

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 a minimum of 28 credits, including:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
PHS 554	Statistical Methods in Public Health I	3
PHS 555	Statistical Methods for Public Health II	3
PHS 510	Grant Writing for Clinical Research	3
PHS 500	Research Ethics for Clinical Investigators	1
A minimum of 12 credits in Substantive Epidemiology courses ¹		12
A minimum of 6 credits in either Substantive Epidemiology courses or other Biostatistics courses ¹		6
Total Credits		28

¹ The list of courses that will fulfill these requirements is maintained by the graduate program office.

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

- Epidemiology and biostatistics seminar series: Students are required to attend. Each student is required to present at least one seminar each year.
- Pass a qualifying examination which may be given after at least 18 credits have been earned in graduate courses beyond the baccalaureate, and must be taken within three semesters (excluding summer sessions) of entry into the doctoral program.
- Pass a comprehensive examination which will be a defense of the dissertation research proposal, administered by the entire Ph.D. committee after the student has substantially completed all course work.
- To earn the Ph.D. degree, doctoral candidates must write a dissertation that is accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.
- Pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense).