School of Public Health

Student Handbook

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

AY 2022-2023

Revised August 2022

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The SPH Student Handbooks are static documents which are updated each August. The degree requirements contained in the AY 2022-2023 handbook is applicable to students matriculating into a degree program during this academic year. Students should consult the SPH website if interested in curriculum revisions adopted during the year. Such changes will apply to the next year's entering class.

PHD OVERVIEW

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in Public Health Sciences is an academic degree awarded by the Graduate College of the University of Illinois and is subject to the requirements described in the UIC Graduate Catalog. (For this degree program, the School of Public Health acts as the Department of Public Health Sciences (DPHS) of the Graduate College.) The program develops scholars capable of conducting research and teaching in the public health sciences. The program also prepares students for research careers in governmental, private, and voluntary organizations. Programs of study leading to a PhD (in Public Health Sciences) may be taken in one or more of the Divisions of the School of Public Health:

1. Community Health Sciences
2. Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
3. Health Policy and Administration

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Biostatistics and Epidemiology are academic degrees awarded by the Graduate College of the University of Illinois Chicago and is subject to the requirements described in the UIC Graduate Catalog. These degree programs are primarily comprised of STEM courses. MS degree students are prepared for continuing studies through the PhD program.

Interdisciplinary studies that combine two or more of these areas are encouraged.

The PhD program consists of six components:

1. SPH School-wide Core Course Requirements
    - IPHS 520: Foundations of Public Health*
    - BSTT 400: Biostatistics I**
    - BSTT 401: Biostatistics II**
    - EPID 403: Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods

    *Requirement for PhD students who have not previously completed a degree in Public Health

    **Not required for PhD students in Biostatistics
2. Divisional Course Requirements and Electives – (variable based on chosen Division).
3. The Preliminary Examination
4. Dissertation Research Requirements

    IPHS 599 PhD Dissertation Research Hours (minimum of 32 SH)

    Examinations:
    a. Dissertation Proposal Defense
    b. Dissertation Defense
5. Instructional Experience
6. Required Non-Credit Training

a. Information Privacy & Security (IPS)
b. Human Subjects Research (HSR)
c. Title IX Training
d. SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial

Conditional Admission Policy Statement: Under special circumstances, an applicant may be recommended by a Division for admission on a conditional basis (e.g., completion of preparatory course work). The conditions under which a student is admitted to the School are to be stipulated in writing by the director of the Division recommending admission of the student. Conditionally admitted students must satisfy the conditions prior to graduation (or earlier if so specified by the Division).

Change in Division: If a student's interest's change after admission or the student determines that professional goals would be better achieved in a division different from the one originally assigned please contact the divisional academic staff in the home division to initiate the process to Request for Change of Degree.

Students requesting a division change must meet the requirements of the division they wish to enter. Admission to the new division is not guaranteed.

Degree Completion Time Limitations:

- **7 years:** A student who is admitted to the Graduate College with a master's degree, or who continues in the Graduate College after completing the master's degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago, must complete the degree requirements within seven years after initial registration as a doctoral student. 32 SH of credit from a relevant master's program will be credited toward the 96 SH degree requirements.
- **9 years:** A student who is admitted to the Graduate College without a master's degree and proceeds directly to the doctorate must complete degree requirements within nine years of initial registration as a doctoral student.

The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) will periodically review the progress of doctoral candidates. If the DGS determines that the student is not making satisfactory progress toward the degree, the student may be recommended for dismissal from the program.

Time spent on a leave of absence approved by the program and the Graduate College is not counted toward the degree time limit (see the Leave of Absence section of the Academic Policies and Procedures Handbook).

Preliminary Examination Time Limitation: Failure to complete the degree requirements within five years of passing the preliminary examination requires retaking the examination. Graduate College rules require that a minimum of one year elapse after passing the preliminary examination, before defending the dissertation.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Coursework

The curriculum is individually designed to meet the interests and goals of the student. PhD students without an MPH degree will be required to take an introductory public health course. Introductory courses in biostatistics and epidemiology are required in the PhD program, if not previously completed at the master's level**. (These requirements may be waived if justified on the basis of equivalent prior experience or course work.) The division of credit hours between course work and dissertation research is highly dependent on the background of each student. At a minimum, students must complete 9 SH in formal 500 series courses in a major area of concentration (not necessarily in one division). [Note: The 595 seminar series may not be counted towards fulfillment of this requirement.] If required by the chosen division, the student must also complete 6 SH in a collateral area. Course work must be designed to assure preparation for the preliminary examination and subsequent doctoral research. Course work does not, however, usually dominate the PhD program.

** Biostatistics majors are required to take an introductory epidemiology course and advanced biostatistics courses; see BSTT PhD Curricular Chart.

After admission to the PhD program, the student is assigned a major advisor with interests and expertise compatible with the student's goals. Together, the student and advisor develop an overall program of study which is approved by the Division Director and the Graduate College. The approved program proposal form shall be submitted prior to the completion of the second semester of study. Revised proposals may be submitted thereafter.

The student is encouraged to utilize any of the resources of The University of Illinois at Chicago plus those in neighboring institutions. (See description of the Chicago Metropolitan Exchange Program.) The primary requirement is that a meaningful, cohesive, health-directed, research-oriented program be constructed.

Students may use Independent Study (IPHS 596) to satisfy elective hours. Up to 9 semester credit hours (SH) of independent study may be credited toward the PhD program.

Instructional Experience

Each PhD student is required to obtain experience in classroom teaching. The teaching experience for doctoral candidates should at minimum consist of planning, leading, and evaluating a minimum of two classroom sessions, which may be online or in-class sessions. If students are clear that they will be pursuing a career in academe, they should be encouraged by their advisors to go beyond this minimum.

All PhD students' efforts should be supervised and evaluated by appropriate faculty. Documentation should accompany this evaluation so that PhD students are clearly rated on their efforts at planning, teaching, and evaluating the students in their classes. Efforts of students who are laboratory or teaching assistants should be considered vital teaching experiences as long as there is appropriate evaluation of such efforts by faculty and students. It is the responsibility of the student and his or her faculty advisor to make sure the student's instructional experience is properly evaluated.

PhD program proposal forms include areas for the date and description of the student's teaching experience. The expected term for satisfying this requirement should be identified at the initial submission of the program proposal, and, if known, a description of the proposed teaching experience. A revised program proposal must be submitted to the student's advisor near the graduation term (if not required earlier as a result of other changes to the student's program) reflecting a brief description of the instructional experience.

Students with relevant and appropriate prior teaching experience may petition to waive this requirement. At a minimum, the prior teaching experience should meet the criteria identified above.

