2023-2024 Curriculum Guide for PhD degree program with a specialization in EPIDEMIOLOGY

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree requires a significant program of study and research that qualifies the recipient to conduct independent high-quality research and communicate complex information in public health. In addition, the PhD graduate will contribute to the advancement of the field of knowledge. The emphasis is on mastery of the field and particularly on the acquisition of research skills as a basis for original work.

Students pursuing the PhD degree complete didactic and research courses. In addition, PhD students must successfully complete and pass a PhD Qualifying Exam, a PhD Candidacy Exam, Dissertation and Final Examination. Due to the expanded depth and scope of content and research, it typically takes a minimum of four years to complete the program requirements to earn the PhD degree. Graduates are prepared for teaching/research faculty positions in higher education and other positions in various public and private sectors.

Students admitted to the PhD degree program are assigned a faculty advisor who will provide guidance throughout the program. This document serves as a resource to be used by the student and the advisor in planning the program of study with a specialization in Epidemiology. All students are expected to be familiar with the College of Public Health (CPH) Graduate Student Handbook: [http://cph.osu.edu/students/graduate/handbooks](http://cph.osu.edu/students/graduate/handbooks) the Graduate School Handbook [https://gradsch.osu.edu/handbook](https://gradsch.osu.edu/handbook) and the CPH competencies [https://go.osu.edu/cphcompetencies](https://go.osu.edu/cphcompetencies).

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The minimum total number of credits required to earn the PhD with a specialization in Epidemiology is 90. Students are expected to enter the program with a master’s degree or equivalent. With approval of the student’s advisor and Advisory Committee, up to 30 credits of appropriate master’s level course work can be counted toward the PhD. Additional requirements for courses and distribution of credits are provided below. Students should work closely with their advisor to develop a tentative curriculum plan during the first term of their enrollment. In collaboration with their advisor, students are encouraged to form their Advisory Committee during their first year in the PhD program.

Major Field

**Required Foundation Courses:**
- PUBHTLH 6010: Essentials of Public Health 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 6210: Applied Biostatistics I 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 6270: Introduction to SAS for Public Health students 2 credits
- PUBHEPI 6410: Principles of Epidemiology 3 credits

*Not required for students with a CEPH-accredited master’s degree*

**Required Specialization Courses:**
- PUBHEPI 6411: Biological Basis of Public Health 3 credits
- PUBHEPI 6442: Social Epidemiology 3 credits
- PUBHEPI 7410: Epidemiology II & Lab 4 credits
- PUBHEPI 7430: Epidemiology III 4 credits
- PUBHEPI 8430: Epidemiology IV 4 credits
- PUBHHBP 8899.01: First Year Doctoral Seminar in HBHP 2 credits (2 semesters)
- PUBHEPI 8899.02: Doctoral Seminar: Teaching Methods 2 credits (1 semester)
- PUBHEPI 8899.04: Research Questions and Study Design in Epidemiology 1 credit
- PUBHEPI 8899.05: Application of Advanced Methods in Epidemiology 1 credit
- PUBHHBP 8899.02: Grant Writing Seminar 2 credits (2 semesters)

^Required for students who do not have an MD, DVM, or equivalent clinical degrees

Suggested Electives: (Choose courses to bring the total credits for the major field to 30 credits)
- PUBHEPI 5412: Global Epidemiology of Infectious Disease 3 credits
- PUBHEPI 6440: Reproductive & Perinatal Epidemiology 3 credits

‡Required for students with a CEPH-accredited master’s degree
Research Methods (30 credits)

Required Courses:
- PUBHBIO 6211 Applied Biostatistics II 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 7220 Applied Generalized Linear Models in Public Health 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 7230 Applied Longitudinal Data Analysis 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 7235 Applied Survival Analysis 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 7240 Applied Statistical Analysis with Missing Data 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 7255 Introduction to Causal Inference in Health Sciences Research 3 credits
- PUBHEPI 6431 Design & Implementation of Health Surveys 3 credits

Suggested Research Methods Electives: (Choose courses to bring the total credits for research methods to 30 credits)

Other courses as appropriate and approved with advisor
- ESQREM 8659 Structural Equation Modeling 3 credits
- GEOG 5210 Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems 3 credits
- PSYCH 6822 Statistical Mediation, Moderation, and Conditional Process Analysis 3 credits
- PSYCH 6863 Psychometrics 3 credits
- PSYCH 7821 Covariance Structure Models 3 credits
- PSYCH 7823 Analysis of Repeated Measures and Longitudinal Data 3 credits
- PUBHBIO 7215 Design and Analysis of Clinical Trials 2 credits
- PUBHBIO 7225 Survey Sampling Methods 3 credits
- PUBHEHS 5345 Modeling Transmission & Control of Infectious Diseases in Humans & Animals 3 credits
- PUBHEPI 7412 Principals & Procedures for Human Clinical Trials 3 credits

Minor Cognate Field (15 credits)

In collaboration with the advisor and Advisory Committee, students will choose courses to bring the total credits for the minor cognate field to 15 credits.

Dissertation (15 credits)
- PUBHLTH 8998/8999 Pre-Candidacy and Post-Candidacy Dissertation Credits 15 credits

Note that a maximum of 20 credits of dissertation work can be counted toward the degree.

Grade Policy:
In addition to the general Graduate School requirements of a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher, students must meet specific college grade policies. Students should familiarize themselves with Section 11 of the College of Public Health Graduate Student Handbook.

College of Public Health - Office of Academic Programs and Student Services (OAPSS)
OAPSS staff are available to provide assistance with College, Graduate School and University policies and procedures. (614) 292-8350/100 Cunz Hall/1841 Neil Ave/Columbus, Ohio/ 43210/cph.osu.edu