

BROCHURE 2026



Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research

Research methodology, research protocol development and scientific writing

Organizers

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

Course Duration

02 September – 27 October 2026 (8 weeks)

Contact

The Administrative Office
**Geneva Foundation for Medical
Education and Research (GFMER)**

Chemin de Beau-Soleil 12
1206 Geneva, Switzerland.

Email:
researchmethodology@gfmer.org

Website: <https://www.gfmer.ch>

Follow Us



About

The Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research

The Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER) is a non-profit organization established in 2002. It is supported by the Department of Social Affairs of the City of Geneva and other Swiss and international institutions.

The Foundation works in close collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). The overall objectives of the Foundation are to promote and develop health education and research programs.

Objective

Research methodology, research protocol development and scientific writing

The objective of this course is to provide knowledge and skills in research methodology, research protocol development and scientific writing to health professionals in sexual and reproductive health field. This course will enhance participants' knowledge of research methodology and how to develop research protocols and improve their scientific writing.

Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research

Research methodology, research protocol development and scientific writing

Four thematic areas:

Literature search and referral to biomedical documents

The aim of conducting a literature search is to identify the most relevant sources related to a study topic in order to provide evidence, give background information, place research into a theoretical context and inform readers about similar research on the topic. A literature review is crucial for the credibility of a scientific paper and serves as an update of professional knowledge in a particular field of expertise.

Referencing is a standard way of citing the sources of information you have used and ideas that are not your intellectual property. It is important to verify citation and to allow readers to follow-up certain topics in further detail and locate the cited author's original work.

Epidemiologic studies

This section provides basic knowledge on different epidemiological studies used to conduct research projects. It includes methods for observational (analytic & descriptive) studies, such as cross sectional, cohort, case-control and experimental studies like randomized trials. This section includes both quantitative and qualitative methods for conducting research as well as various data collection methods.

Research protocol development

This section provides practical instructions on how to develop a research protocol according to the WHO recommended format.

Scientific writing

This section provides instruction on scientific writing, such as article, report, presentation based on academic criteria.

Research methodology and research protocol development

Course Topics

Week 1. Introduction: Research topic selection, research question and research problem statement

Week 2: Types of research, Effective literature search and citing biomedical documents and sources

Week 3. Epidemiologic studies

- Epidemiologic studies
- Cohort studies
- Case-control studies
- Cross-sectional studies
- Randomized controlled trial

Week 4. Systematic review and Implementation research

- Systematic review
- Implementation research

Week 5. Sampling (sample size and sampling technique) and quantitative data collection

Week 6. Qualitative study design

Week 7. Research ethics and critical appraisal of research publication

Week 8. Research protocol development and Scientific writing



Moazzam Ali
Course coordinator
WHO HQ (Geneva)



Jane Hirst
Course coordinator
University of Oxford (UK)



Karim Abawi
Course coordinator
GFMER

Course Coordinators

Moazzam Ali

Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research,
World Health Organization (WHO HQ Geneva)

Jane Hirst

Nuffield Department of Women's & Reproductive Health,
University of Oxford

Karim Abawi

Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER)



Aldo Campana



Raqibat Idris



Fionna Poon



Aseel Mugahed



Fariza Rahman

The GFMER Team

Prof Aldo Campana, Director

Dr Raqibat Idris, Course Manager

Mrs Fionna Poon, Course Administrator

Dr Aseel Mugahed, Technical Officer

Dr Fariza Rahman, Technical Officer

GFMER Country Coordinators / Coaches



Afghanistan -
Homa Kabiri



Bangladesh -
Andrew Ashim Roy



Bhutan -
Sonam Wangdi



Bolivia -
Carlos Encinas



Bahrain -
Maryam Alaradi



Brazil - Mariana
Felisbino-Mendes



Burkina Faso -
Bruno Ki



Cameroon -
Gregory Edie Halle-
Ekane



Egypt -
Nana Abuelsoud



Ethiopia - Melaku
Samuel Hottessa



Ethiopia - Ambaw
Damtew Belete



Georgia -
Lela Shengelia



Gulf Cooperation
Council - Khadija
Ahmed Matrook



India - Rathnamala
M. Desai



Indonesia - Agus
Fitriangga



Iran - Shayesteh
Hajizadeh



Iraq - Hamdia
Mirkhan Ahmed



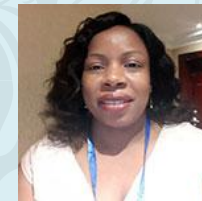
Kenya - Peter
Otieno Khayombe



Lebanon -
Ayah Al Bizri



Malta - Valeska
Padovese



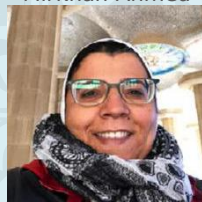
Malawi -
Tazirwa Chipeta



MENA Region -
Amr Awad



Mexico - Atziri
Ramirez-Negrin



Morocco - Bouchra
Assarag



Mozambique -
Chadreque Muluana



Nepal -
Anil Thapa



Nigeria - Aishatu
Abubakar-Sadiq



Nigeria -
Amelia Odo



Nigeria -
Chukwuemeka
Nwachukwu



Pakistan -
Anjum Ara Saeed



Palestine -
Shoroq Abuhamad



Spain - Daniel Orós
López



Sudan -
Khalifa Elmusharaf



Uganda -
Morris Okwir



Zambia -
Namakau Nyambe

In alphabetical order by country



Eligible Candidates

Health professionals, paramedical staff, project planners and managers in health-related areas, advocates, government officials and social scientists.

Learning Methods

On each of the topic, the following items will be posted:

1. A set of slides with accompanying talking points
2. Reference documents
3. Other audio-visual materials

Teaching language

The teaching language of the course is English. Participants can develop their research protocols in English or French.

What is required of you?

For each module, participants must:

- Study the slides and talking points.
- Read all accompanying documents.
- Complete the short assignment / MCQs / interactive exercises, after going through the slide set and documents.

A personal coach will be assigned to each participant, whose role is to facilitate the learning process and serve as tutor.

Course validation and certificate

To validate the module 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.

The successful participants will receive a certificate signed by the World Health Organization's Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research/Human Reproduction Programme, Oxford Maternal & Perinatal Health Institute and the Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research.



Admission Procedures

1. Submit the online application form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvSnkzMNKIU7TOinR7sidofhJX1MMYZec76Z-ipTQShJ_yGw/viewform

2. Submit the following documents that are required to process admission via email (researchmethodology@gfmer.org):

- A curriculum vitae, including sections on current and previous positions.
- A letter of motivation stating clearly your interests and reasons for applying to the Course (1 page maximum).

3. Wait for the acceptance notice from the administrative office.

4. If your application is accepted, settle the course fee before the course commences.

Important Dates

Start date: 02 September 2026

End date: 27 October 2026

Application deadline: 19 August 2026

Payment deadline: 26 August 2026

Course Fee

USD 250

Course Website

<https://www.gfmer.ch/SRH-Course-2026/research-methodology/index.htm>

Application Form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvSnkzMNKIU7TOinR7sidofhJX1MMYZec76Z-ipTQShJ_yGw/viewform

Contact

The Administrative Office
**Geneva Foundation for Medical
Education and Research (GFMER)**

Chemin de Beau-Soleil 12,
1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland.

Email: researchmethodology@gfmer.org

Website: <https://www.gfmer.ch>

Follow Us