The Preliminary Examination

The Preliminary Exam is a rigorous test of the student's knowledge and understanding of his/her chosen program of study, and the ability to apply such knowledge to the field of his/her specialization.

Timing: The preliminary examination should be undertaken as soon as possible after completion of the required program of study.

Committee Selection: Prior to sitting for the preliminary examination, the student selects a Preliminary Examining Committee with the assistance and approval of the major advisor. It consists of a minimum of five members, of whom at least three (3) are UIC Graduate College faculty with full membership and two (2) of whom must be tenured, who have interest and expertise in the student's major and collateral areas. The Chair of the Committee must be a full member of the UIC Graduate College Faculty. If a collateral area is required, at least one member must represent the student's collateral area. Up to two of the members may be selected from outside the DPHS or UIC. The committee must be approved by the Graduate College. The committee works with the student until the preliminary examination is completed.

The preliminary examination consists of two parts-a written part prepared for the individual student by the examining committee, and an oral part administered by the committee sitting together with the student. These parts will be separated by no more than four weeks. In the case where the student has failed the written portion of the examination, the Committee may elect not to give the oral examination.

The written questions will cover broad conceptual issues and problems, providing the principal (but not necessarily exclusive) focus of the oral examination. At the discretion of the Division the format and scheduling of the written exam may vary, but will include the following information:

- Core principles, concepts, and approaches in the general area of specialization.
- Basic knowledge of the facts and current status of the discipline of specialization.
- Problem-solving, applying principles and facts to issues in the area of specialization.
- Collateral area principles, facts, and problem-solving.

The oral examination may consist of further discussion and elaboration of the answers to the written questions and/or any other relevant topics raised by the examiners.

The evaluation of the student's performance will result in one of several findings:

Pass - This finding indicates that the student is progressing satisfactorily in the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in the elected area of specialization. The student is, as a consequence, encouraged to proceed with additional specialized course work and to begin preparatory work on the dissertation topic. Passing this examination formally admits the student to PhD candidacy.

Fail - This finding indicates that the student is deficient in knowledge of the elected area of specialization and may lead to either of two consequences. The student may be required to withdraw from the PhD program or may be asked to retake the examination after completion of deficiency-oriented course work. The Preliminary Examining Committee and Division Director have jurisdiction for remedial programming, but dismissal will be the prerogative of the Director of Graduate Studies for DPHS with the advice of the Executive Committee. The decision may be appealed to the Dean. The Dean, on the recommendation of the Committee, may permit a second examination. A third examination is not permitted.

The Preliminary Examining Committee certifies the results and reports them to the Graduate College.

The Dissertation Phase

Dissertation Committee Selection: After successfully completing the preliminary examination, the student, in conjunction with the major advisor, will select a dissertation chair and Dissertation Examining Committee. This committee consists of five (5) members, at least two (2) of whom must be tenured full members of the Graduate College faculty, and one who is from outside the Division. The dissertation advisor, who must be from the student's division, serves as chair of the committee and must be a member of the Graduate College faculty. The Graduate College must approve the Committee composition.

Dissertation Committee Functions: The Dissertation Committee is responsible for guiding the student's research and helping to assure successful performance during the Dissertation Proposal Defense and ultimately the Dissertation Defense.

The PhD candidate should work with his/her Committee chair to set an introductory meeting of the Committee during which the expected intellectual contributions of each Committee member are discussed and decided upon.

The student and committee members should also decide upon the frequency of meetings, optimal communication methods, expected timeframe for developing and completing the dissertation and scheduling examinations, faculty availability during summer months, and other guidelines and mutual expectations for the sharing and review of the student's work.

It is highly recommended that the PhD student at the point of beginning work on his or her thesis or dissertation obtain a copy of the Graduate College Thesis Manual.

The Dissertation Proposal

Dissertation Proposal Elements: The Dissertation Proposal typically consists of the first three chapters of the dissertation: Chapter 1. Introduction or Broad Overview of the Proposed Research; Chapter 2. Literature Review; Chapter 3. Methodology.

Dissertation Proposal Defense: The Dissertation Proposal Defense, given orally by the Dissertation Examining Committee, serves two primary functions:

- To ascertain whether the student is adequately prepared to pursue the dissertation topic. If deficiencies are discovered, additional course work may be required.
- To indicate to the student whether the Dissertation Examining Committee feels that the proposed research is feasible and whether the research should result in a useful, satisfactory product within the time and resources available.

The Dissertation Proposal Defense should not put the student into a pass-fail situation. Rather, it should, when necessary, guide the student into a more feasible and/or fruitful research plan. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the PhD Dissertation Proposal Approval Form, and after obtaining the signatures of the committee submit the document to their division academic staff for processing. A "pass" constitutes a contract between the Examining Committee and the student that all major elements of the research proposal have been identified and agreed to.

Research and Dissertation Format

The student's research is carried out under the guidance of a dissertation advisor and the Dissertation Committee. The research may take any or a combination of many forms: field, laboratory, or computer applications are some examples. The research must be creative and original, advancing a field of public health by adding significant new knowledge, testing current theory, or leading to a new theory. Completion of the assigned research credit does not guarantee an acceptable dissertation; additional research effort may be necessary.

The dissertation may be presented in the traditional thesis format or may consist of manuscripts (typically three)
of publishable quality with respect to peer-reviewed journals. The specific requirements for both are to be established by the dissertation committee in accordance with Graduate College requirements.

The manuscript format typically follows the chapter outline below:

1. Introductory chapter to include the over-arching theme(s), hypotheses which tie the papers together
2. Literature review
3. Methods chapter
4. The manuscripts
    a) Paper #1
    b) Paper #2
    c) Paper #3
5. Conclusion to include a discussion of the impact of the research
6. Appendices to include, as appropriate, such items as survey instruments, foundational tables, organizational charts, additional tables, and other items not appropriate for a journal article nor the body of the thesis document.

Defense: Both a final examination and dissertation presentation is required. This typically takes the following format. The candidate presents his/her findings at an open meeting of faculty, students, and the Dissertation Committee. Immediately following the open session, the committee meets with the student in executive session. Finally, the Dissertation Examining Committee report to the Graduate College that the student has or has not passed his/her examination and thus has or has not satisfied all requirements for the PhD degree.

Final Formatting of Dissertation: It is the student's and advisor's responsibility to assure the final dissertation format meets the requirements of the Graduate College Thesis Manual. A final draft will be reviewed and approved by the SPH Director of Graduate Studies and the Graduate College or returned to the student for further editing.

Upon receipt of a properly formatted thesis, the Director of Graduate Studies will recommend the student to the Graduate College for award of the degree.

