



TITLE V COOPERATIVE MSC-UPR & UCC



TWO PRCTRC PARTNERS, UCC AND MSC JOIN EFFORTS TO CREATE
A PIPELINE FOR FUTURE CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCHERS.
NEWS

Supported by the US Department of Education: Title V Grant Award # P031S160068

INTD 5998 - Clinical and Translational Research I: Introduction and Principles Course – Second Delivery

As part of the institutionalization of the initiatives developed by the Title V Cooperative Project MSC - UCC, the INTD 5998 - Clinical and Translational Research I: Introduction and Principles course is being offered for the second time, I from January to May 2021. It currently has an enrollment of 14 students: 13 undergraduates and one graduate. It is the first time that it is being offered completely as an on line course (with synchronic and asynchronic sessions), which has allowed the participation of students from different campuses of the UPR system.



Students and professors, Course INTD 5998 (2nd delivery) fully virtual, January-May 2021

The course is under the Health Sciences Program of the Undergraduate Programs Department of the School of Health Professions of the Medical Sciences Campus of the University of Puerto Rico. This is an interdisciplinary course designed to expose students to the main concepts that underlie the performance of clinical and translational research, through conferences, workshops, and presentations. Clinical and Translational researchers participate as lecturers and workshop leaders. There is a wide range of topics spanning from the operational definition of Clinical and Translational Research to de identification of research areas from a clinician practice and the design of a career development plan and of a proposal. We are confident that this offering will have, the same or greater success than the course offered last year

Students and professors, Course INTD 5998 (2nd delivery) fully virtual, January-May 2021

Enhancing research and communication skills through CRESCO Online

Students and professors of both UPR-Medical Sciences Campus and Universidad Central del Caribe have begun 2021, with renewed interest in developing their research and science communication skills. Proof of this has been their enthusiastic response to the varied virtual services --workshops, mentoring, and tutorials-- provided for them by CRESCO Online. These have been available without interruption since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic during Spring of last year.

In just the first six weeks of the present academic semester, a total of 89 participants have attended online workshops delivered by our mentors. Mr. Elvis Santiago Rodríguez, our Statistics' Mentor, has offered workshops on 1) the use of [Intellectus Statistics](#), a web-based software provided by Title V Project that allows researchers to conduct analysis without requiring statistical expertise; and 2) how to select the appropriate statistical tests for a research project. CRESCO Resources' Mentor, Mr. José Raúl Ubieta Santiago, has taught students and professors how to: 1) improve their scientific writing skills and avoid plagiarism using [Turnitin](#), an Internet-based plagiarism detection service subscribed to by Title V; 2) generate accurate citations and references with the web-based bibliographic manager [Mendeley](#); and 3) conduct advanced literature reviews with PubMed / MEDLINE.

In part, as a result of the workshops offered, students and faculty have also visited our CRESCO's portal to request mentoring or consultation services to follow up on specific issues related to their research projects. In these online sessions, research teams discuss the specificities of their investigations with Mr. Elvis Santiago Rodríguez to answer questions such as: How many samples do we need? Do we have dependent or independent samples/paired or unpaired groups? Shall we choose one-tailed or two-tailed tests? or Which is the best method of analysis for multiple comparison of treatments in a follow up study? In other occasions, they make an appointment with Elvis to receive individualized help with the use of Intellectus Statistics for analyzing their collected research data.

Talleres CRESCO
4:30-6:00 pm

Recurso
Elvis Santiago, MS
Mentor de Estadísticas
CRESCO

Introducción a Intellectus Statistics

- martes, 26 de enero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).
- miércoles, 3 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).

Cómo seleccionar el análisis estadístico adecuado para su investigación

- martes, 9 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).
- miércoles, 17 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).

La importancia de la *significancia* en el análisis estadístico

- martes, 23 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).
- miércoles, 3 de marzo – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).

Ofrecido por el Center for Research Education and Science Communication Opportunities (CRESCO) del Proyecto Título V RCM-UCC (Title V Grant Award # P031S160068)

Talleres CRESCO
4:30-5:30 pm

Recurso
José R. Ubieta, MIS
Mentor de Recursos
CRESCO

Cómo utilizar Turnitin para la prevención de plagio

- lunes, 25 de enero - Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).
- jueves, 28 de enero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).

Mendeley – citas y referencias

- martes, 2 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).
- lunes, 8 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).

