Epidemiology 101 (Essential Public Health)

Robert H. Friis
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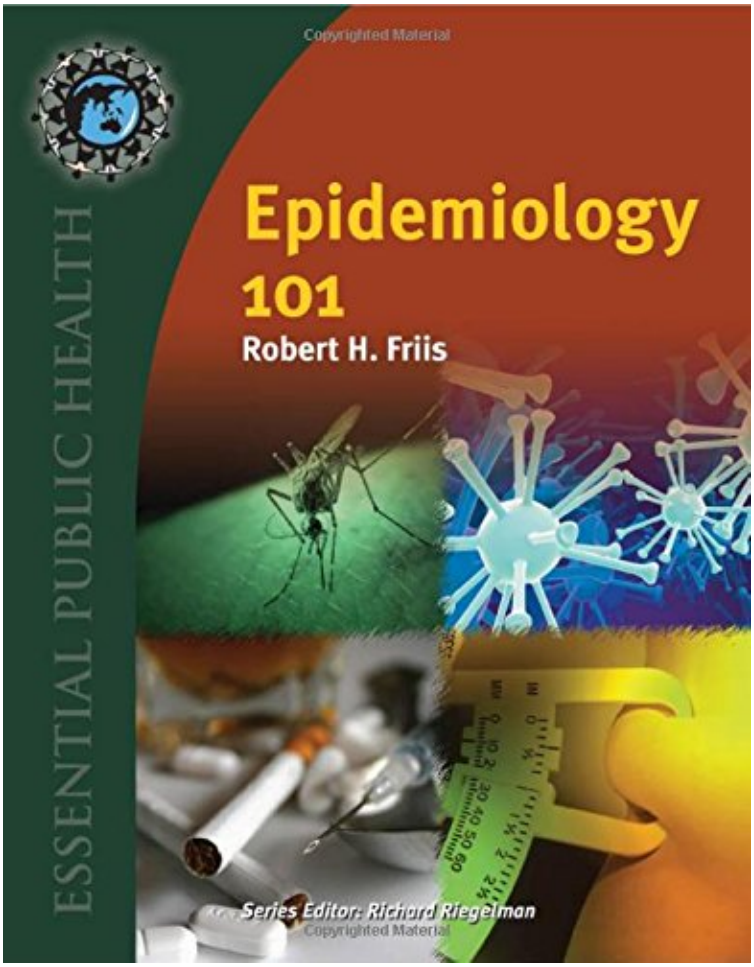

#67868 in Books Friis 2009-03-30Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.50 x 8.25 x .50l, 1.25 #File Name: 0763754439220 pagesJones Bartlett Publishers | File size: 33.Mb

Robert H. Friis : Epidemiology 101 (Essential Public Health) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Epidemiology 101 (Essential Public Health):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Epidemiology 101By MidoriThis textbook was required for my Epidemiology class. The book is very thin and the chapters are very short. Perfect for someone who doesn't really want to learn anything, but I feel like this book left me with a lot of unanswered questions. It gives you a very basic understanding of Epidemiology. I feel like I need a follow up class on this subject because I'm actually craving more knowledge in this subject. I do think the book was written in a way that anyone can understand it. Some of the photos threw me off, but I understand that they are necessary for the topic at hand.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Used, Good condition text bookBy RhiannonPurchased this textbook for my Epidemiology class and I actually really enjoyed this book. It had topics that interested me and it was also a very easy read. This is book was very helpful for taking my online tests. Came in good condition for being used as well.20 of 22 people found the

following review helpful. The only basic epidemiology textbook out there, but certainly far from the bestBy Christina - MPH, DrPH(c)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. Unfortunately, this can cause substantial confusion among students first learning epidemiology, because calculating a true incidence rate (while considering the person-time contribution) is not this simple (one has to make some assumptions regarding when the individuals who actually developed the disease did so in regards to determining actual person time). Again, I had to spend considerable time explaining to my students not to consider A/A+B or C/C+D as an easy shortcut to calculating an incidence rate by exposure.The book covers many of the basics to guide your lecture towards a reasonable sequential progression of introductory epidemiology projects (although I have taught the class with some of the chapters out of order that made more logical sense to me). I do have to give Friis' credit in that he simplifies a lot and covers a lot so you can give your students a lot in a short amount of time. But there are many concepts that should either be further (and appropriately) explained, or not mentioned at all. The best example can be seen on page 118, with an extremely paltry (and rather confusing) introduction to confounding. Since this topic is introduced and explored in depth at the graduate level, I am unsure that its mentioning here is worth page space.There are many other examples in this book that will frustrate epidemiology professors using this book, and I have not met another professor using this book who hasn't found the need to heavily supplement with other books and subsequent reading materials because of the quality of this book. Ask any epidemiology professor if they consider this book a valuable resource for themselves - I assure you that 10 out of 10 will say no. And any I have asked - highly accomplished epidemiologists, mind you - have said that this book is one of those painful necessities (like filing one's taxes) that professors must deal with until someone else comes out with an introductory epidemiology textbook that does a much better job than Friis has.Considering the price, I would highly recommend that you only rent this book if you need it for one of your classes. You will not use it again - this is the same advice I give all of my students.

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.