

# Comparing and Designing Learning Outcomes

Case of «Biostatistics» Study Programme

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# Presentation Outline

01

Share our experience on the process of learning outcomes design for a new study programme (qualification)

02

Illustrate the process of learning outcomes comparison

03

Describe the process of Curriculum Mapping

04

Share some observations about comparing Learning Outcomes





**Biostatistics:** statistical processes and methods applied to the collection, analysis, and interpretation of biological data and especially data relating to human biology, health, and medicine.

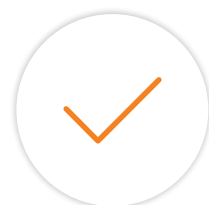
Merriam-Webster Dictionary



Master's level study programme  
(EQF level 7)



In development since 2018

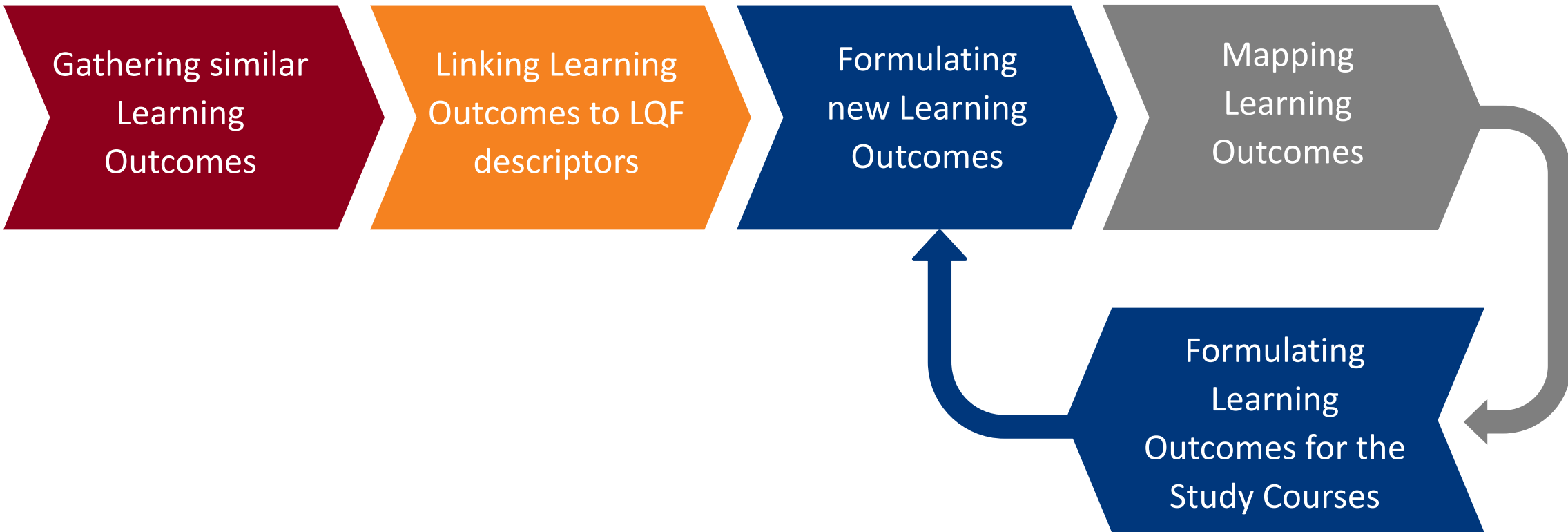


Expected to be licenced in 2020

# Sources for Comparison



# Process of Learning Outcomes Design



# Linking LOs to LQF descriptors

## Learning Outcome

Address health problems by appropriate problem definition, study design, data collection, data management, statistical analysis, and interpretation of results

## Descriptor

Able to use independently theory, methods and problem solving skills to perform research or artistic activities, or highly qualified professional functions

# Linking LOs to LQF descriptors

## Learning Outcome

Demonstrate mastery of the theory underlying statistical methods

## Descriptor

Able to use independently theory, methods and problem solving skills to perform research or artistic activities, or highly qualified professional functions

# Linking LOs to LQF descriptors

## Learning Outcome

Apply research design principles to problems in public health

## Descriptor

Able to use independently theory, methods and problem solving skills to perform research or artistic activities, or highly qualified professional functions



# Linking LOs to LQF descriptors

## Learning Outcome

Communicate biostatistical analyses to individuals with varying degrees of statistical knowledge

## Descriptor

Able to provide arguments when explaining or discussing complex or systemic aspects of the concrete branch of science or professional field both to specialists and non-specialists

# Linking LOs to LQF descriptors

## Learning Outcome

Recognize strengths and weaknesses of approaches, including alternative designs, data sources, and analytic methods

## Descriptor

Able to define independently and critically analyse complex scientific and professional problems, substantiate decisions and, if necessary, carry out additional analysis

# Linking LOs to LQF descriptors

## Learning Outcome

Determine the data best suited to address public health issues, program planning, and program evaluation

## Descriptor

Able to integrate knowledge of various fields, contribute to the creation of new knowledge, research or the development of new professional working methods

# Formulating LOs aligned with LQF

Able to define independently and critically analyse complex scientific and professional problems, substantiate decisions and, if necessary, carry out additional analysis.

- Interpret results of advanced statistical analyses and use these results to make relevant inferences from data.
- Disseminating new knowledge in a research discipline through the preparation of written reports of biostatistical analyses, comparison of different statistical methodologies, and oral presentation of results.
- Recognize strengths and weaknesses of approaches, including alternative designs, data sources, and analytic methods
- Develop written and oral presentations based on statistical analyses for both public health professionals and educated lay audiences.