PubMed – búsqueda de literatura científica

- jueves, 11 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).
- lunes, 22 de febrero – Inscripciones [AQUÍ](#).

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Workshops offered by CRESCO

Similarly, students and faculty members contact Mr. José R. Ubieta Santiago through Google Meet of MS Teams to receive additional support on the use of Turnitin, Mendeley and PubMed /MEDLINE to complete their research proposals and presentations. He also offers mentorship on the best strategies to deliver an oral presentation, the principles for designing a highly effective scientific poster, how to critically appraise scientific literature, or avoiding plagiarism when writing.

To complement synchronous workshops and mentoring sessions, Elvis and José Raúl have recently designed and published online video-tutorials in CRESCO's portal. Two new titles have been added : *Introduction to Intellectus Statistics* and *Choosing the right statistical test for your research*, to the existing collection of online tutorials. Other tutorials previously created and available in CRESCO's portal include: *The Research Question*, *Oral Presentations*, *Turnitin - Menu*, *Turnitin – Creating Assignments*, *PubMed-Basic*, *PubMed-Creating Alerts*, and *Epidemiology and pandemics*.

CRESCO's hybrid service model --which combines renovated facilities with state-of the art instructional technologies in the libraries of UPR-MSU and UCC-- was vital for the continuation of its educational services during the restrictions imposed during the Covid-19 emergency. In fact, when forced by the pandemic lockdown, all CRESCO's offerings began to be provided fully digitally. As a result, we have experienced dramatic increases in the number of people served. An example will suffice to illustrate this. While in the entire year 2019 only 42 students or professors attended our on-site workshops, 313 have participated in online workshops since the beginning of the pandemic. *An increase of 645%!!!*

Virtual HETS Best Practices Showcase 2021

To share these and other achievements, CRESCO's innovative service model was presented as part of the Virtual Hispanic Educational Technology Services (HETS) Best Practices Showcase on February 12th, 2021. With an audience composed mainly by distance education specialists from Puerto Rico, United States and Latin America, Prof. Mildred Rivera Vázquez (UCC), Dr. Lizbelle De Jesús Ojeda (UPR-MSU), and Dr. Efraín Flores Rivera (UPR-MSU), presented CRESCO's service model as a successful example of a Learning Commons, specifically aimed to enhance research and scientific communication competencies of students and professors participating in the clinical-translational research training program developed by Title V Cooperative Project between UPR-MSU and UCC. The presenters not only described CRESCO's planning, implementation and evaluation phases, but emphasized the main features that explain its success: 1) the hybridity in its design, combining physical and digital resources; 2) the collaboration of a multidisciplinary team of professionals (librarians, instructional designer, computer specialist, statistician); and 3) a continuous evaluation process to a continuous evaluation process to identify achievements and

aspects to be improved, complemented with concrete support and follow-up actions to achieve the established goals. Also, they shared with the attendees the main outcomes of the CRESCO developed in the libraries of UPR-MSU and UCC since 2016: renovation of physical facilities; acquisition of state-of-the-art equipment and furniture; subscription to a variety of web-based software and databases, and the development of training and mentoring services to support the development of research and scientific communication skills. Finally, presenters reflected on how CRESCO's strong digital component was key to its smooth transition to fully online services when the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the country. To watch the recording of this presentation, use this link: https://youtu.be/DhUq5hdhM_E

Evaluation visit of María del Pilar Toral Correas, PhD as external evaluator of the Title V Coop Project UPR-MSU/UCC

The Title V Coop Project UPR-MSU/UCC team hosted the evaluation visit of the firm Eduprop and Asoc, Inc. represented by María del Pilar Toral Correas, PhD on January 27, 2021. Leaders and Co-coordinators, Liaisons and others shared the achievements accomplished during the first trimester of year 5, as well as the challenges on schedule for 2021 activities. Students from the first INTD 5998 course given by RCM from January to May 2020 and RETO-MOTOR participants of the training cycles offered from August to December 2020, as well as lecturers for the course and/or training cycles and members of a Clinical and Translational Mentoring Team (CTMT) were invited. Participants expressed satisfaction about their experiences and the impact the project activities had on their professional training. Collaborators intervention demonstrated enthusiasm, teamwork and commitment on the project. The positive feedback was received as a compliment to the teamwork to achieve the proposal objectives.



Leaders and collaborators of the Title V Project UCC / RCM led by Dr. Rubén García García and Dr José R Moscoso Álvarez meet virtually with the external evaluator Dra. María del Pilar Toral Correas