PROGRESS REPORTING

PhD students are required to report on progress at least annually. The progress report includes a student self-assessment of academic progress, including evidence of his/her progress and an assessment of the student's progress by the student's advisor (before the preliminary examination) or research committee (after the preliminary examination). Prior to the preliminary examination, progress reports must be submitted to the Office of Student Affairs by October 1 each year. After the preliminary examination, progress reports must be submitted to the Office of Student Affairs by October 1 and March 1 of each year. Progress reports will be reviewed by the Committee on Academic Progress. Students placed on Academic Probation for failing to maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, should refer to the SPH Academic Policies and Procedures Handbook.
After the preliminary examination, students will be placed on Academic Probation at the first report of "lack of progress." A second report of "lack of progress" will result in dismissal from the program.

Students have the opportunity to discuss all reviews in person with the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), if requested by the student. In the event that the student's advisor is the DGS, a suitable third party (e.g., the division director, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, or other senior professor) should lead the discussion. The student will have an opportunity to provide written feedback to the formal review. All of the above will be retained in the student's academic file. These requirements represent minimum requirements; programs may further require additional items.

REQUIRED NON-CREDIT TRAINING

Early in the curriculum, students will be required to complete four non-credit trainings. These trainings are provided through the Online Collaborative Initial Training Initiative (CITI) and the University of Illinois Chicago.

Instructions on how to access the CITI site and the steps to complete the trainings are below.
The SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial can be accessed through the SPH website with the link provided below. You will receive an official email from UIC to complete the Title IX training.

Detailed Instructions will be provided through your division/program on the specific timing and submission of certificates of completion.

Information Privacy & Security/Health Privacy Training – IPS
Human Subjects Research – HSR
Title IX Training
SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial

Blackboard access to CITI trainings can be found here.

THE PHD CURRICULUM BY DIVISION

Biostatistics – PhD

The PhD in Biostatistics program requires a minimum of 96 semester hours (SH). This program includes the following course requirements:

Note: PhD students majoring in Biostatistics must take any required MS courses who's equivalent they have not taken previously.

School-Wide Core Requirements (min. 38 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
EPID 403	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods*	3 SH
IPHS 520	Foundations of Public Health (required for all PhD students without an MPH degree).	3 SH
IPHS 599	PhD Dissertation Research	min. 32 SH
Required Non-Credit Training		
Information Privacy & Security – IPS		Non-credit
Human Subjects Research - HSR		Non-credit
Investigator Training 101		Non-credit
SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial		Non-credit

(*If not taken previously)

Divisional Core Requirements (22 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
BSTT 560	Large Sample Theory	2 SH
BSTT 561	Advanced Statistical Inference	3 SH
BSTT 562	Linear Models	4 SH
BSTT 565	Computational Statistics (every Fall)	4 SH
BSTT 595	Seminar	1 SH

Selectives (8 SH)

Select at least <u>two</u> of the following (minimum 8 SH):

- BSTT 563 Generalized Linear Models (spring, odd #d yrs.) (4 SH)
- BSTT 564 Missing Data (spring, even #d yrs.) (4 SH)
- BSTT 566 Bayesian Methods (spring, even #d yrs.) (4 SH)
- BSTT 567 Advanced Survival Analysis (spring, odd #d yrs.) (4 SH)

Electives (4 SH):

Electives can be any graduate level course of the students choosing. BSTT 400, BSTT 401, BSTT 410, BSTT 505, BSTT 523, BSTT 524, and BSTT 525 are not suitable electives.

*Students with a master's degree in public health or a related area may receive up to 32 SH of credit towards the 96 SH total.

Doctoral Preliminary Examination in Biostatistics

The written exam includes both in-class and take-home portions. The in-class portion is scheduled for 4 hours, while students have 1 week to complete the take-home portion. Material for the exam is based primarily on the 500-level biostatistics courses as well as the required statistics courses. The oral examination follows the written examination (within one month) and may re-examine students based on the answers to the written portion or include additional material based on required coursework.

Standards of Performance for Biostatistics Program

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.

Other Requirements

Each PhD student is required to obtain experience in classroom teaching. The teaching experience for doctoral candidates should at a minimum consist of planning, leading, and evaluating a minimum of two classroom sessions, which may be online or in-class sessions. If students are clear that they will pursuing a career in academe they should be encouraged by their advisors to go beyond this minimum.

All PhD students' efforts should be supervised and evaluated by appropriate faculty. Documentation should accompany this evaluation so that PhD students are clearly rated on their efforts at planning, teaching, and evaluating students in their classes. Efforts of students who are laboratory or teaching assistants should be considered vital teaching experiences if there is appropriate evaluation of such efforts by faculty and students. It is the responsibility of the student and his or her faculty advisor to make sure the student's instructional experience is properly evaluated.

Community Health Sciences – PhD

The PhD in Community Health Sciences program requires a minimum of 96 semester hours (SH), although more hours are often necessary. PhD students in Community Health Sciences are required to select a major area of concentration relevant to community health and obtain advisor approval in all course selections. For students interested in focusing on Maternal and Child Health, there are some adaptations to the CHS requirements; see page 16. For students selecting the concentration in Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology, there are additional requirements; see page 25. The PhD in Community Health Sciences includes the following course requirements:

School-Wide Core Requirements (32-35 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
IPHS 520	Foundations of Public Health (required for all PhD students without an MPH degree).	3 SH
IPHS 599	PhD Dissertation Research	min. 32 SH
Required Non-Credit Training		
Information Privacy & Security - IPS		Non-credit
Human Subjects Research – HSR		Non-credit
Title IX Training		Non-credit
SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial		Non-credit

Divisional Core Requirements (2 SH)

Seminar Courses (2 SH total)		
Course	**Title**	**Credits**
*CHSC 595	Doctoral Seminar (1 SH; take 2 semesters)	2 SH

*In the event that appropriate CHSC 595 options are not available, this requirement may be filled by taking appropriate sections of IPHS 595.

In addition, PhD students in the Community Health Sciences are required to take courses from three specific areas: 1) Community Health Sciences Theory and Methods, 2) Advanced Research Methods, and 3) Advanced Analytic Methods. Students must complete all courses from Community Health Sciences Theory and Methods, and at least three courses from the combined Advanced Research Methods and Advanced Analytic Methods lists, at least one course coming from each list. Registration in CHS 593 is required every semester in the program.