# Formulating LOs aligned with LQF

Able to define independently and critically analyse complex scientific and professional problems, substantiate decisions and, if necessary, carry out additional analysis.

- Interpret inferential findings within Bayesian thinking (e.g. credible intervals, hypothesis testing). Conduct inference via posterior simulation and simulations tool.
- Carry out a large independent research project involving innovative application of existing statistical methods or development of new methods, and report the methods and findings orally and in writing (e.g., a thesis or research paper).

# Formulating LOs aligned with LQF

## Existing Learning Outcome (Harvard University):

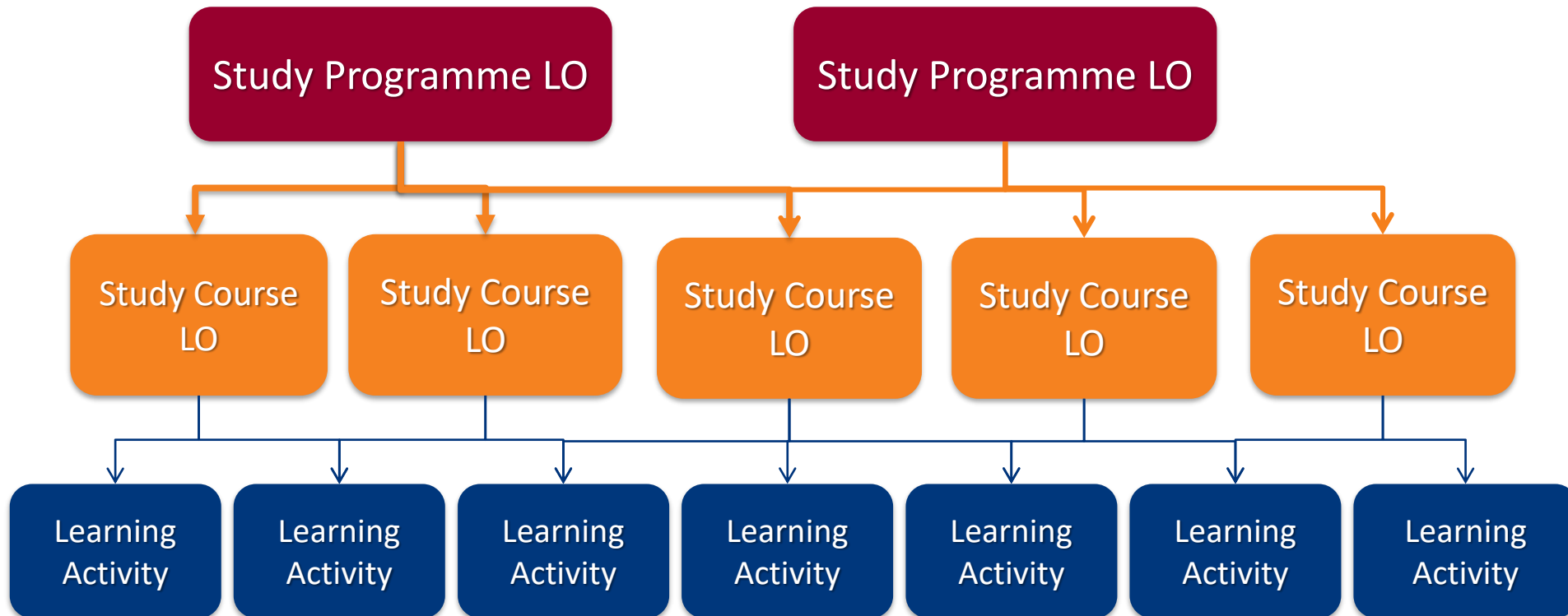
- Disseminating new knowledge in a research discipline through the preparation of written reports of biostatistical analyses, comparison of different statistical methodologies, and oral presentation of results.

## New Learning Outcome:

- Disseminate new knowledge in health-related studies through the preparation of written and oral presentations based on advanced biostatistical analyses and use these results to make relevant inferences from data.

# Curriculum Mapping

The process of determining how the learning outcomes (LO) of a study programme are supported by the study courses.



# Mapped Learning Outcomes Examples

Disseminate new knowledge in health-related studies through the preparation of written and oral presentations based on advanced biostatistical analyses and use these results to make relevant inferences from data.

- Communicates statistical concepts and methods (and misuse of them) with clients of different backgrounds.
- Develops the final report and presentation using R Markdown functionality.
- Prepares interactive R application to communicate results using R Shiny.
- Writes and interprets mixed models for different study designs.
- Independently develops a correct statistical model, critically interprets and presents the obtained results.
- Generates hypothesis and makes analysis based decisions related to multivariate data.



# Mapped Learning Outcomes Examples

Disseminate new knowledge in health-related studies through the preparation of written and oral presentations based on advanced biostatistical analyses and use these results to make relevant inferences from data.

- Reflects on the choice of methods for economic evaluation of health care programmes.
- Formulates Bayesian solutions to real-data problems, including forming hypotheses, collecting and analysing data, and reaching appropriate conclusions.
- Presents a statistical analysis in a technical report.
- Independently develops a correct statistical model, critically interprets and presents the obtained results.
- Student will be competent to plan and execute data analysis with categorical data.

# Observations

- Learning Outcomes are formulated very differently in each Programme;
- Common reference points facilitate Learning Outcome comparison;
- Different Programmes have different focuses (bayesian/frequentist approaches, focus on public health/genetics, different software tools);
- Some Programmes have unique features;
- Complex Learning Outcomes are hard to compare without breaking them down.

**Thank you for your attention!**

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