

□ INTRODUCTION

**Majmaah graduates □
should be:**

□ **scientific in their approach to
practice**

□ **proficient in clinical care**

□ **professional**

□ **community conscious**

□ **a scholar**

□ **The purpose of the
course is to:**

- Explain the principles of disease causation with particular emphasis on modifiable environmental factors, including environmentally-determined behaviours, encourage the application of epidemiology to the prevention of disease and the promotion of health,
- Prepare members of the health-related professions for the need for health services to address all aspects of the health of populations, and to ensure that health resources are used to the best possible

effect, and encourage good clinical practice by introducing the concepts of clinical epidemiology.

- At the end of the course the student should be able to demonstrate knowledge of:
 - The nature and uses of epidemiology
 - The epidemiological approach to defining and measuring the occurrence of health-related states in populations

- The strengths and limitations of epidemiological study designs

- The epidemiological approach to causation
- The contribution of epidemiology to the prevention of disease, the promotion of health and the development of health policy
- The contribution of epidemiology to good clinical practice and the role of epidemiology in evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of health care.

- **In addition**, the student will be expected to have gained a variety of skills, including

ability to:

- Describe the common causes of death, disease and disability in his community
- Outline appropriate study designs to answer specific questions concerning disease causation, natural history, prognosis, prevention, and the evaluation of therapy and other interventions to prevent and control disease.

□ What is epidemiology?

Key messages

- Epidemiology is a fundamental science of public health.
- Epidemiology has made major contributions to improving population health.
- Epidemiology is essential to the process of identifying and mapping emerging diseases.
- There is often a frustrating delay between acquiring epidemiological evidence and applying this evidence to health policy.