PhD in Public Health

Admission Requirements
In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

• **Baccalaureate Field** A major in the biological, physical, or social sciences is preferred. Students applying to the primary concentration in Environmental and Occupational Health must have completed a full year of general chemistry, at least one semester of organic chemistry, and two semesters of calculus; one course in human physiology is also required for those interested in a secondary concentration in the ASAC-ABET Accredited MS Program in Industrial Hygiene, Occupational Safety, and Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology. Those interested in the ASAC-ABET Accredited MS Program in Industrial Hygiene must meet the criteria listed above. In addition, applicants should have a prior degree in the physical/life sciences or engineering fields with course work in physics, chemistry, biology, or mathematics. Relevant work experience or significant physical or life science or engineering course work may be considered for applicants with undergraduate degrees in other, nonscience fields.

• **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00.

• **Tests Required** GRE General. For GRE General tests, combined verbal and quantitative scores must be at least 300.

• **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with sub scores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Internet-based); 60, with sub scores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 550 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018), OR,
  - IELTS 6.5, with sub scores of 6.0 for all four sub scores, OR,
  - PTE-Academic 54, with sub scores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.

• **Letters of Recommendation** Three required.

• **Personal Statement** Required; the statement should address the applicant’s intended research, career goals, and reason for pursuing the PhD degree in the chosen area.

• **Other Requirements**: Applicants may submit their master’s thesis as evidence of their ability to plan and complete significant health-related research.

Degree Requirements

• **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 96 from the baccalaureate; 98 from the baccalaureate for the Cancer Epidemiology concentration. Students in the Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Concentration may be required to take 114 to 116 hours, depending on prior course work taken.

• **Course Work** At least 9 hours must be in 500-level didactic courses in the student's major area. If a collateral area is required by the major, at least 6 hours must be in the collateral area at the 500-level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPID 403</td>
<td>Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Courses</th>
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| BSTT 400 | Biostatistics I ✤ |
| BSTT 401 | Biostatistics II ✤ |

(parentheses)

**Biostatistics Concentration Requirements**

**Concentration Required Courses**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPID 403</td>
<td>Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 560</td>
<td>Large Sample Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 561</td>
<td>Advanced Statistical Inference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 562</td>
<td>Linear Models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 595</td>
<td>Biostatistics Research Seminar (at least 1 semester hour)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Electives**

Select 19 hours of electives with 12 hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 563</td>
<td>Generalized Linear Models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 564</td>
<td>Missing Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 565</td>
<td>Computational Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 566</td>
<td>Bayesian Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTT 567</td>
<td>Advanced Survival Analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The remaining 7 hours may NOT include BSTT 400, BSTT 401, BSTT 505, BSTT 523, BSTT 524, or BSTT 525.

Community Health Sciences Concentration Requirements

• **PhD students in Community Health Sciences must complete** all of the SPH requirements for the PhD degree. Students must select 12 hours for their concentration. The student will be tested in the concentration area as part of the preliminary examination. Additional compensatory courses are required if the equivalent course work was not completed at the master’s degree level. These compensatory courses are: EPID 403, CHSC 446, BSTT 400, BSTT 401, CHSC 400, CHSC 480, or their equivalent. Advisor approval is necessary for elective course selection. PhD students pursuing a program in Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology have additional requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHSC 550</td>
<td>Advanced Concepts in Community Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHSC 551</td>
<td>Foundations of Public Health Inquiry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced analytic methods courses (6 hours) ✤

Advanced research methods courses (6 hours) ✤
CHSC 595  Seminar in Community Health Sciences  
(2 hours)

**Concentration**

Select 12 hours for the concentration

a Students must select 6 credit hours each from an approved menu for both the advanced analytic methods and the advanced research methods course requirements.

**Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Concentration Requirements**

- PhD students concentrating in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences must complete all of the SPH requirements for the PhD degree.
- The EOHS concentration requires that PhD students complete EOHS 595 (registering for four semesters/one hour each semester) and one graduate-level course in qualitative or quantitative methods chosen in consultation with their advisor.
- In addition, students must complete the division core, choosing at least one course in each of the following three areas:
  1. Exposure Assessment
  2. Health Assessment
  3. Risk Assessment and Policy
- Students should see their advisor for a list of courses in each area.