Community Health Sciences Theory and Methods Courses (13+ SH total)		
Course	**Title**	**Credits**
CHSC 550	Advanced Concepts in Community Health Sciences	3 SH
CHSC 551	Applied Community Health Sciences Theory and Methods I	3 SH
CHSC 552	Applied Community Health Sciences Theory and Methods II	3 SH
CHSC 593	Doctoral Laboratory in Community Health Sciences Research Development	0-1 SH

Advanced Research Methods Courses (3-8 SH)		
Course	**Title**	**Credits**

ANTH/GEOG 418	Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Methods	4 SH
BHIS 508	Q Research Methodology? Qualitative Research	3 SH
BSTT 426	Analytics Using Python	3 SH
BSTT 529	Investigations	2 SH
CHSC 434	Introduction to Qualitative Methods in Public Health	3 SH
CHSC/PA 447	Survey Planning and Design	3 SH
CHSC/PA 577	Survey Questionnaire Design	3 SH
CHSC 588	Research Synthesis and Meta-Analysis	3 SH
CLJ 560	Quantitative Methods and Design	4 SH
CLJ 561	Qualitative Methods and Design	4 SH
CLJ 563	Evaluation Research in Criminology, Law, and Justice	4 SH
DHD 546	Qualitative Methods in Disability Research	4 SH
ED 501	Data and Interpretation in Educational Inquiry	4 SH
ED 502	Essentials of Qualitative Inquiry in Education	4 SH
EPSY 550	Rating Scale and Questionnaire Design and Analysis	4 SH
EPSY 560	Educational Program Evaluation	4 SH
EPSY 564	Evaluation Principles and Methods	3 SH
NUEL 548	Methodological Issues for Cross-Cultural Research	3 SH
NURS 574	Qualitative Research in Nursing	4 SH
OT 553/DHD 543	Program Evaluation: Documenting the Impact of Human Services	3 SH
PA 528	Public Program Evaluation	4 SH
PA 582	Survey Data Collection Methods: Theory and Practice	4 SH
SOCW 578	Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research	3 SH
UPP 461	Geographic Information Systems for Planning	4 SH
UPP 462	Intermediate GIS for Planning	4 SH

Advanced Analytic Methods Courses (3-8 SH)		
Course	**Title**	**Credits**
BHIS 540	Essentials of Health Data Science	3 SH
BHIS 541	Health Data Analytics	3 SH
BSTT 505	Logistic Regression and Survival Analysis	2 SH
BSTT 527	Statistical Learning	3 SH
BSTT 528	Machine Learning	3 SH
*CHSC/EPID 518	Epidemiology or Pediatric Diseases	3 SH
CHSC 534	Management and Analysis of Qualitative Data	3 SH
*CHSC/EPID 545 (with lab)	Reproductive and Perinatal Health	4 SH
CHSC/EPID 549	Advanced Applied Methods in MCH Epidemiology	3 SH
EPID 404	Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods	4 SH
EPID 500	Applied Methods for the Analysis of Epidemiologic Data	4 SH
EPID 501	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology	4 SH
EPSY 514	Non-Parametric Modeling	4 SH
EPSY 543	Advanced Analysis of Variance in Educational Research	4 SH
EPSY 546	Educational Measurement	4 SH
EPSY 547	Multiple Regression in Educational Research	4 SH
EPSY 551	Item Response Theory/Rasch Measurement	4 SH

EPSY 583	Multivariate Analysis of Educational Data	4 SH
EPSY 584	Hierarchical Linear Models	4 SH
HPA 564	GIS Application in Public Health	3 SH
HPA 592	Spatial Data Analysis and Visualization	4 SH
IDS 561	Analytics for Big Data	4 SH
PSCH 541 & 543	Intro to Computing in PSCH/Research Design and Analysis	1 + 4 SH
PSCH 545	Multivariate Analysis	3 SH
PA 541/POLS 501	Advanced Data Analysis I	4 SH
PA 542/POLS 502	Advanced Data Analysis II	4 SH
PA 588	Applied Survey Sampling and Analysis	4 SH
SOCW 597	Applied Linear and Generalized Linear Regression Models	3 SH

Note: Substitutions for courses in the Advanced Research Methods and Advanced Analytic Methods lists may be possible with approval from the CHS Doctoral Committee; see the CHS Assistant Director of Academic Services for information on the substitution process.
**Students with a focus in Maternal and Child Health must select at least one of these courses.*

Additional Required Courses

The following courses must be taken if an equivalent course was not completed in the student's master's program:

- BSTT 400 Biostatistics I (4 SH)
- BSTT 401 Biostatistics II (4 SH)
- CHSC 421 Community Health I (4 SH)
- CHSC 422 Community Health II (4 SH)
- CHSC 446 Research Methods in Community Health (3 SH)
- EPID 403 Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods (3 SH)
- For students with a focus in Maternal and Child Health, 2 of:
    - CHSC 510 MCH Inequities and Responses I (4 SH)
    - CHSC 511 MCH Inequities and Responses II (4 SH)
    - CHSC 543 MCH Policy and Advocacy (3 SH)

Concentration Electives (minimum of 12 SH)

Select 12 SH in an approved concentration area; at least 9 SH must be 500-level courses. The 595-seminar series may not be counted towards fulfillment of this requirement. Note: Students must complete the number of electives necessary to bring total program hours to a minimum of 96 credit hours.

Note: Students with a master's degree in public health or a related area may receive up to 32 SH of credit towards the 96 SH total. The 32 SH of credit will apply to the needed elective hours.

Preliminary Examination Requirements

The Preliminary Examination is an important milestone for PhD Students. Successful completion of the exam indicates that the student is ready to commence dissertation research. Students must undertake their Preliminary Examination within one year after completion of the coursework in their required program of study. Students wishing to undertake their Preliminary Examination at a different time must petition the CHS Doctoral Committee. Students must complete the degree within 5 years after taking the Preliminary Examination or they must retake the exam.

Maternal and Child Health

Admitted CHS applicants with a specific interest in MCH expressed as MCH-oriented career goals, MCH practice/research experience, MCH publications, and/or MCH research interests may be eligible to become an MCH Scholar which includes a small amount of additional support from the Center of Excellence (CoE) in Maternal and Child Health. If you are interested in focusing on Maternal and Child Health in completion of your CHS PhD or you have questions, contact Arden Handler, Director of CoE in MCH (handler@uic.edu).

MCH PhD Scholar Curriculum

Students selected as MCH PhD Scholars will follow the CHS PhD curriculum, inclusive of the following adaptations specified below:

1. Two of three MCH core courses:

Course	Title	Credits	Term Offered
*CHSC 510	MCH Inequities and Responses I	4	Spring
*CHSC 511	MCH Inequities and Responses II	4	Fall
*CHSC 543	MCH Policy and Advocacy	3	Fall

*For those with an MPH in MCH, MCH core courses are not required.

2. One MCH oriented analytic course **OR** one MCH oriented methods course as part of meeting your CHS analytic and methods requirements.

