

Training course in research methodology,  
research protocol development and scientific  
writing 2024

## Course overview

**Geneva Foundation for Medical Education & Research  
in partnership with Oxford Maternal & Perinatal Health Institute  
(OMPHI) and the Department of Sexual and Reproductive  
Health & Research, World Health Organization (WHO)**

**Dr Raqibat Idris, MBBS, DO, MPH**





# **Training course in research methodology, research protocol development and scientific writing 2024**

## **Collaborating partners:**

- **Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER),**
- **Oxford Maternal & Perinatal Health Institute (OMPHI) and**
- **The Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health & Research, World Health Organization (WHO)**

# Course coordinators



**Dr Moazzam Ali**  
**Department of Sexual and  
Reproductive Health & Research,  
World Health Organization**



**Prof Jane Hirst**  
**Program Director, Women's  
Health, Clinical Chair in Global  
Women's Health, Imperial  
College London and Visiting  
Professor, Nuffield Department  
of Women's & Reproductive  
Health, University of Oxford UK**



**Dr Karim Abawi**  
**Geneva Foundation for Medical  
Education and Research**

# Course objective

To provide knowledge and skills in research methodology, research protocol development and scientific writing to health professionals in sexual and reproductive health field.

The course will enhance participants' understanding of research methodology and how to develop research protocols and improve their scientific writing.

# Thematic areas



**Literature search and referral to biomedical documents: Conducting a literature search and referencing**



**Epidemiologic studies: Provides basic knowledge on different epidemiological studies used to conduct research projects**



**Research protocol development: Provides practical instructions on how to develop a research protocol according to the WHO recommended format**



**Scientific writing: Provides instruction on scientific writing, such as articles or reports, based on academic criteria**

# Course topics & dates

04 September 2024 - 29 October 2024 (8 modules)

I. Introduction:  
Research topic  
selection,  
research question  
and research  
problem  
statement

III. Epidemiologic  
studies

V. Sampling  
(sample size and  
sampling  
technique) and  
quantitative data  
collection

VII. Research  
ethics and Critical  
appraisal of  
research  
publication

04 Sep.

11 Sep.

18 Sep.

25 Sep.

02 Oct.

09 Oct.

16 Oct.

23 Oct.

II. Types of  
research, Effective  
literature search  
and citing  
biomedical  
documents and  
sources

IV. Systematic  
review and  
Implementation  
research

VI. Qualitative  
study design

VIII. Research  
protocol  
development and  
scientific writing

Research protocol development

Research protocol submission  
deadline: 10 December 2024

# What each course module will contain

**Each  
module  
contains:**

- Slide sets
- Reference documents/ resources
- Links to useful videos
- Assignments
  - Written assignments (weekly)
  - Multiple-choice questions (end of course)

# Teaching-learning methods

## What the course organizers will do to support the participants:

- **A GFMER mentor will be assigned to you at the start of the course, to serve as your coach and guide.**
- **Your mentor will review your paperwork assignments & research protocols, and provide you with feedback promptly.**
- **You can reach out to your mentor by email whenever required or if needed by phone.**
- **You can always contact the GFMER secretariat with questions or concerns.**





# Teaching-learning methods cont'd

## What is required of you (the course participants):

- To connect with your mentors at the start of the course & to reach out to them when needed
- To develop and submit a research protocol under the guidance of your mentor
- To complete & submit the end of course evaluation

## For each module:

- **Study the slide sets**
- **Read all accompanying documents**
- **Complete the short assignments and the end of course MCQs**
- **Attend the live webinars and/ or watch the recordings**
- **Participate in the course Google Groups forum**
- **Participate in the end-of-course ZOOM meeting**

*Each module will take about 6 hours of work/week (total 60 hours of work including research protocol development)*



# Teaching-learning methods cont'd

## Google Groups:

- You will receive an invitation to join the group.
- You will need a Google account to join and post in the group.
- You can create a Google account without changing your email address. Alternatively, you can create a new Gmail address. Learn how at:  
<https://accounts.google.com/SignUpWithoutGmail>
- Once you become a group member, you can create a new topic for discussion or response to any topic through email or direct access to the group website.
- Google has clear online instructions on how to access and participate in the group at:  
<https://support.google.com/groups/answer/1067205#join>



# Online meeting schedules

Activity	Description	Date and time
Orientation session for coaches	To provide guidance on expectations and role to coaches	Monday 02 September 2024 Time: 2 PM CET (Geneva time)
Webinar 1	To respond to questions from participants and coaches on Weeks 1 to 5 topics <b>Panelist: Dr Moazzam Ali (WHO)</b>	Thursday 03 October 2024 Time: 3 PM CET (Geneva time)
Webinar 2	To respond to questions from participants and coaches on qualitative study design <b>Panelist: Dr Khalifa Elmusharaf (University of Birmingham)</b>	Thursday 17 October 2024 Time: 11 AM CET (Geneva time)
Webinar 3	Online teaching session on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Critical appraisal of research publication</li><li>• Scientific writing</li></ul> <b>Panelist: Prof Jane Hirst (University of Oxford)</b>	Thursday 24 October 2024 Time: 3 PM CET (Geneva time)
End of course meeting	For participants, coaches, course organizers, course resource persons to reflect on the course	To be decided

# Certificates

- **In order to validate the course and obtain the certificate, the participants are required to develop a research protocol relevant to their professional practice and under the guidance of their personal coach.**

# Organizing team: Names and designations

## **GFMER core team**

- Prof Aldo Campana, GFMER  
Director
- Dr Raqibat Idris, GFMER  
Course Manager  
[raqibat.idris@gfmer.org](mailto:raqibat.idris@gfmer.org)
- Ms. Fiona Poon, GFMER  
Course Administrator  
[fionna.poon@gfmer.org](mailto:fionna.poon@gfmer.org)
- Dr Aseel Mugahed
- Dr Fariza Rahman

## **Course coordinators**

- Dr Moazzam Ali,  
Department of Sexual  
and Reproductive Health  
and Research, WHO
- Prof Jane Hirst, Nuffield  
Department of Women's  
& Reproductive Health,  
University of Oxford (UK)
- Karim Abawi, Executive  
Committee member,  
GFMER

# Welcome to the course!

