Goal
With this module, students will learn how to design a research project to address a public health issue. The major stages of the research process - e.g. research design, data collection and data analysis - will be examined, through concrete examples and personal work.

Upon completion of the module, students will be able to
- Formulate a relevant research question
- Select an appropriate data collection method
- Define an appropriate sample
- Plan data collection
- Select an appropriate data analysis method

Contents
- Characteristics of good research questions
- Quantitative and qualitative social science research methods
- Sampling issues (types of sampling, recruitment of participants)
- Ethical issues related to fieldwork
- Data collection methods (individual interviews and focus groups, questionnaire)
- Data analysis methods (statistical analysis, content analysis)
- Feasibility of a planned project with respect to available resources (time, staffing, budget)

Methods
This is a hands-on, interactive module where students will hear lectures, but also do group work and receive immediate feedback from the teachers. Prior to the module, students will formulate 1 or 2 research questions related to their work environment. During the module, presentations and group work sessions will take the students through the successive stages of designing a research project. After the module, each student will write a research proposal.

Exam
Group work during the module and personal essay at the end of the module, e.g. a research proposal of 3 to 5 pages

Preparation and postprocessing
5 hours preparation, 15 hours postprocessing

ECTS Credits
2 ECTS credits

Requirements
required are:
«Grundlagen der Gesundheitswissenschaft und Sozialepidemiologie» (B201.20)

Organisation
Institut für Sozial- und Präventivmedizin der Universität Bern
Department of Sociology, University of Geneva

Coordination of module
Dr. Kristen Jafflin, Universität Basel
Dr. Stéphane Cullati, Population Health Laboratory, University of Fribourg

Lecturers and tutors
Dr. Kristen Jafflin, Universität Basel; Prof. Dr. phil. Thomas Kohlmann, Institut für Community Medicine, Universität Greifswald; Dr. Stéphane Cullati, Population Health Laboratory, University of Fribourg

Dates
18 to 20 October 2021

Location
Bern

Fees
CHF 1'600.-

Registration deadline
18 August 2021

Additional information
The teaching language is English.

The module will be taught in distance education mode if required by COVID-19 regulations.