Course	Title	Credit	Term Offered
CHSC/EPID 518	Epidemiology of Pediatric Diseases**	3	TBA
CHSC/EPID 545	Reproductive and Perinatal Health (plus lab)	3 + 1	TBA

***EPID 404 is a prerequisite for CHSC/EPID 518.*

3. One-two MCH electives (list of pre-approved electives below; additional electives may be approved). If it meets your needs and interests, you can consider one of the CHSC-MCH core courses as an elective with faculty advisor approval.

4. MCH-Oriented dissertation

Please note: MCH PhD students are eligible to participate in the Chicago Metropolitan Exchange Program (CMEP) of the Graduate College to take relevant courses at Northwestern and the University of Chicago. For more information, please see the Graduate College website (https://grad.uic.edu/chicago-metropolitan-exchange-program/).

Financial Aid

To the extent possible, we offer financial support upon admission to doctoral students when they express a strong MCH interest in their application (personal statement, work experience,

recommendations). Subsequent financial aid awards may require that the student submit a proposal and a statement of how their planned courses will prepare them for MCH research.

Pre-Approved MCH Electives:

Course	Title	Credits
CHSC 434	Introduction to Qualitative Methods in Public Health	3 SH
CHSC 544	Public Health Approaches with Adolescents and Young Adults	3 SH
CHSC 586	Health Behavior Interventions	3 SH
CHSC 594	Sexuality, Reproduction, Gender, and Violence: A Seminar on Key Issues and Inequities in Health	1 SH
CHSC 594	Public Health Aspects of Abortion and Family Planning	3 SH
EPID 594	Epidemiology of Sexually Transmitted Infections	3 SH
EPID 594	Social Epidemiology	3 SH
IPHS 494	International Women's Health: Current and Emerging Issues	3 SH
IPHS 594	Global Women's Health and Rights	3 SH
GWS 501	Feminist Theories	4 SH
GWS 502	Feminist Knowledge Production	4 SH
GWS 515	Psychology of Women and Gender	3 SH
GWS 547	Race, Class, and Gender Dimensions of Crime and Justice	4 SH
NUEL 570	International Dimensions in Women's Health	3 SH

MCH PHD Student Professional Development

LEADERSHIP TRAINING & COACHING

- Each MCH PhD student will be required to meet with an MCH Leadership Coach two (2) times throughout their academic career.

TEACHING/RESEARCH TRAINING

- UIC SPH Office of Research Services hosts several trainings throughout the year. Each PhD student is required to obtain experience in classroom teaching. The teaching experience for doctoral candidates should at minimum consist of planning, leading, and evaluating a minimum of **two classroom sessions**, which maybe online or in-class sessions. If students are clear that they will be pursuing a career in academe, they are encouraged to exceed this minimum.
- It is suggested that all MCH PhD students interested in a career in academe take the "Foundations of Teaching" course offered through the Graduate College (https://grad.uic.edu/programs/graduate-college-courses/), or an equivalent course.

Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences – PhD

The PhD in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences program requires a minimum of 96 semester hours (SH). Students must complete a minimum of 9 SH in formal 500 series courses in major area of concentration (not necessarily in one division). Students must also complete 6 SH in a collateral area. Note: The 595-seminar series may not be counted towards fulfillment of this requirement.

School-Wide Core Requirements (min. 46 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
BSTT 400*	Biostatistics I	4 SH
BSTT 401*	Biostatistics II	4 SH
EPID 403*	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods	3 SH
IPHS 520	Foundations of Public Health (required for all PhD students without an MPH degree).	3 SH
IPHS 599	PhD Dissertation Research	min. 32 SH
Required Non-Credit Training		
Information Privacy & Security- IPS		Non-credit
Human Subjects Research- HSR		Non-credit
Title IX Training		Non-credit
SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial		Non-credit

*If not previously taken at the master's level

Divisional Core Requirements (21-22 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
EOHS 401	Ethics and Justice in Environmental and Occupational Health	2 SH
EOHS 402	Systems Approaches to Environmental and Occupational Health	4 SH
EOHS 501	Exposure Assessment Strategies	3 SH
EOHS 502	Environment, Toxicology, and Disease	4 SH
EOHS 495	Seminar in Environmental and Occupational Health Science	1 SH
EOHS 556	Risk Assessment for Environmental and Occupational Health	3 SH
EOHS 595	PhD Seminar in EOHS (enrollment to be repeated at least four semesters) (4 SH total)	1 SH
Methods selective: Students should select **one** course from the following lists of courses in qualitative **or** quantitative methods; to be selected according to academic needs and research activities:		
1. Qualitative Methods		
Course	**Title**	**Credits**
CHSC 534	Management and Analysis of Qualitative Data	3 SH
CLJ 561	Qualitative Methods and Design	4 SH
DHD 546	Qualitative Methods in Disability Research	4 SH
NUEL 544	Qualitative Research in Nursing	4 SH
PSCH 531	Community Research	3 SH

2. **Quantitative Methods**		
Course	**Title**	**Credits**
BSTT 537	Longitudinal Data Analysis	4 SH
EPID 500	Applied Epidemiologic Methods	4 SH
EPID 501	Adv. Quant Methods Epidemiology	4 SH
IE 442	Design and Analysis of Experiments in Engineering	4 SH

Electives (9 SH) *

Students are required to complete 9 SH of 500-level courses related to their declared area of concentration, and 6 SH of 500-level courses related to their declared collateral area. EOHS 595 cannot be applied towards these requirements. In addition, students are required to take electives to obtain a minimum of 96 SH. *Students without a prior master's degree in public health or a related area will be required to complete 37 SH of electives.

Epidemiology – PhD

The PhD in Epidemiology program requires a minimum of 96 semester hours (SH). This program includes the following course requirements:

School-Wide Core Requirements (32 - 46 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
BSTT 400*	Biostatistics I	4 SH
BSTT 401*	Biostatistics II	4 SH
IPHS 520	Foundations of Public Health (required for all PhD students without an MPH degree).	3 SH
EPID 403*	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods	3 SH
IPHS 599	PhD Dissertation Research	min. 32 SH
Required Non-Credit Training		
Information Privacy & Security- IPS		Non-credit
Human Subjects Research- HSR		Non-credit
Title IX Training		Non-credit
SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial		Non-credit

*If not previously taken at the master's level

Divisional Core Requirements (28 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
BSTT 505	Logistic Regression and Survival Analysis	2 SH
EPID 404	Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods	4 SH
EPID 406	Epidemiologic Computing	3 SH
EPID 410	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	2 SH
EPID 411	Epidemiology of Chronic Disease	3 SH
EPID 500	Advanced Applied Epidemiologic Methods II	4 SH
EPID 501	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology	4 SH
EPID 591	Current Epidemiologic Literature	2 SH
EPID 595	Epidemiology Research Seminar	1 SH
BSTT 506	Design of Clinical Trials	3 SH

Note: Students in the PhD program in Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology need to discuss these requirements with their advisor.

