



Courtney Jensen, Health and Exercise Science

I teach courses in Exercise Physiology and Clinical Epidemiology. My research is largely focused on trauma medicine. Examples of recent work:

Pain Medicine 2016; 0: 1–8
doi: 10.1093/pm/pnw199

Improved Outcomes Associated with the Liberal Use of Thoracic Epidural Analgesia in Patients with Rib Fractures

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Lewis L. Jacobson, MD,[‡] Jan M. Powers, PhD,[§]
Michael F. Joseph, PhD,[¶] Jeffrey M. Kinsella-Shaw,
PhD,[¶] and Craig R. Denegar, PhD[¶]

Pain Medicine 2017; 0: 1–9
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Implications of Thoracic Epidural Analgesia on Hospital Charges in Rib Fracture Patients

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This is a line of research graduate students are welcome (nay, encouraged) to join for their theses. In addition to rib fracture care, medical topics that can be pursued for theses include fall-related injuries (assessing predictors of falls and the characteristics of successful treatment), the utility of CT scans in trauma care (identifying which variables correspond to appropriateness of use), obstetric and gynecological outcomes, and, although I would advise against *initiating* a pursuit of this subject, concussions. There is opportunity for further topics, explored epidemiologically (particularly in emergency and trauma medicine, such as evaluating the cost of delivering care) as well. If you're interested in epidemiology, but not medicine, we can examine public health outcomes in equatorial Africa.

What graduate students must have to work with me: 1) An understanding of epidemiology and passable expertise in its methods (this can be learned while you're my student). 2) A very strong motivation to publish your findings (I have no interest in chairing theses for theses' sake).

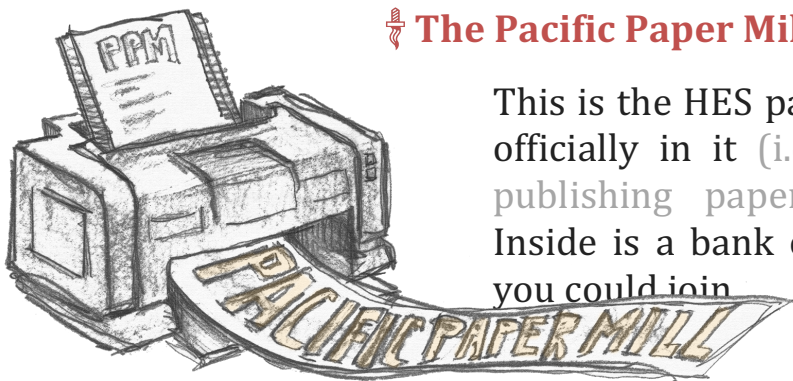
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My goal in working with you:

Publishing papers. Those papers will be converted into a thesis (a good one), but that thesis is merely a byproduct of the papers.

Unless I decide you're helpless and incapable of working independently, you'll get at least one (as many as three) publications in which you are the first author (this is a really big deal; it'll be a gigantic highlight on your CV). I will be the senior (last) and corresponding author. However, if I'm unable to cut the scientific umbilical cord, and the writing process is a placental one (i.e., I have to supply >50% of the sustenance), I'm first author. This isn't welfare. I'm not giving away papers for free; I'm providing you with the *resources* to write and publish papers. I'll take great care in giving you those resources, and I'll spend time familiarizing you with them, but then it's your job to take the wheel (and the gas pedal and driver's seat and control over the windshield wipers) and move your papers forward.

Resources:



✂ **The Pacific Paper Mill:** www.PacificPaperMill.com.

This is the HES paper writing club. Once you're officially in it (i.e., committed to writing and publishing papers), you get the password. Inside is a bank of resources for every project you could join

✂ **Fellow graduate students.** Your graduate peers are a great resource. Especially those who are a year ahead of you in the program. Whatever you're currently going through, they've already done it. So they can help you navigate that course. Use them. They should be your first audience for nearly all questions. They'll know the steps, deadlines, plot twists, etc. They're also a great resource for writing edits. You should treat the editing process like back scratches: Every student pursuing publication has an itchy paper. Scratch each other's before bringing them to me. I don't have time to read poorly edited first drafts. I *do* have time to read very well edited *fifth* drafts.

✎ **Me.** For the big stuff, I'll be available. I'll help you run your analyses. I'll make a skeleton of your papers (detailed outlines functioning as bones on which to hang the paper meat). I'll help you write your methods. And your results. And I'll help make your tables and figures. But 75% of the work will belong to you. I'm unable to provide feedback and input at every step. During the semester, requests for my time typically exceed 24 hours per day; I can only address about half of those requests. So if yours is something you're incapable of doing without me, I'll definitely be available. If you're capable but feeling a bit lazy, sorry. I'm kinda busy. My time must be allocated to the tasks where I'm needed as opposed to those in which I'm merely helpful. Never be afraid to ask when it's appropriate, but before coming to me, try to move your project forward with the other resources available to you (e.g., fellow graduate students). If that's not enough, you know where to find me. And I'll be happy to help.