



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Mel & Enid Zuckerman  
College of Public Health

**Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health  
University of Arizona**

**HPS 618**

**Catalog Description:** This is an introductory course on designing and conducting systematic reviews with or without meta-analysis. (3 units)

**Course Topics:**

- Systematic literature review process

**Course Objectives:** During this course, students will:

- Formulate key questions for a review
- Organize a literature search; identify which literature bases to search
- Abstract relevant information from appropriate studies in a systematic manner
- Rate the scientific quality of each study and the level of evidence for each question
- Create evidence tables and summary tables. 6. Summarize the studies' findings
- Interpret the pattern of evidence in terms of strength and consistency.

**Learning Outcomes (Competencies Obtained):** Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Gain knowledge about how to critically appraise research literature
- Have a better understanding on the principles guiding the conduct of a systematic literature review
- Become familiar with how to critique a published systematic review
- Develop skills that are fundamental for conducting a systematic review
- Describe the elements of a meta-analysis and when such a step is appropriate.
- Summarize the main strengths and limitations of systematic review methods