Electives (minimum of 29 SH)

- Students are strongly encouraged to participate in at least two IPHS 595 seminars that focus on professional development and skills building. IPHS seminars are typically 1 semester hour, but this varies depending on topic area.
- Two 500-level substantive Epidemiology classes, in different areas, to prepare for substantive sections of preliminary examination (e.g., Cardiovascular, Cancer, Aging, Infectious, Pediatrics, Genetics) (4-6 SH)

- At least one biological science class relevant to student's research area is required if no prior biological sciences background (4 SH) **Note: Students may enroll in an undergraduate biological sciences course; however, these hours will not count towards graduation credits for the PhD.**
- Additional coursework in relevant area outside of Epidemiology and approved by your advisor (e.g., Biostatistics, Nutrition, Maternal and Child Health, Environmental Sciences, Sociology) (6 SH)
- Remaining electives (13-15 SH)

Note: Students must complete the number of electives necessary to bring total program hours to a minimum of 96 credit hours. Students with a master's degree in public health or a related area may receive up to 32 SH of credit towards the 96 SH total.

Performance Standards: In addition to school-wide standards, no grade below "B" is acceptable in any Epidemiology or Biostatistics required 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.

Other Requirements: Each PhD student is required to obtain experience in classroom teaching. The teaching experience for doctoral candidates should at a minimum consist of planning, leading, and evaluating a minimum of two classroom sessions, which may be online or in-class sessions. If students are clear that they will pursuing a career in academe they should be encouraged by their advisors to go beyond this minimum.

All PhD students' efforts should be supervised and evaluated by appropriate faculty. Documentation should accompany this evaluation so that PhD students are clearly rated on their efforts at planning, teaching, and evaluating students in their classes. Efforts of students who are laboratory or teaching assistants should be considered vital teaching experiences if there is appropriate evaluation of such efforts by faculty and students. It is the responsibility of the student and his or her faculty advisor to make sure the student's instructional experience is properly evaluated.

Optional Concentrations

Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology in Epidemiology (100-101 SH)
EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDENTS ONLY

Students must complete the School-Wide Core Requirements above and 54-55 semester credit hours of the following courses as part of their divisional and elective choices.

School-Wide Core Requirements (43 - 46 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
BSTT 400*	Biostatistics I	4 SH
BSTT 401*	Biostatistics II	4 SH
IPHS 520	Foundations of Public Health (required for all PhD students without an MPH degree).	3 SH
EPID 403*	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods	3 SH
IPHS 599	PhD Dissertation Research	min. 32 SH
Required Non-Credit Training		
Information Privacy & Security- IPS		Non-credit
Human Subjects Research- HSR		Non-credit
Title IX Training		Non-credit
SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial		Non-credit

*If not previously taken at the master's level

Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology in Epidemiology Core Requirements (54 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
BSTT 505	Logistic Regression and Survival Analysis	2 SH
EPID 404	Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods	4 SH
EPID 406	Epidemiologic Computing	3 SH
EPID 411	Epidemiology of Non-Infectious Diseases	3 SH
EPID 500	Applied Methods for the Analysis of Epidemiologic Data	4 SH
EPID 501	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology	4 SH
EPID/EOHS 530	Current Topics in Occupational & Environmental Epidemiology	2 SH
EPID/EOHS 535	Applied Methods in Occupational Epidemiology	2 SH
EPID/EOHS 536	Applied Methods in Environmental Epidemiology	2 SH
EPID/EOHS 571	Injury Epidemiology and Prevention	3 SH
EOHS 421	Occupational Safety and Health Practice	2 SH
EOHS 502	Environmental and Occupational Toxicology and Diseases	4 SH
EOHS 501	Exposure Assessment Strategies	3 SH
EOHS 495	Environmental/Occupational Health Seminar (students must participate in 4 semesters, but need only enroll for credit in one semester	1 SH
EOHS 556	Risk Assessment in Environmental and Occupational Health	3 SH
Select one of the following courses:		
EOHS/HPA 436	GIS for Environmental and Public Health Professionals	4 SH

EOHS/HPA 564 or UPP 461	Geographical Information Systems in PH Geographic Information Systems of Planning and Policy	3 SH
ELECTIVES: 9 hours of electives identified by student and advisor based on research interests		9 SH
Total Credit Hours Including School-Wide Core Requirements		**100-101**

Required courses will be waived based on previous course work thus reducing the total number of required semester hours. However, a minimum of 96 SH will be required of all students in the PhD program.

Optional Program - Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology

Students in the PhD in MCH Epidemiology (MCHEPI) can enter the MCHEPI PhD program through the Division of Community Health Sciences or the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (EPID-BSTT). Regardless of division, MCHEPI PhD students are required to take courses in both Epidemiology and Maternal and Child Health (MCH), along with courses from other disciplines that focus on the substantive, analytic, and technical aspects of the public health planning cycle. A limited amount of specially targeted federal funding is available for MCHEPI students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

- A minimum of 96 semester hours of credit, including up to 32 credits transferred from a master's degree, 32 credits for dissertation research, and to include the required courses below. Students with waived courses must still accumulate 96 credits to graduate, but the total may be reached with additional research hours or methods courses.
- A written and oral preliminary exam. This exam is administered through EPID-BSTT, regardless of the student's home division.
- A dissertation which must be conducted in conjunction with a state or local public health agency or using the data from such agencies.
- Leadership coaching offered by the Center of Excellence in MCH (CoE-MCH) and other professional development.

Required Courses

Master's Level Courses (if no MPH in Epidemiology):		
IPHS 520	Public Health Frameworks for Researchers *(for student's w/o MPH)*	3 SH
BSTT 401	Biostatistics II	4 SH
EPID 404	Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods	4 SH
EPID 406	Epidemiologic Computing (*Prereq. for EPID 404)*	3 SH
Select **ONE** of the following courses (if no MPH in MCH):		
CHSC 510	MCH Inequities and Responses I	4 SH
CHSC 511	MCH Inequities and Responses II	4 SH
CHSC 543	MCH Policy and Advocacy	3 SH
Select **ONE** of the following courses:		
EPID 409	The Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS	2 SH
EPID 410	Introduction to Infectious Disease Epidemiology	2 SH
EPID 411	Introduction to Chronic Disease Epidemiology	3 SH
EPID 550	Public Health Surveillance	3 SH
CHS Doctoral Theory and Method Courses:		
CHSC 550	Advanced Theories and Topics in Community Health Sciences	3 SH
CHSC 551*	Advanced Research Methods for Community Health Sciences	3 SH
CHSC 552*	Advanced Analytic Methods for Community Health Sciences	3 SH
MCH Epidemiology Courses:		
EPID/CHSC 518+	Epidemiology of Pediatric Diseases	3 SH
EPID/CHSC 545+	Reproductive and Perinatal Health (plus lab)	3 + 1 SH
Advanced Analytic Methods Courses		