**Epidemiology Concentration Requirements**

**Course**  
**Title**  
**Secondary Concentration Required Courses**

PhD students concentrating in Epidemiology must complete all of the SPH requirements for the PhD degree. In addition, students must take:

- **EPID 404** Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods
- **EPID 406** Epidemiologic Computing
- **EPID 410** Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases
- **EPID 411** Epidemiology of Chronic Diseases
- **EPID 501** Advanced Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology
- **EPID 591** Current Epidemiologic Literature
- **EPID 595** Epidemiology Research Seminar
- **BSTT 505** Logistic Regression and Survival Analysis
- **CHSC 514** Nutritional Epidemiology
  or **HN 594** Special Topics in Human Nutrition
- **EPID 515** Cancer Epidemiology
- **EPID 516** Advanced Cancer Epidemiology
- **EPID 520** Genetics in Epidemiology
- **EPID 554** Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology
- **EPID 594** Advanced Special Topics in Epidemiology (Special Topics: Social Epidemiology or Surveillance Epidemiology)

**Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Concentration Requirements (Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (EOHS) and Epidemiology (EPID) students only)**

**Course**  
**Title**  
**Secondary Concentration Required Courses**

PhD students concentrating in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology must complete all of the SPH requirements for the PhD degree. In addition, students must take:

- **BSTT 505** Logistic Regression and Survival Analysis
- **EPID 404** Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods
- **EPID 406** Epidemiologic Computing
- **EOHS 421** Occupational Health and Safety Practice
- **EPID 501** Advanced Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology
- **EPID/EOHS 530** Current Topics in Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology
- **EPID/EOHS 535** Applied Methods in Occupational Epidemiology

**Health Policy and Administration Concentration Requirements**

- PhD students in Health Policy and Administration must complete all of the SPH requirements for the PhD degree. No additional course requirements are specified. In addition, a minimum of 21 hours of course work relevant to the disciplinary area of Health Policy and Administration is taken in consultation with the faculty advisor.
EPID/EOHS 536  Applied Methods in Environmental Epidemiology
EOHS 551  Occupational and Environmental Disease
EOHS 556  Risk Assessment in Environmental and Occupational Health
EOHS 563  Occupational Safety and Health Management Systems
EPID/EOHS 571  Injury Epidemiology and Prevention
EPID 410  or EPID 411  Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases
or EPID 411  Epidemiology of Chronic Diseases
EOHS 564  or UPP 461  Geographic Information System Application in Public Health
or Geographic Information Systems for Planning and Policy
EPID 595  or EOHS 595  PhD Seminar in EOHS

- **Dissertation Required.** Students must register in IPHS 599 for at least 32 semester hours.
- **Other Requirements** Students must obtain supervised experience in classroom teaching in at least one course for at least part of a semester.

### Interdepartmental Concentration in Gender and Women's Studies

Students with a primary concentration in Community Health Sciences may complement their courses by enrolling in a concentration in Gender and Women's Studies after consulting with their graduate advisor. See Gender and Women's Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/gws-conc) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences section for more information.

### Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Survey Research Methodology

Students with a primary concentration in Community Health Sciences may complement their courses by enrolling in a concentration in Survey Research Methodology after consulting with their graduate advisor. See Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Survey Research Methodology (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/graduate-college/srm-conc) in the Graduate College section for more information.

### Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Violence Studies

Students earning a PhD degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in a concentration Violence Studies in after consulting with their graduate advisor. See Violence Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/vios-conc) in the College of Arts and Sciences section or the Jane Addams College of Social Work section for more information.

### Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Women's Health

Students earning a PhD degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in a concentration in Women's Health after consulting with their advisor. See Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Women's Health (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/nursing/womens-health-conc) in the College of Nursing section for more information.

### Medical Scientist Training Program

The UIC School of Public Health has particularly strong programs in epidemiology, biostatistics, prevention research, community health, health systems management, occupational and environmental safety and health, and quantitative methods. Application to the PhD program 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 Medical Scientist Training Program (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/medicine/mstp) and to the College of Medicine and indicate in their application that they are interested in one of the divisions of the UIC School of Public Health. 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. For more information, contact:

Linda Forst, Senior Associate Dean, SPH
(312) 996-1374
lforst@uic.edu (forst@uic.edu)

or the Medical Scientist Training Program: Larry Tobacman, MD, Director
(312) 413-1010
lst@uic.edu

or Roberta Bernstein, Coordinator
(312) 996-7473
roberta@uic.edu