



SCHOOL of
PUBLIC HEALTH



Department of Epidemiology

Eric S. Johnson, M.D., Ph.D.
Department Chair
UNT Health Science Center
School of Public Health
Center for BioHealth-355
817-735-5029
hdueboay@hsc.unt.edu

MPH in Epidemiology

The epidemiology concentration is designed for students seeking to acquire skills in the fundamental methods of epidemiologic investigation and prevention in populations. Concentration courses emphasize basic and advanced epidemiologic principles and their application to current problems in public health and related disciplines. Students in the epidemiology concentration are expected to use appropriate methods to plan, implement, and conduct epidemiologic research. Students are also expected to critically evaluate research methodology to assess validity and potential sources of bias. Skills in computer use and statistics acquired in the public health program are used to analyze, interpret, and disseminate the results of epidemiologic investigations. **For the culminating experience, students may choose between a thesis or a comprehensive exam. Students selecting the comprehensive exam option will complete 45 SCH and students selecting the thesis option will complete 48 SCH.** By the conclusion of the M.P.H. program, a student in the epidemiology concentration will be able to:

1. Quickly assess a public health problem using quantitative and/or qualitative data.
2. Use relevant analysis for relevant study designs.
3. Understand the natural occurrence of disease and associated risk factors.
4. Understand the importance of ethical considerations in the conduct of epidemiological studies.
5. Identify, develop, apply and modify an appropriate research approach to an epidemiological problem based on constraints and available resources.
6. Identify and develop data collection strategies for the appropriate epidemiologic approach.
7. Implement appropriate study designs to an epidemiologic problem.
8. Review epidemiologic literature critically.

Epidemiology Curriculum (45 or 48 SCH)

CORE COURSES: 15 SCH

BIOS	5210	Biostatistics for Public Health I	3 SCH
ENVR	5300	Environmental Health	3 SCH
EPID	5100	Principles of Epidemiology	3 SCH
HMAP	5210	Introduction to Health Management and Policy	3 SCH
SCBS	5110	Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health	3 SCH

REQUIRED COURSES: 15 SCH

BIOS	5215	Biostatistics for Public Health II	3 SCH
BIOS	5740	Introduction to Statistical Packages	3 SCH
EPID	5110	Intermediate Epidemiology	3 SCH
EPID	5300	Survey Methodology	3 SCH
EPID	5400	Applied Data Analysis in Epidemiology	3 SCH

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE: 3 SCH (to be eligible for enrollment, students must complete all core courses and at least two required courses)

SPH	5855	Public Health Practice Experience	3 SCH
-----	------	-----------------------------------	-------

METHODS COURSES: 6 SCH (Choose two from the following courses)

BIOS	5760	Data Management	3 SCH
EPID	6100	Advanced Methods in Epidemiology I	3 SCH
EPID	6101	Advanced Methods in Epidemiology II	3 SCH
EPID	6200	Experimental Methods in Epidemiology	3 SCH
EPID	6300	Molecular Epidemiology	3 SCH
EPID	6615	Epidemiologic Surveillance	3 SCH
EPID	6635	Social Epidemiology	3 SCH
EPID	6690	Occupational Epidemiology	3 SCH

ELECTIVE COURSES: 3 SCH for Thesis Option or 6 SCH for Comprehensive Exam Option

Choose one from the following courses (applies to both thesis or comprehensive exam option)

EPID	5610	Chronic Disease Epidemiology	3 SCH
EPID	5630	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	3 SCH

Choose one from the following courses (applies only to the comprehensive exam option)

EPID	5200	Epidemiology for Healthcare Practice	3 SCH
EPID	5690	Epidemiology of Bioterrorism/Catastrophic Events	3 SCH
EPID	5910	Independent Study in Epidemiology	1-3 SCH
EPID	6670	Cancer Epidemiology	3 SCH

- Students may substitute an elective course not on this list only with prior written approval of their advisor.
- Courses not approved as substitutes will not be applied toward the degree plan.

CULMINATING EXPERIENCE: 0-6 SCH

SPH	5950	Thesis	6 SCH
-----	------	--------	-------

Or

Comprehensive Exam (see details below)			0 SCH
--	--	--	-------

Students who select the comprehensive exam option do not register for a course in order to take the exam; however, they must complete three additional semester credit hours of electives. The exam covers material from all required courses. In order to take the exam, a student must have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher in the aforementioned epidemiology courses. The exam is given in the third week of April and the third week of November each year. Students are responsible for informing the Department of Epidemiology of their intentions to take the exam. A student who encounters a last minute emergency (sickness, death in the family, etc.) may appeal to the exam committee for an opportunity to take a makeup exam. Students must receive at least 80% on the exam in order to pass. In exceptional circumstances, students who fail the exam may, upon recommendation of the Chair of the Department of Epidemiology, be allowed to retake a different exam. However, an opportunity for retaking the exam is not automatic, and students may only retake the exam once.