interactions during the weekly lecture.

The homework/discussions will be based on one or more questions or statements proposed to which a response (suggested to be between approximately 400 and 500 words) should be provided. After you submit your entry, you will be able to see the full discussion thread. It is expected that you will respond to one or more of the other students’ entries. At the beginning of the lecture following the discussion thread there will be a concluding portion of the discussion for up to 10-15 minutes. You discussion should be based predominantly on peer-reviewed scientific journal articles when possible, including the (properly formatted) citation of the source of the materials presented. The discussion will in general be due for posting by Saturday at midnight following the Monday lecture it is based on, but there will be adjustments, depending on the specific needs of each discussion. Grading of each assignment will take into account the quality of both the writing and the content of each posting:

- **Writing Quality** reflects the correct grammar, syntax, spelling, and the completeness and logical structure of each sentence and paragraph; also, the proper and consistent formatting of all citations/references.
- **Content Quality** considers whether the answer/post: addresses the question(s) in a clear and systematic manner; covers all aspects of the question(s) and relates them to specific course topics, when possible; discusses public health relevance of the topic; provides, as needed, supporting examples from the peer-reviewed literature.

Quizzes (4-5 over the semester) – will typically be 30 - 45 minutes each. They will be "take-home" online quizzes that you will take at a time convenient to you, usually within a 5-7 day period; however, once you start the quiz you have to complete it within the allotted time (so when you begin the quiz do not stop working it until you are finished).

The final exam will take place 6-8 pm on Monday December 19, 2022 (final day of classes).

**GRADING SCALE**

A (94 - 100)
A- (90 - < 94)
B+ (87 - < 90)
B (84 - < 87)
B- (80 - < 84)
C+ (77 - < 80)
C (70 - < 77)
F ( <70)
# Course Schedule (Fall 2022)

(Note: Please always check the Canvas course site for modifications and updates)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date (2022)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 12</strong></td>
<td><strong>01. Course Introduction and Basic Exposure Science Concepts</strong>&lt;br&gt;• The source-to-health conceptual paradigm&lt;br&gt;• Definition(s) of exposure&lt;br&gt;• Exposure routes&lt;br&gt;• Exposure pathways&lt;br&gt;• Exposure as a bridge science</td>
<td><strong>Lecture</strong> Georgopoulos&lt;br&gt;<strong>Assignments</strong> On Canvas (Course Module 01)</td>
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<td><strong>September 19</strong></td>
<td><strong>02. Exposure Metrics and Factors</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Classifications and Metrics of exposure&lt;br&gt;• Exposure factors&lt;br&gt;• Exposure factors handbook and other resources</td>
<td><strong>Lecture</strong> Georgopoulos&lt;br&gt;<strong>Assignments</strong> On Canvas (Course Module 02)</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>September 26</strong></td>
<td><strong>03. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Exposure and Public Health</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Basic concepts and Tools of GIS&lt;br&gt;• Applications of GIS in Exposure and Public Health&lt;br&gt;• Geospatial Methods – Strengths and Limitations</td>
<td><strong>Lecture</strong> Georgopoulos&lt;br&gt;<strong>Assignments</strong> On Canvas (Course Module 03)</td>
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</table>
| October 3   | **04. Screening Level Assessments of Human Population Exposures and Disparities**  
- What are population-based exposure-wide association studies?  
- Exposure determinants  
- Distributions of exposure  
- Tools for screening-level studies  
- Environmental justice considerations in exposure assessments  

*Reading Material: TBA.* | **Lecture**  
**Georgopoulos**  
**Assignments**  
On Canvas  
(Course Module 04) |
| October 10  | **05. Inhalation Exposure Assessments**  
- Major air pollutants of concern  
- Microenvironments: indoors and outdoors  
- Exposure components  
- Inhalation exposure estimates  

*Reading Material: TBA.* | **Lecture**  
**Cedeno Laurent**  
**Assignments**  
On Canvas  
(Course Module 05) |
| October 17  | **06. Time-Activity-Location Survey Methods for Exposure Assessment**  
- Overview  
- Questionnaire design  
- Questionnaire administration  
- Global Position System  
- Data analysis  

*Reading Material: Freeman & de Tejada, Methods for collecting time/activity pattern information related to exposure to combustion products, Chemosphere, 979-992, 2002 (available online through Rutgers Libraries - netid and password required for access).* | **Lecture**  
**Black**  
**Assignments**  
On Canvas  
(Course Module 06) |
| October 24  | **07. Multiroute/Multimedia and Emergency Exposure Assessments**  
- Situations involving inhalation, dermal and ingestion exposures  
- Mechanisms and pathways for multiroute exposure  
- Study designs for multiroute/multimedia exposures  
- Special considerations – field studies to assess exposures associated with emergency events/disasters  

*Reading Material: TBA.* | **Lecture**  
**Buckley**  
**Assignments**  
On Canvas  
(Course Module 07) |
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| **October 31** | **08. Biomarkers of Exposure**  
  - Biomonitoring of Exposures  
  - Exposure biomarker development and measurement  
  - National and State biomonitoring programs  
  - Applications  

*Reading Material:*  
- NRC Committee on Biological Markers, Biological Markers in Environmental Health, EHP 74.3-9, 1987  
- Details for Environmental Exposures: Chapter 4 in: National Research Council (2006) Human Biomonitoring of Environmental Chemicals (Full report available in Exposure Course Resources)  
- Details for Occupational Exposures: OSHA-CDC Application of Biological Monitoring Methods for Chemical Exposures in Occupational Health | Lecture  
Fan  
Assignments  
(Course Module 08) |
| **November 7** | **09. Microbial Exposure Assessment**  
  - Microbial exposure concepts  
  - Mechanisms and pathways for microbial exposure  
  - Exposure measurement methods  

*Reading Material: TBA* | Lecture  
Tsai  
Assignments  
(Course Module 09) |
| **November 14** | **10. Exposures to Nonchemical Stressors (Noise, Heat, Radiation)**  
  - Radiation  
  - Heat  
  - Noise  
  - Vibration  

*Reading Material: TBA* | Lecture  
Georgopoulos  
Assignments  
On Canvas  
(Course Module 10) |
| **November 21** | **11. Climate Change Impacts on Human Exposures**  
  - Impacts of climate change on physical, chemical and biological stressors  
  - Heat waves and urban heat islands  
  - Exposures associated with floods, storms and other extreme weather events  
  - Human exposures in the context of One Health/Planetary Health  

*Reading Material: TBA* | Lecture  
Georgopoulos  
Assignments  
On Canvas  
(Course Module 11) |
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<tr>
<td>November 28</td>
<td>12. Modeling and Simulation of Exposure I - External Exposures</td>
<td>Lecture Georgopoulos</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Overview of external exposure modeling</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Rationale and applications of external exposure modeling</td>
<td>On Canvas (Course Module 12)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Types of environmental and exposure models</td>
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<td><em>Reading Material:</em></td>
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<td>- Chapters 5, 6 and 8 in: USEPA (2019) Guidelines for Human Exposure (Full report available in Exposure Course Resources)</td>
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<td>December 5</td>
<td>13. Modeling and Simulation of Exposure II - Internal Exposures</td>
<td>Lecture Georgopoulos</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Overview of biokinetic modeling</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Rationale and applications of biokinetic exposure modeling</td>
<td>On Canvas (Course Module 13)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Types of internal exposure and dose models</td>
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<td><em>Reading Material:</em></td>
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<td>- Chapters 5, 6 and 8 in: USEPA (2019) Guidelines for Human Exposure (Full report available in Exposure Course Resources)</td>
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<td>- Chapter 10, Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic Modeling</td>
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<td>in: Nieuwenhuijsen, ed. (Oxford 2003) Exposure Assessment in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology (The book is available online through RU Libraries)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>14. Exposure Analysis for Risk Assessment</td>
<td>Lecture Georgopoulos</td>
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<td>- Risk assessment concepts and tools</td>
<td>Assignments</td>
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<td>- Exposure metrics for different risk questions</td>
<td>On Canvas (Course Module 14)</td>
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<td>- Tiered risk assessments</td>
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<td>- Uncertainty and variability in exposure and risk assessments</td>
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<td>- Exposure errors and their impacts on risk assessment</td>
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<td><em>Reading Material:</em></td>
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<td>- Chapters 1, 2 and 3 in USEPA (2007) Concepts, Methods, and Data Sources For Cumulative Health Risk Assessment of Multiple Chemicals, Exposures and Effects (Full report available in Exposure Course Resources)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 19</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Learning Management System:** Canvas will be used extensively throughout the semester for course syllabus, assignments, announcements, communication and/or other course-related activities. It is the student’s responsibility to familiarize themselves with Canvas and check it regularly. If you have difficulties accessing Canvas, please inform the instructor and Canvas Support (help@canvas.rutgers.edu). Canvas is accessible at canvas.rutgers.edu.

**School of Public Health Honor Code:** The School of Public Health Honor Code is found in the student bulletin (sph.rutgers.edu/academics/catalog/index.html). Each student bears a fundamental responsibility for maintaining academic integrity and intellectual honesty in his or her graduate work. For example, all students are expected to observe the generally accepted principles of scholarly work, to submit their own rather than another’s work, to refrain from falsifying data, and to refrain from receiving and/or giving aid on examinations or other assigned work requiring independent effort. In submitting written material, the writer takes full responsibility for the work as a whole and implies that, except as properly noted by use of quotation marks, footnotes, etc., both the ideas and the works used are his or her own. In addition to maintaining personal academic integrity, each student is expected to contribute to the academic integrity of the school community by not facilitating inappropriate use of her/his own work by others and by reporting acts of academic dishonesty by others to an appropriate school authority. It should be clearly understood that plagiarism, cheating, or other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and can lead to sanctions up to and including separation from the Rutgers School of Public Health.