BSTT 505+	Logistic Regression & Survival Analysis (Prereq for EPID 501)	2 SH
EPID 500	Applied Epidemiologic Methods	4 SH
EPID 501+	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology	4 SH
PA 588+	Survey Data Reduction and Analysis (ONLINE ONLY)	4 SH
Select **ONE** of the following courses:		
BSTT 537+	Longitudinal Data Analysis	4 SH
EPSY 584+	Hierarchical Linear Models	4 SH

With consent of the advisor, a student may replace a required course with a relevant substitute.
*Only a required course for MCHEPI PhD students in the **CHS** division. EPID MCHEPI PhD students are highly encouraged to take both CHSC 551 and CHSC 552.
Only a required course for MCHEPI PhD students in **EPID division. CHS MCHEPI PhD students are highly encouraged to take EPID 500, 591, and 595.

+ This course can be used to count toward the Advanced Analytic Methods Course Requirement for PhD in CHS.

MCH EPI PhD Student Professional Development Requirements

CAREER DEVELOPMENT/LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Students are required to participate in two IPHS 595 seminars that focus on professional development and skills building. IPHS seminars are typically 1 semester hour, but this varies depending on topic area.

LEADERSHIP COACHING

- Each MCHEPI PhD student will be required to meet with an MCH Leadership Coach each year of their academic career.

TEACHING/RESEARCH TRAINING

The teaching experience for doctoral candidates consist of planning, leading, and evaluating a minimum of **two classroom sessions**, which may be online or in-class sessions. It is suggested that all MCHEPI PhD students interested in a career in academe take the "Foundations of Teaching" course offered through the Graduate College (https://grad.uic.edu/programs/graduate-college-courses/), or an equivalent course.), or an equivalent course.

Health Policy and Administration – PhD

The PhD in Health Policy and Administration (HPA) program requires a minimum of 118 semester hours (SH). This program includes the following course requirements:

School-Wide Core Requirements (46 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
BSTT 400*	Biostatistics I	4 SH
BSTT 401*	Biostatistics II	4 SH
EPID 403*	Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods	3 SH
IPHS 520	Foundations of Public Health (required for all PhD students without an MPH degree).	3 SH
IPHS 599	PhD Dissertation Research	min. 32 SH
Required Non-Credit Training		
Information Privacy & Security- IPS		Non-credit
Human Subjects Research- HSR		Non-credit
Title IX Training		Non-credit
SPH Academic Integrity Tutorial		Non-credit

*If not previously taken at the master's level

Health Policy & Administration Core Requirements (32 - 46 SH)

Course	Title	Credits
HPA 420	US Healthcare System for Public Health Practitioners	3 SH
HPA 521	Empirical Methods for Health Research I	3 SH
HPA 522	Empirical Methods for Health Research II	3 SH
HPA 567	Public Health Policy Analysis	3
HPA 573	Principles of Economic Evaluation of Health Care Interventions	3 SH
HPA 581	Advanced Topics in Health Economics	3 SH
IPHS 595	PhD Seminar	1 credit per semester *4 semesters in the first 2 years

*If not previously taken at the master's level

Selectives

All students must complete a minimum of 9 semester hours of selectives from the below list.

BSTT 505	Logistic Regression and Survival Analysis	2 SH
BSTT 537	Longitudinal Data Analysis	2 SH
ECON 509	Microeconomic Theory I	4 SH
ECON 534	Econometrics I	4 SH
ECON 535	Econometrics II	4 SH
ECON 516	Development Economics	4 SH
ECON 539	Microeconomics	4 SH
ECON 555	Health Economics	4 SH
ECON 531	Labor Economics	4 SH

CHSC 534	Management and Analysis of Qualitative Data	3 SH
CHSC 551	Advanced Research Methods for Community Health Sciences	3 SH
EOHS 501	Exposure Assessment Strategies	3 SH
POLS 502	Time Series Analysis for Political Science	3 SH
POLS 544	Regulatory Public Policies	3 SH
POLS 566	Interest Groups	3 SH
POLS 584	Methods of Policy Analysis	3 SH
PSOP 502	Research Methods in Pharmacy Systems, Outcomes and Policy	3 SH
UPP 500	History and Theory of Urban Planning	4 SH
UPP 501	Urban Space, Place and Institutions	4 SH

Electives

All students must complete a sufficient number of courses to bring the total program hours to 118 SH. A minimum of 9 SH must be taken at the 500-level. **Note:** IPHS 599 hours may not be counted toward fulfillment of this requirement

Students with a master's degree in a relevant research area may receive 32 SH of credit towards the 118 SH total.

Recommended Plan of Study

Under direction of the academic advisor, each student must complete appropriate courses that address the curriculum objectives. Students will be expected to take additional courses in their area(s) of focus, e.g., economics, qualitative research, measurement, survey research, program evaluation. The specific courses taken to achieve curriculum objectives must be approved by the HPA PhD Program Director.

Students may enter the doctoral program with a bachelor's degree but will be strongly encouraged to remediate a math deficiency by the end of the first year.

Students entering the program with a prior master's degree may be permitted to transfer 32 SH of relevant coursework, depending on relevancy and appropriateness of the master coursework.

JOINT MD/PHD DEGREE

The School of Public Health participates in a joint MD/PhD with the College of Medicine.

Joint Degree	Availability of Joint Degree Programs by Division				
	CHS	EOHS	Epi	Bio	HPA
MD/PhD	X		X	X	X

MD/PhD training in epidemiology and/or biostatistics provides an extended period of study in the etiologic and methodological approaches of population-based health research in concert with complete medical school education. Application is normally made at the time of application to the College of Medicine; however, applicants will also be considered during their first two years of medical training. Students must apply to the MD/PhD Training Program and to the College of Medicine and indicate in their application that they are interested in a PhD in Community Health Sciences, Epidemiology or Biostatistics. Criteria for admission to the program include academic excellence, prior research experience, potential for independent and creative research, and commitment to a career in academic medicine. Students receive a stipend throughout their years of study. Students interested in further information may contact Rashid Ahmed, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, SPH, phone: (312) 355-1134, e-mail: mrahmed@uic.edu or the MD/PhD Training Program: Julia Mann, Director of Program Administration, MSTP Program, phone: (312) 355-5900, e-mail: jlmann@uic.edu;

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CONCENTRATIONS

The School of Public Health offers PhD students the opportunity to participate in any of the Interdepartmental Concentrations as appropriate to their research interests.

