

**SPECIAL REPORT  
OF THE  
GRADUATE COUNCIL**

concerning

**REVISION TO THE PROGRAM:  
BIostatistics AND EPIDEMIOLOGY  
PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)  
(#5530)**

Presented at the  
782<sup>nd</sup> Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate  
December 6, 2018

**COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**

Nadia Al-Ahmed, Sonia Alvarez, Joseph Black, Justin Burch, D. Anthony Butterfield, Ana Caicedo, Canan Çevik, David Cort, Robert DeConto, Jennifer Friedman, Mark Hamin, Laura Hancock, Neil Immerman, Cynthia Jacelon, Ramakrishna Janaswamy, Barbara Krauthamer, John Lopes, David Morin, Martina Nieswandt, Sarah Pfatteicher, Sarah Poissant, Rebecca Reznik-Zellen, Frederic Schaffer, Patrick Sullivan, Bianki Torres, David Vaillancort, Tilman Wolf, Kristine Yu

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**

The Graduate Council recommends approval of this proposal.

*Briefly describe the Proposal*

We propose minor modifications to the tracking form for the degree and the required coursework, both in response to changes in the accreditation criteria as overseen by the Council on Education for Public Health

*Please describe the existing program requirements, listing all required courses and available electives, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.*

The MPH with concentration in Epidemiology is a 42 credit degree with two options for culminating experience – a 0 credit exit exam or a 3 credit MPH project. Because of the difference in credits and requirements for the culminating experience, there are slightly different

course sequences/options for the two tracks. The following lists all current requirements - coursework and otherwise for each:

**Five public health core courses (15 credits), including:**

- **EPI 630 Principles of Epidemiology**
- **BIOSTAT 540 Introduction to Biostatistics**
- **EHS 565 Environmental Health Practices**
- **HPP 601 Application of Social & Behavioral Theories in Pub Hlth Interventions**
- **HPP 620 Introduction to the US Health Care System**

**Three additional required epidemiology and biostatistics classes (9 credits)**

- **EPI 632 Applied Epidemiology**
- **BIOSTAT 640 Intermediate Biostatistics**
- **BIOSTAT 691F Statistical Computing in SAS**

**Three epidemiology electives (9 credits) chosen from the following:**

- **EHS 600 Molecular Epidemiology**
- **EPI 631 Scientific Writing for Thesis, Dissertation, and Grant Proposals in Epi**
- **EPI 633 Infectious Disease Epidemiology**
- **EPI 634 Nutritional Epidemiology**
- **EPI 635 Social Epidemiology**
- **EPI 636 Epidemiologic Assessment (Clinical Epidemiology)**
- **EPI 639 Cancer Epidemiology**
- **EPI 640 Reproductive Epidemiology**
- **EPI 690EW Women's Health Epidemiology**
- **EPI 700 Analysis of Epidemiologic Data**
- **EPI 737 Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods**

**Public Health Practicum (EPI 698 – 3 credits)**

**For students taking the exit exam:**

**Two “other elective” (6 credits) chosen from among any grad level course offered by the School (or some other area, subject to faculty approval)**

**Successful completion of the exit exam.**

**Or,**

**For students who choose to complete an MPH Project**

**One “other elective” (3 credits) chosen from among any grad level course offered by the School (or some other area, subject to faculty approval)**

**EPI 696D – MPH Project (3 credits).**

*Please describe the requirements that you are proposing, listing course requirements, elective options, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.*

We propose to add a required class that is currently being offered as an optional class - EPI 690R, Introduction to Epidemiologic Research Methods in order to fulfill CEPH content/competency requirements. In order to keep the total credits required for the degree the same in keeping, we propose to reallocate the 3 credits currently assigned to an "other elective" to this new required 3 credit class. Specifically, the proposed requirements are:

**Five public health core courses (15 credits), including:**

- EPI 630 Principles of Epidemiology
- BIOSTAT 540 Introduction to Biostatistics
- EHS 565 Environmental Health Practices
- HPP 601 Application of Social & Behavioral Theories in Pub Hlth Interventions
- HPP 620 Introduction to the US Health Care System

**One required public health core competency class**

- EPI 690R Introduction to Epidemiologic Research Methods

**Three additional required epidemiology and biostatistics classes (9 credits)**

- EPI 632 Applied Epidemiology
- BIOSTAT 640 Intermediate Biostatistics
- BIOSTAT 691F Statistical Computing in SAS

**Three epidemiology electives (9 credits) chosen from the following:**

- EHS 600 Molecular Epidemiology
- EPI 631 Scientific Writing for Thesis, Dissertation, and Grant Proposals in Epi
- EPI 633 Infectious Disease Epidemiology
- EPI 634 Nutritional Epidemiology
- EPI 635 Social Epidemiology
- EPI 636 Epidemiologic Assessment (Clinical Epidemiology)
- EPI 639 Cancer Epidemiology
- EPI 640 Reproductive Epidemiology
- EPI 690EW Women's Health Epidemiology
- EPI 700 Analysis of Epidemiologic Data
- EPI 737 Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods

**Public Health Practicum (EPI 698 – 3 credits)**

**For students taking the exit exam:**

**One "other elective" (3 credits) chosen from among any grad level course offered by the School (or some other area, subject to faculty approval)**

**Successful completion of the exit exam.**

**Or, for students who choose to complete an MPH Project**

**EPI 696D – MPH Project (3 credits).**

*Please provide the rationale for these revisions.*

**CEPH has introduced new substantive competencies that were not being met by the previously required coursework. The new class we've developed - EPI 690R Introduction to Epidemiologic Research Methods - fills this gap by including material required by CEPH to fill competencies for all students in PH.**

**Academic Requirements Review**

**See attached.**

**MOTION: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision to the Program: Biostatistics and  
10-19 Epidemiology Public Health (MPH), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 19-025.**

# MPH Epidemiology (42 credits) Academic Advising and Tracking Form

Department of Biostatistics & Epidemiology  
(Requirements Apply to Students Admitted Fall 2015)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Date entered: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. REQUIRED CLASSES

<b>Public Health Core</b> (15 credits)			
<u>Sem/Yr</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Course #</u>	<u>Title</u>
_____	_____	BIOSTAT 540	Introductory Biostatistics [ <i>or</i> 591AF, Biostatistical Methods I]
_____	_____	EPI 630	Principles of Epidemiology
_____	_____	EHS 565	Environmental Health Practices
_____	_____	HPP 601	Application of Social & Beh. Theories in Public Hlth Interventions
_____	_____	HPP 620	Introduction to the U.S. Health Care System

(Substitutions for core courses only if approved by department; if approved, write name of substituted course above)

<b>Other Epidemiology/Biostatistics</b> (9 credits)			
<u>Sem/Yr</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Course #</u>	<u>Title</u>
_____	_____	EPI 632	Applied Epidemiology
_____	_____	BIOSTAT 640	Intermediate Biostatistics [ <i>or</i> 591NR, Biostatistical Methods II]
_____	_____	BIOSTAT 691F	Data Management

## II. ELECTIVE CLASSES

<b>Epidemiology Courses</b> (9 credits minimum. Note: if Culminating Experience Option 2 then PubHlth 631 required)			
<u>Sem/Yr</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Course #</u>	<u>Title</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

<b>Other Elective(s)</b> (3 credits minimum. Note: if Culminating Experience Option 1 then 6 credits minimum)			
<u>Sem/Yr</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Course #</u>	<u>Title</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

## III. CULMINATING EXPERIENCE

<b>Choose Option 1 (Exit exam + 3 credit course) or Option 2 (MPH Project)</b>	
Option 1	Additional course (3 credit elective) + Exit Exam
_____	Elective course: _____
	Exit Exam date: _____
	Exit Exam result: _____
Option 2	MPH Project + oral presentation
	EPI 631: Scientific Writing for Thesis, Dissertation and Grant Proposals
	EPI 696D: MPH Project
	1. Committee: Advisor (epi): _____
	Member (epi or bio): _____
	2. Topic: _____
	Date presented: _____ Grade (P/F): _____

**IV. PRACTICUM**

EPI 698, Practicum (3 credits)	Semester: _____	Date completed: _____
Site supervisor:		Tel: _____
Organization:		
Address:		
Date student report filed:		Date preceptor report filed: _____

**IV. TRANSFER CREDIT, RECORD OF CONTACTS, ETC.**

<b>Course Credits Approved for Transfer by Graduate Program Director (12 credit maximum)</b>			
No more than 6 max from UMass/Worc, 6 max non-degree, 6 max non-UMass school; Graduate credits may not have been used toward a previous degree; must carry a "B" or better grade and be relevant to Epi major			
Sem/Yr taken	Credits	Course name	Institution
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

<b>Statute of Limitations Extension: (Maximum extension 4 months under extraordinary circumstances)</b>		
New SOL Date	Reason for Extension	Faculty requesting
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

<b>Advisor Contact Record: (At least one contract per semester is recommended)</b>			
Advisor	Date	Nature of Contact	Advisor's Signature
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

<b>Permanent Contact Information:</b>	
Street:	_____
City/State/Zip	_____
Email:	_____

<b>Certification of Total of Credits Towards Degree/All Degree Requirements Satisfied</b>	
_____	_____
Faculty Advisor Signature	Date
Copies of all administrative memos related to degree requirements must be stapled to this sheet. This form, attachments, and a copy of the final transcript are filed in the departmental archives.	