**Policy Concerning Use of Recording Devices and Other Electronic Communications Systems:** When personally owned communication/recording devices are used by students to record lectures and/or classroom lessons, such use must be authorized by the faculty member or instructor who must give either oral or written permission prior to the start of the semester and identify restrictions, if any, on the use of mobile communications or recording devices.

**Posting of Course Materials and Lectures or Slides on Web Sites:** Distributing instructor-owned course materials without the permission of the instructor is not permitted and is a violation of academic policy and of U.S. Law. Unauthorized upload of instructor’s and/or student created documents could violate the University Academic Integrity Policy and subject the student to disciplinary action. Such action may be considered copyright infringement and facilitate academic dishonesty.
Students with Disabilities: Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student must apply for Services by first completing a Registration Form with the Rutgers Office of Disability Services (ODS) at ods.rutgers.edu. The student will also be required to participate in an ODS intake interview and provide documentation. If reasonable accommodations are granted, ODS will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations which should be shared with your instructors as early in your courses as possible.

Commitment to Safe Learning Environment: The Rutgers School of Public Health is committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the School as a whole. Free expression in an academic community is essential to the mission of providing the highest caliber of education possible. The School encourages civil discourse, reasoned thought, sustained discussion, and constructive engagement. Provocative ideas respectfully presented are an expected result. An enlightened academic community, however, connects freedom with responsibility. The School encourages all students to disclose any situations where you may feel unsafe, discriminated against, or harassed. Harassment or discrimination of any kind will be not tolerated and violations may lead to disciplinary actions.

Reporting Discrimination or Harassment: If you experience any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. You may report such incidents to the RBHS Title IX Office or to the School of Public Health’s Office of Student Affairs. Rutgers University has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, and more. If you experience any other form of discrimination or harassment, including racial, ethnic, religious, political, or academic, please report any such incidents to the School’s Office of Student Affairs. The School strongly encourages all students to report any incidents of discrimination or harassment to the School. Please be aware that all Rutgers employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers as listed in Appendix A to Policy 10.3.12) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the School and potentially the University. For example, if you tell a faculty or staff member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty or staff member must share that information with the RBHS Title IX Coordinator. If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find a list of resources in Appendix A to University Policy 10.3.12. For more information about your options at Rutgers, please visit Rutgers Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance.

Graduate Student Computer Policy: Students are required to possess a personal laptop, no older than approximately two years, that must meet minimum requirements which may be found online at: sph.rutgers.edu/student-life/computer-support.html

Policy Concerning Use of Turnitin: Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com (directly or via learning management system, i.e. Canvas) for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site. Students who do not agree should contact the course instructor immediately.

Withdrawal/Refund Schedule: Students who stop attending their course(s) without submitting a completed Add/Drop Course form will receive a failing grade. Furthermore, students dropping to zero credits for the semester are considered withdrawn and must submit a completed Leave of Absence form from the School of Public Health’s Office of Student Affairs. The School of Public Health refunds tuition only. Administrative and technology fees are non-refundable. You may find the Withdrawal/Refund Schedule on the School of Public Health website at: sph.rutgers.edu/academics/academic-calendar.html
Special Circumstances During COVID-19, For Fall 2022 (Version Date 8/20/21)

To keep our on-campus communities safe, compliance with all current guidance and policies as set forth in the Guide to Returning to Rutgers is required at all times and without exception. Students, faculty, staff, or visitors who do not comply with these policies will not be permitted to remain on-site. The use of face-coverings indoors *IS* required in classrooms and offices as well as shared spaces (such as hallways and bathrooms). Rutgers employees and students must use the My Campus Pass symptom checker, a self-screening application, each day when traveling to campus or entering a Rutgers building. Please remember to wash your hands, wear a mask while indoors, particularly in crowded spaces and groups, and stay up-to-date on university guidance by consulting the Guide to Returning to Rutgers and the university’s COVID-19 website.

In addition, the School of Public Health recognizes that students may experience challenges or be negatively impacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, mental and emotional health toll from systemic racism, altered personal and professional obligations, and other crises existing at the moment in our local, national, and global communities. Students are encouraged to discuss these challenges and circumstances with their instructor, if they feel they may need additional support or temporary accommodations at the beginning or during this course. The course instructor may consider making reasonable temporary adjustments depending on the student’s situation. If additional support is needed, students may reach out to the Office of Student Affairs (studentaffairs@sph.rutgers.edu) or any of the appropriate referral resources listed on the SPH Student Connect Canvas page.