

# EPIDEMIOLOGY

## Degree Requirements

### Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

Students enrolled in the Epidemiology Ph.D. program must successfully complete 20 credits of core required courses, 6 credits of elective substantive courses, and 3 credits of additional substantive epidemiology or other noted elective courses, including:

| Code                                                                                                                                             | Title                                              | Credits  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Required Courses</b>                                                                                                                          |                                                    |          |
| PHS 500                                                                                                                                          | Research Ethics for Clinical Investigators         | 1        |
| PHS 510                                                                                                                                          | Grant Writing for Clinical Research                | 3        |
| PHS 518                                                                                                                                          | Scientific Communication                           | 3        |
| PHS 554                                                                                                                                          | Statistical Methods in Public Health I             | 3        |
| PHS 555                                                                                                                                          | Statistical Methods for Public Health II           | 3        |
| PHS 560                                                                                                                                          | Epidemiological Research Methods                   | 3        |
| PHS 564                                                                                                                                          | Causal Inference Methods in Epidemiologic Research | 3        |
| EPID 590                                                                                                                                         | Colloquium                                         | 1        |
| <b>Required/Elective Substantive Epidemiology Courses</b>                                                                                        |                                                    | <b>6</b> |
| <i>Required/Elective designation depending on research area, minimum 6 credits. Additional credits over six may be used as elective courses.</i> |                                                    |          |
| PHS 503<br>or NUTR 503                                                                                                                           | Nutritional Epidemiology                           | 3        |
| PHS 516                                                                                                                                          | Statistical Genetics                               | 3        |
| PHS 552                                                                                                                                          | Molecular Epidemiology of Chronic Disease          | 3        |
| PHS 556                                                                                                                                          | Cancer Epidemiology                                | 3        |
| PHS 558                                                                                                                                          | Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology                | 3        |
| PHS 562                                                                                                                                          | Environmental Epidemiology                         | 3        |
| PHS 563                                                                                                                                          | Infectious Disease Epidemiology II                 | 3        |

#### Elective Courses

*At least 3 credits of electives should be chosen in coordination with the mentor/adviser from a list of approved courses maintained by the program office. Students may take more than six credits if preferred or deemed necessary by their mentor. Additional substantive epidemiology courses may be counted towards this 3 credit requirement.*

Additionally, Epidemiology Ph.D. students are required to fulfill the following requirements:

- Pass Milestone Examinations- Qualifying and Comprehensive exams.
- Complete an original dissertation that involves a specific research topic in an epidemiological area that is worthy of publications of at least two original research manuscripts in peer-reviewed scientific journals.
- Exceptions to any required courses will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the program director/s.