

Organization of Homeworks for Genetic Epidemiology Classes

– 2013-2014 –

In practice

ALL:

- Subgroups are formed

PH:

- “Topics” are identified. These topics lie in the interest field of the students. Homework assignments make links between these topics and key aspects of genetic epidemiology.

Non-PH:

- “Real-life” data are given. Homework assignments focus on QC-ing the data and performing genetic association analyses

ALL:

- Each homework assignment (2 in total) is made in the formed subgroups. Each group prepares slides (report). Each individual in the group takes part in the presenting and the discussion afterwards → individual score
- Presentation slides are made available to all students, via the course website.

Non-PH:

- A final report (per individual) is handed in at the end of the course series.

Potential focal points when discussing a topic

- Heritability
- Population characterizing
- Linkage versus association
- Population stratification
- Quality control: why, when, how?
- Scaling up (Big Data): from candidate-gene to genome-wide
- Effect modification, interactions
- Biological interpretation

In view of these focal points and the selected topics, the assignments will list “guiding questions” to steer the presentations

Reports

- Should contain an introduction, a description of what the paper/project does, and how this fits into the broader scientific context or the genetic epidemiology course. The report should also have a conclusion and if citations are made to other papers, there should also be a bibliography.
- The individual-based final report for non-PH students serves as a “written exam” and should be no more than the equivalent of 20 spaced typed pages of text, including figures, tables and bibliography. This report can be defended during an optional oral exam.