

Epidemiology PhD

Sample Curriculum for PhD Students

Before taking the qualifying examination, it is expected that doctoral students in Epidemiology at UC Berkeley will have taken the following courses or their equivalent, either while in a master's 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:

Required Courses during Years 1 and 2:

- PH241 (Spring) Statistical Analysis of Categorical Data (Letter-grade)
- PH250B (Fall) Epidemiologic Methods II (Letter-grade)
- PH250C (Spring) Advanced Epidemiologic Methods (Letter-grade)
- PH252D (Spring) Causal Inference I (Letter-grade)*
- PH252E (Fall) Causal Inference II (Letter-grade)*

At least one semester of causal is required. Exceptions may be made, but on a case-by-case basis*

- PH293 (Fall & Spring) Epidemiology Doctoral Seminar
 - Enroll for the appropriate section (noted on the epi course list)
 - Required every-semester for year 1, second semester in year 2, and strongly recommended through the remaining years in the program.
- PH290 (Fall) Grant Writing Seminar (required third semester, in lieu of doc sem)

Recommended Courses:

- PH207A (Spring) Public Health Aspects of Maternal and Child Nutrition (Letter-grade)
- PH235 (Spring) Impact Evaluation for Health Professionals (Letter-grade)
- PH245 (Fall) Introduction to Multivariate Statistics (Letter-grade)
- PHC242C (Spring) Longitudinal Data Analysis (Letter-grade)
- PH252C (Fall) Intervention Trial Design (S/U)
- PH 253B (Spring) Epidemiology and Control of Infectious Disease
- PH 254 (Spring) Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology
- PH255A (Spring) Social Epidemiology (Letter-grade)
- PH255D (Spring) Methods in Social Epidemiology (S/U)
- PH256 (Spring) Molecular & Gen Epi & Human Health in the 21st Century (Letter-grade)
- PH257 (Fall, Spring) Outbreak Investigation (S/U)
- PH258 (Spring, odd years) Cancer Epidemiology (Letter-grade)
- Students must take online training in human subject research and obtain prior human subjects approval for planned dissertation research.

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 and in other departments and schools on the Berkeley campus relevant to their chosen “third area,” or of potential benefit to them in their research.