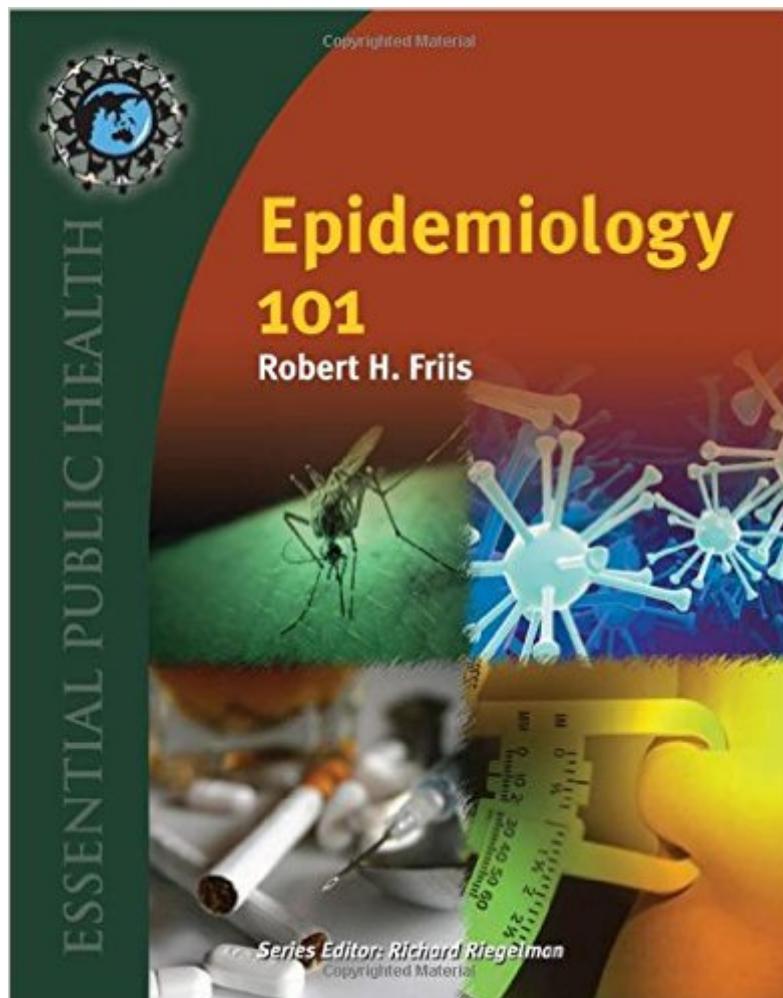


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Epidemiology 101 (Essential Public Health)



Synopsis

As an increasing number of colleges and universities call for an epidemiologic content into liberal arts programs. This title is designed to meet the needs of instructors teaching and overview or introductory course of epidemiology. In an easy-to-read and understandable format, the text demonstrates applied approaches in everyday life and also to specific health outcomes. Key Features: Numbers case studies Text boxes and vignettes throughout Exhibits Photographs Figures Illustrations Looking for more real-life evidence? Check out Cases 1-5, 19, & 21 in Essential Case Studies in Public Health, Putting Public Health into Practice.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Before I delve into the book's content, I will preface my review by mentioning that I already have my MPH in epidemiology and am a 3rd year doctor of public health student in epidemiology, 2 classes away from my dissertation. Furthermore, I have used this textbook as my required book for my students in 2 undergraduate-level epidemiology classes, so I have a unique perspective on its content from both a student and a teacher's perspective. This book serves as a very basic introduction to epidemiology, for either undergraduate students or for graduate students who are NOT majoring in epidemiology. But the word 'basic' comes with a price - because some of the multifaceted concepts within epidemiology get lost when oversimplified. Take, for instance, Friis' explanation of what an incidence rate is (p. 33). Most of us have learned how to calculate an

incidence rate as # of cases in a given time period/total person-time calculated (multiplied by a constant for interpretative purposes, like 1,000 or 100,000). Instead, Friis' explanation of the incidence rate comes alarmingly close to what the formula for cumulative incidence is - two completely different measures. Before I caught this in my first semester teaching with this book, I had many students extremely confused in regards to how to actually calculate an incidence rate. Friis does his readers a disservice here, but this is not his only faux pas. In Chapter 6, when he discusses how to calculate risk ratios (page 113), he mentions that you need to divide the 'incidence rate in the exposed group' by the 'incidence rate in the unexposed group' to calculate it.

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