The below Interdepartmental Concentrations include electives in a number of topic areas including Black Studies, Gender Women's Studies, Violence Studies and Women's Health and may be completed by students in Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of Science (MS) program and Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health (PhD). Please contact your academic advisor for a list of the available electives and program requirements.

Interdepartmental Concentration	CHS	EOHS	Epidemiology	HPA
Gender and Women's Studies	x	x	x	x
Violence Studies	x	x	x	x
Women's Health	x	x	x	X
Black Studies	x			

Gender and Women's Studies Concentration

The School of Public Health is a participating department in the graduate concentration in Gender and Women's Studies offered by the Gender and Women's Studies Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Once admitted to SPH, students may apply to the GWS Program for admission to the concentration.

Experiencing GWS courses will allow students to critically examine issues of women and gender, as well as their complex intersections with race, class, ethnicity, and sexual identity, providing a rich, interdisciplinary focus.

For additional details about the program visit: https://gws.uic.edu/gws/academics/grad-concentration.

Contact Information
For further information about the concentration in Gender and Women's Studies please contact:

Jennifer Brier
Director of Gender and Women's Studies
312-413-2458
jbrier@uic.edu

Violence Studies

The School of Public Health is a participating department in the graduate concentration in Violence Studies offered in collaboration with the Departments of Criminology, Law, and Justice, Psychology, and Political Science as well as the Gender and Women's Studies Program and the Jane Addams College of Social Work. The concentration is administered jointly through the Department of Criminology, Law, and Justice and the College of Social Work.

Composed of courses from multiple disciplines, this concentration provides students with a holistic view of the problem of violence in society and deepens their knowledge and skill set to address it. This concentration aims to produce broadly trained individuals who can apply theories and methods from multidisciplinary perspectives to critically analyze and effectively respond to various types of violence in society through innovative programs of research, policy development, treatment, and prevention. The concentration requires a minimum of 11 semester hours (4 courses) with two courses selected from a list of foundational courses and then two additional supplementary courses.

For additional details about the program including the required course work, review the Graduate Catalog description at https://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/social-work/vios-conc/.

Contact Information

For further information about the concentration in Violence Studies please contact:

Patricia O'Brien, PhD
Associate Professor, Jane Addams College of Social Work
(312) 996-2203
pob@uic.edu

Women's Health Concentration

The Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Women's Health is co-sponsored by the UIC College of Nursing, the School of Public Health, and the Gender and Women's Studies program. The Concentration is housed within the College of Nursing.

This Concentration encompasses the multidisciplinary aspects of Women's Health and provides training in the foundations of Women's Health through its structure and content. The Core courses provide a broad overview of the field and issues within Women's Health, and they address the need for a conceptual and applied background in Women's Health. The elective allows a student to pursue an issue or area of professional interest in Women's Health. The multidisciplinary requirement in this Concentration ensures that a student has significant exposure to a paradigm other than the dominant paradigms used within their own school or department.

This concentration is an elective concentration for graduate students, consisting of core and elective courses across several academic units. The Concentration curriculum can be completed without the need to change existing graduate college or departmental academic requirements. In the case of certain academic units, however, students may need to complete additional hours beyond the minimum required for a masters or a doctoral degree within their home school, college, or department.

The Interdepartmental concentration in Women's Health requires 12 semester hours (SH) and is designed for completion in as little as four semesters by completing one course each semester. Students must complete at least 6 SH outside of their home area and take one core course from three separate areas: 1) Introductory Women's Health, 2) Women's Health Specific Issues, and 3) Theory/Methods.

For a complete description of the concentration, including its target audience, course requirements, and designated and affiliated faculty see the College of Nursing website at:
https://www.nursing.uic.edu/academics-admissions/certificate-programs#womens-health-concentration

Contact Information

For further information about the concentration in Women's Health please contact:

Carrie Klima, CNM, PhD
Concentration Director and Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing
(312) 996-1863
cklima@uic.edu

Black Studies

This concentration offers Ph.D. students in Community Health Sciences a unique opportunity to complement the graduate coursework in their home department with interdisciplinary training. It is designed to provide graduate students a deeper understanding of scholarship and research methods in Black Studies and to foster participation in an interdisciplinary community of young scholars engaging with faculty experts. The concentration will enable researchers and practitioners with a wide range of intellectual and professional interests to develop expertise in race, culture and politics before they embark on their careers.

Black Studies is a robust interdisciplinary area of study that is informed by traditional disciplines including history, literature, sociology, philosophy, political science, and psychology, as well as newer and emerging fields including gender studies, postcolonial studies, disability studies, and Asian American, Latinx, and indigenous studies. Drawing on hybrid and innovative methodological and theoretical approaches, the department provides courses across historical periods and locations—from a focus on the city of Chicago to black cultures and communities in the Caribbean, Africa and Europe, as well as North America.

Contact Information

For further information about the concentration in Black Studies, please contact:

Madhu Dubey
Director of Graduate Studies
(312) 413-2248
madhud@uic.edu

CHICAGO METROPOLITAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM (CMEP)

The Chicago Metropolitan Exchange Program (CMEP) allows UIC doctoral students to access courses at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University. Courses taken through the CMEP should be relevant to the student's program and not offered at UIC. Students will be billed for courses taken through the CMEP at their home campus at its usual rate. Please note that UIC students who would like to take courses at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, or the University of Illinois at Springfield may do so as a concurrent registrant through the UIC Registrar's Office and would not be part of this program.

More information about the CMEP is available on the Graduate College website at: http://grad.uic.edu/chicago-metropolitan-exchange-program.

PHD DEGREE COMPETENCIES

PhD degree students are prepared to assume academic or research careers in a basic or applied science related to public health or careers in public health practice within both the public and private sectors. In general, the PhD student completes coursework that provides a broad introduction to public health. For students without a prior MPH, this introduction addresses the following learning objectives:

1. Explain public health history, philosophy, and values
2. Identify the core functions of public health and the 10 Essential Services
3. Explain the role of quantitative and qualitative methods and sciences in describing and assessing a population's health
4. List major causes and trends of morbidity and mortality in the US or other community relevant to the school or program
5. Discuss the science of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention in population health, including health promotion, screening, etc.
6. Explain the critical importance of evidence in advancing public health knowledge
7. Explain effects of environmental factors on a population's health
8. Explain biological and genetic factors that affect a population's health
9. Explain behavioral and psychological factors that affect a population's health
10. Explain the social, political, and economic determinants of health and how they contribute to population health and health inequities
11. Explain how globalization affects global burdens of disease
12. Explain an ecological perspective on the connections among human health, animal health and ecosystem health (e.g., One Health)