

Food 4103- Food Safety Risk Assessment

Fall 2021

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Class time: Tuesdays, 6:05-8:55 pm

Contact: Email questions at any time and I will respond as soon as possible
Email me to make a virtual appointment or phone call

Course Description

The role of risk assessment in providing science-based approaches to solving food safety problems. Risk assessment models and practical applications in critical risk management. An examination of actual risk assessments. Risk communication is addressed. This interdisciplinary course will be given through a combination of lectures provided by the instructor, guest lecturers, case studies, readings and student-led presentations.

Readings

No required textbook.

Readings related to the course material will be posted on cuLearn prior to the asynchronous lectures. These readings are typically required for classroom discussion and in-class assignments related to the lecture materials.

Class time

Class time will be used synchronously to cover course material. Class time will also serve as office hours/tutorial sessions to answer questions and take up questions from the case studies and assigned readings. These sessions will be held virtually Brightspace. Your participation (different than attendance) in these sessions will be reflected in your participation portion of your grade. This time will also be used to the end of the semester for student led presentations.

Course evaluation

Evaluation of a risk assessment	10%
Risk analysis presentation	20%
Briefing note	10%
Risk analysis term paper	20%
Class participation	20%
Midterm	20%

Tentative Class Schedule

Date	Lecture Topic(s)	Evaluation
September 14	Introduction to course Introduction to risk assessment	
September 21	Introduction to risk assessment Ochratoxin A case study	Evaluation of a risk assessment- assigned
September 28	Introduction to risk assessment Aflatoxin case study	Risk analysis presentation- assigned
October 5	Introduction to risk management Introduction to risk communication Deoxynivalenol case study	Risk analysis term paper- assigned Evaluation of a risk assessment- due
October 12	Risk analysis case study	Briefing note- assigned
October 19	Guest lecture	
October 26	Fall break	Briefing note- due
November 2	Guest lecture	
November 9	Midterm	
November 16	Guest lecture	
November 23	Comprehensive risk assessment presentations I	Risk analysis presentation I
November 30	Comprehensive risk assessment presentations II	Risk analysis presentation II
December 7	Comprehensive risk assessment presentations III	Risk analysis presentation III Risk analysis term paper- due

Note- midterm date is tentative and will depend on availability of guest speakers presentations

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the natural sciences contribution to risk assessment. This includes the ability to:
 - Understand how scientific evidence is generated to inform decision making
 - Evaluate and assess uncertainty within the natural sciences
 - Connect the natural sciences to domains outside the natural sciences
 - Critically assess and question scientific findings

2. Demonstrate understanding of risk assessment frameworks. This includes the ability to:
 - Understand and apply risk assessment frameworks
 - Understand both scientific and non-scientific considerations in risk assessment
 - Make recommendations based on available scientific evidence and non-scientific considerations

3. Apply risk analysis frameworks. This includes the ability to:
 - Understand how risk assessment, risk management and risk communication are linked
 - Make recommendations based on all available information

4. Communicate interdisciplinary risk analysis findings to both scientific and non-scientific audiences. This includes the ability to:
 - Produce written reports, briefing notes, and oral presentations
 - Concentrate large amounts of information into succinct written reports and presentations
 - Use appropriate scientific language

Missing Exams

If you miss the midterm, you must notify the Professor within 24 hours after the date of the exam. A make-up exam will be permitted under two conditions only: illness or bereavement. Document is required to schedule an alternative time for the midterm. If no documentation is provided, you will receive a grade of zero for the midterm. If you miss the final exam, you must contact the Registrar's Office within the time period specified in the 2018-2019 Undergraduate Calendar. You will need to fully document your application.

Plagiarism and Cheating

It is an instructional offense to use or pass off as one's own an idea or product which is the work of another without expressly giving credit to that other. It is also an instructional offense to copy the work of a fellow student. If students do plagiarize or cheat, the Dean's Office will be notified and appropriate action will be taken.

Course sharing websites

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including lectures, discussions, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s).

Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational use only. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

COVID-19

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and mandatory self-screening prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory symptom reporting tool. For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be taken in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the COVID-19 website.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the University's COVID-19 webpage and review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy. Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.