

**Master of Science in Public Health Sciences
with Specialty in Biostatistics
AY 2010-2011
University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health**

Minimum credit hour requirement: 48 semester hours

1.	Fall, Year 1		
	BSTT 523	Biostatistics Methods I	4 sh
	BSTT 524	Biostatistics Tools	2 sh
	STAT 401	Introduction to Probability	4 sh
	EPID 403	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods	3 sh
	Subtotal		13 sh
2.	Spring, Year 1		
	BSTT 525	Biostatistics Methods II	4 sh
	STAT 411	Statistical Theory	4 sh
	Choose one:		
	BSTT 507	Applied Sampling	-or-
	BSTT 506	Clinical Trials	3 sh
	Electives**		2 sh
	Subtotal		13 sh
3.	Fall, Year 2		
	BSTT 535	Categorical Data Analysis	3 sh
	BSTT 536	Survival Analysis	3 sh
	BSTT 537	Longitudinal Data Analysis	4 sh
	BSTT 538	Biostatistical Consulting	2 sh
	Subtotal		12 sh
4.	Spring, Year 2		
	BSTT 550	Biostatistical Investigations	4 sh
	Electives**		6 sh
	<i>N.B.: The comprehensive examination is given at the end of Year 2.</i>		
	Subtotal		10 sh
	PROGRAM TOTAL		48 sh
5.	Additional School wide Requirements		
	Investigator 101 - What Researchers Need to Know Before Research Can Start		
	HIPAA Research 101		

**** Electives:** At least one elective course must be selected from the SPH core courses not given in the Epidemiology-Biostatistics Division: CHSC 400, EOHS 400, HPA 400, or HPA 401. BSTT 400, 401, 410, and 505 are not acceptable as MS electives.

Other Important Program Information – MS in Biostatistics

** See the SPH Online Student Handbook for complete details on all program requirements.

Learning Objectives

Students in this degree program will be able to apply biostatistical methods to public health problems, most particularly epidemiologic problems, and understand the rationale and assumptions underlying these methods. They will develop the ability to manage data files on the computer and to analyze data using the major statistical packages, and will be able to demonstrate the ability to recognize the appropriate research design and perform appropriate statistical analyses in a consulting role.

Performance Standards

Students in Biostatistics are allowed only one grade of C in required courses. A student who receives two Cs in required courses will not be allowed to graduate from the program. A student may re-take a course one time and attempt to replace the C with a higher grade; however it should be noted that nearly all of the courses required for the MS in Biostatistics are offered only once a year and must be taken in a particular sequence, so re-taking a course is likely to delay graduation by a full year.

Program Proposal

Students are required to complete and submit a program proposal during their second semester in the MS program. This document outlines the student's plan for coursework and research. The program proposal requires the approval of the student's academic advisor, the divisional academic coordinator, and the division director.

MS Comprehensive Examination

MS students in biostatistics take a comprehensive exam at the end of their second program year. The first part is a three-hour written exam, covering basic methodological material from the required biostatistics and mathematical statistics courses. The second part is a seven day take-home exam in which the student is tested on the ability to perform data analysis and to describe and discuss the results. Finally, the student is required to give an oral presentation on an assigned data analysis problem from the second portion of the exam.

For further information, please see the online SPH Student Handbook, or contact Dr. Sally Freels, Section Coordinator, (312) 996-4763 or sallyf@uic.edu.