Before taking the qualifying examination, it is expected that doctoral students will have taken the following courses or their equivalent, either while in a masters degree program (at Berkeley or prior to matriculating at Berkeley) or while in the doctoral program, or be knowledgeable about the material covered in these courses:

- PH 292 (6) Epidemiology Seminar (Fall) or PH 292 (7) Epidemiology/Biostatistics Seminar (Fall) (usually taken prior to or during the first year of doctoral study).
- PH 293 (8, 13) Epidemiology Doctoral Seminar (Fall & Spring – for at least two years)
- PH 250A Epidemiologic Methods I (Summer or Fall)
- PH 250B Epidemiologic Methods II (Fall)
- PH 250C Epidemiologic Theory (Spring)
- PH 142 Introduction to Probability and Statistics in Biology and Public Health (Fall)
- PH 145 Statistical Analysis of Continuous Outcome Data (Spring)
- PH 241 Statistical Analysis of Categorical Data (Spring)
- PH 242C Longitudinal Data Analysis (Fall or Spring)
- PH 245 Introduction to Multivariate Public Health Statistics (Fall)
- PH 248 Statistical/Computer Analysis Using R (Fall)
- PH 252 Epidemiological Analysis (Spring)
- PH 252A Applied Sampling Seminar (Fall, even-numbered years)
- PH 252C Intervention Trial Design (Fall)
- PH 252D Introduction to Marginal Structural Models (Fall)
- PH 259A History of Epidemiology (Fall)
- PH 259B Ethical Issues in Epidemiology Research (Spring)

Doctoral students are also expected to attend the divisional research seminar regularly. Through their choice of elective courses, students are also expected to develop expertise in a third area of knowledge relevant to their expected dissertation research (e.g. virology, sociology, anthropology, demography, etc.). Thus, students should seek out and take appropriate other courses in the School of Public Health; in other departments and schools on the Berkeley campus; and at UCSF, relevant to their chosen “third area,” or of potential benefit to them in their research.

The Graduate Division requires that no more than one-third of the units in an individual student’s total curriculum while at Berkeley be taken on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. Public Health 297 and 299 courses are not included in this calculation.