

Master of Public Health in Epidemiology
AY2007-2008
UIC School of Public Health
Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Minimum credit hour requirement: 53 sh (Comprehensive), 42 sh (PEP)

1. Required Courses:

1.1 Schoolwide Requirements

EPID	403	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles & Methods	3 sh
BSTT	400	Biostatistics I	4 sh
HPA	400	Principles of Management in Public Health	3 sh
CHSC	400	Public Health Concepts and Practices	3 sh
EOHS	400	Principles of Environmental Health Sciences	3 sh
CHSC	401	Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	3 sh
IPHS	698	MPH Capstone Research	<u>1 sh</u>
Total			20 sh

1.2 Epidemiology Requirements

EPID	406	Epidemiologic Computing	3 sh
EPID	404	Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods	4 sh
EPID	410	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	2 sh
EPID	411	Epidemiology of Chronic Disease	3 sh
EPID	591	Current Epidemiologic Literature	2 sh
BSTT	401	Biostatistics II	<u>4 sh</u>
Total			18 sh

2. Electives

- **Comprehensive** program minimum requirement **12 sh**
- **PEP** program minimum requirement **1 sh**
- See SPH online handbook and semester course schedules
- Choice of electives based on student and advisor agreement

3. Field Experience: (see attached guidelines)

IPHS	650	Field Experience in Public Health	3-5sh
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4. Additional Schoolwide Requirements

- Investigator 101 - What Researchers Need to Know Before Research Can Start
- HIPAA Research 101

TOTAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Professional Enhancement Program (PEP)	
- Minimum (includes at least 1sh of electives)	42 - 44 sh
 Comprehensive Program	
- Minimum	53-55 sh

Other Important Program Information

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

Performance Standards

In addition to schoolwide standards, no grade below “B” is acceptable in any Epidemiology or Biostatistics course. If a grade below “B” is achieved in such a course, it may be repeated once. Failure to maintain this standard will be grounds for dismissal from the Epidemiology Program.

Program Proposal

Students are required to complete and submit a program proposal during their first semester in the MPH 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.

MPH Field Experience (IPHS 650)

All students must undertake a field experience for 3-5 semester hours, based on the field experience responsibilities (64 clock hours per sh in a 16-week semester). SPH Memorandum of Understanding and Field Learning Agreement forms must be completed prior to embarking upon the field experience. *The field experience may be waived on an individual basis based upon a student’s demonstration of a Bachelor’s or advanced degree in a health or related profession plus 3 years of paid public health experience. A prior professional degree without public health experience; or prior work experience that is not closely related to the academic objectives of the student’s degree program, are not sufficient reason for waiving the practice requirement.*

The field experience must be practical, applied and public health in orientation, and should preferably be with an organized public or private agency. The field experience need not be an unpaid internship. Working with his/her advisor, and with the latter's signed approval the student must submit a detailed (but brief) field experience proposal to the field site preceptor. Students must obtain signed agreements with the agency and the on-site supervisor. Final evaluations are required of both the supervisor and the student, and must be signed by the student’s academic advisor. Final Student and Supervisor Evaluation Forms must be given to the advisor for review and signature in order to obtain a grade for IPHS 650.

See Adela Pena, SPH Coordinator, Graduate Student Career Placement, **one semester prior to your intended Field Experience** for critical documentation and other important information.

IRB: Institutional Review Board

All students must undergo Institutional Review Board (IRB) training at the end of their first year of study, and are required to submit IRB review or exemption forms *prior to beginning the field experience*. They must submit for IRB review as early as possible, to allow sufficient time for the lengthy review process. Students should consult the SPH Student Reference Guides available in the division, and speak with their advisors. The field experience and capstone cannot be undertaken without IRB review or exemption.

MPH Capstone Experience (IPHS 698)

Students must enroll in IPHS 698 (MPH Capstone Experience), for 1 credit hour. The Capstone Experience consists of a formal oral presentation to Division students and faculty on a topic as described below.

The topic for the MPH Capstone research should be on a subject or issue requiring integration of public health theory and practice which is agreed upon by the student and an appropriate faculty. The topic should not be the same as one already addressed in a paper submitted for a previous course. Students are encouraged to present findings based their field experience (IPHS 650). However, it may take an alternative form, such as a comprehensive review of the literature on a public health issue from an epidemiologic perspective; a report on another research project which the student has taken part in; a proposal for a study to address an important public health issue; or another format acceptable to the student and his/her academic advisor or faculty mentor. Students may consult with other faculty mentors in addition to their academic advisor for the purposes of developing their capstone presentation. Students are cautioned to restrict their courseload during the semester of capstone registration, as this is an involved and challenging project.

After the conduct of the research, a formal oral presentation to Division students and faculty is required. The presentation will conform to the format and length of time for a paper delivered at the annual meetings of the APHA. An abstract of the presentation is to be submitted to the academic advisor at least one week prior to the presentation. Three faculty members will evaluate the quality of the presentation. Each faculty member will assess the experience based on three criteria: content (60%), organization (20%) and oral presentation (20%). A presentation should consist of an **introduction** to the problem or issue, an explanation of the **methods** used to research the topic, a summary of the **results** or findings, **conclusions** as to the public health implications of the results, and **recommendations** for practical applications or further research.

If the presentation is evaluated as unsatisfactory by at least two of the three faculty members, the student will be required to submit a written paper, including citations, covering the same material as the oral presentation. The written paper will be evaluated by the student’s advisor in conjunction with one of the three committee members on the content and organization of the material. In some cases, the capstone review committee may simply require written clarification or additional analyses pertinent to identified deficiencies in the oral presentation.

Suggested Program Schedule - MPH in Epidemiology

PEP

UIC School of Public Health

Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

AY 2007-2008

Professional Enhancement Program Minimum requirement of 42 sh

YEAR	FALL				SPRING				SUMMER			
Year 1	BSTT	400	Biostatistics I	4 sh	BSTT	401	Biostatistics II	4 sh	EPID	591	Current Epidemiologic Literature	2 sh
	CHSC	400	Public Health Concepts and Practices	3 sh	EPID	404	Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods	4 sh				
	EPID	403	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles & Methods	3 sh	EPID	411	Epidemiology of Chronic Diseases	3 sh	IPHS	650	Field Experience	3-5 sh
	EPID	406	Epidemiologic Computing	3 sh	HPA	400	Principles of Management in Public Health	3 sh	*RECOMMENDED: Online IRB training			
	EPID	410	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	2 sh	EOHS	400	Principles of Environmental Health Sciences	3 sh	Total			5-7 sh
	Elective			1 sh								
	Total			16 sh	Total			17 sh				
Year 2	CHSC	401	Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	3 sh								
	IPHS	698	MPH Capstone Research	1 sh								
	Total			4 sh								

Suggested Program Schedule - MPH in Epidemiology
Comprehensive
UIC School of Public Health
Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
AY 2007-2008

Comprehensive Program
Minimum requirement of 53-55 sh

YEAR	FALL				SPRING				SUMMER			
Year 1	BSTT	400	Biostatistics I	4 sh	BSTT	401	Biostatistics II	4 sh	EPID	591	Current Epidemiologic Literature	2 sh
	CHSC	400	Public Health Concepts and Practices	3 sh	EPID	404	Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods	4 sh	IPHS	650	Field Experience	3-5 sh
	EPID	403	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles & Methods	3 sh	EPID	411	Epidemiology of Chronic Diseases	3 sh	*RECOMMENDED: Online IRB training			
	EPID	406	Epidemiologic Computing	3 sh	Electives			2 sh				
	EPID	410	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	2 sh	Total			13 sh	Total			5-7 sh
	Total			15 sh								
Year 2	Electives			4 sh	Electives			6 sh				
	EOHS	400	Principles of Environmental Health Sciences	3 sh	IPHS	698	MPH Capstone Research	1 sh				
	HPA	400	Principles of Management in Public Health	3 sh	Total			7 sh				
	CHSC	401	Behavioral Sciences in Public Health	3 sh								
	Total			13 sh								