**Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology (MCHEPI) PhD Curriculum - Fall 2024**

**(For Epidemiology and CHS MCHEPI PhD Students)**

Students in the PhD in MCH Epidemiology (MCHEPI) can enter the MCHEPI PhD program through the Division of Community Health Sciences or the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (EPID-BSTT). Regardless of division, MCHEPI PhD students are required to take courses in both Epidemiology and MCH, along with courses from other disciplines that focus on the substantive, analytic, and technical aspects of the public health planning cycle.

**Overview of Program Requirements**

* A minimum of 96 semester hours of credit, to include the required courses listed below (32 credits can be transferred from a master’s degree).
* A written and oral preliminary exam. This exam is administered through the EPID-BSTT division, regardless of the student’s home division. A separate written substantive exam on an MCHEPI topic is administered by the MCHEPI program.
* A dissertation, which must be conducted in conjunction with a state or local public health agency or using the data from such agencies.
* Leadership coaching offered by the CoE-MCH and other professional development.

**Strongly Recommended Courses**

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| *Foundational Epidemiology Courses* |
| EPID 404 | Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods | 4 sh |
| EPID 594 | Concepts in Causal Epidemiology | 3 sh |

**Required Courses**

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| *Master’s Level Epidemiology Courses (if no MPH in Epidemiology):* |
| IPHS 520 | Public Health Frameworks for Researchers *(for students w/o MPH)* | 3 sh |
| BSTT 401 | Biostatistics II | 4 sh |
| EPID 406 | Epidemiologic Computing *(Pre-req for EPID 404)* | 3 sh |
| *Master’s Level MCH Courses (if no MPH in MCH) -* Select **ONE** of the following courses: |
| CHSC 510 | MCH Inequities and Responses I | 4 sh |
| CHSC 511 | MCH Inequities and Responses II | 4 sh |
| CHSC 543 | MCH Policy and Advocacy | 3 sh |
| *Epidemiology Required Basic Course -* Select **ONE** of the following courses: |
| EPID 409 | The Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS | 2 sh |
| EPID 410 | Introduction to Infectious Disease Epidemiology | 2 sh |
| EPID 411 | Introduction to Chronic Disease Epidemiology | 3 sh |
| EPID 550 | Public Health Surveillance | 3 sh |
| *Additional Epidemiology Requirements* |
| EPID 591\* | Current Epidemiologic Literature | 1 sh |
| EPID 595\* | Epidemiology Research Seminar | 1 sh |
| *CHS Doctoral Theory and Methods Courses:* |
| CHSC 550 | Advanced Theories and Topics in Community Health Sciences | 3 sh |
| CHSC 551\*\* | Advanced Research Methods for Community Health Sciences I | 3 sh |
| CHSC 552\*\* | Advanced Research Methods for Community Health Sciences II | 3 sh |
| *Additional CHS Requirements* |
| CHSC 595/ IPHS 595\*\* | Seminar in CHS or IPHS Seminar  | 1 sh |
| CHSC 595/ IPHS 595\*\* | Seminar in CHS or IPHS Seminar  | 1 sh |
| *MCH Epidemiology Courses:* |
| EPID/CHSC 518++, ^ | Epidemiology of Pediatric Diseases | 3 sh |
| EPID/CHSC 545++, ^  | Reproductive and Perinatal Health | 3 sh |
| *Advanced Analytic Methods Courses:* |
| BSTT 505++ | Logistic Regression & Survival Analysis (Prereq for EPID 501) | 2 sh |
| EPID 500++ | Applied Epidemiology Methods | 4 sh |
| EPID 501++ | Advanced Quantitative Methods in Epidemiology | 4 sh |
| Select **ONE** of the following courses: |
| BSTT 537 | Longitudinal Data Analysis | 4 sh |
| EPSY 584++ | Hierarchical Linear Models | 4 sh |

**Other Requirements**

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|  | Information Privacy & Security Training | 0 sh |
|  | Human Subjects Research Training | 0 sh  |
| IPHS 599+++ | PhD Dissertation Research | 32 sh |
|  | MCH PhD Student Professional Development Requirements  | Varies |

\*This courseis required for MCHEPI PhD students in **EPID** division. CHS MCHEPI PhD students are strongly encouraged to take EPID 591 and EPID 595.

\*\* Only required for MCHEPI PhD students in the **CHS** division. MCHEPI PhD students in EPI are strongly encouraged to take CHSC 551, 552, and two seminars in CHS or IPHS (CHSC 595/IPHS 595).

++ This course can be used to meet the Advanced Analytic Methods Course Requirement for PhD in CHS. A complete list of courses that meet the CHS Advanced Analytic and Advanced Research Method Requirements can be found in the [PhD Student Handbook](https://apps.sph.uic.edu/webdocs/pdf/shandbooks/AY2021-2022/PhD-Handbook-AY2021-2022-FINAL.pdf).

**+++** A dissertation which must be conducted in conjunction with a state or local public health agency or using the data from such agencies.

^ EPID 404 is a prerequisite for this lab course.

**MCHEPI PhD Student Professional Development**

* *Career Development/ Leadership & Management Training* **–** CHS students are required to participate in 2 IPHS 595 seminars that focus on professional development and academic/research career skill building. If CHSC 595 is available, students may register for that instead.
* EPID students are required to participate in EPID 595. Two semesters of IPHS 595 are highly recommended for EPID students but are not required.
* *Leadership Training & Coaching* **-** Each MCHEPI PhD student is encouraged to meet with an MCH Leadership Coach each year of their academic career.
* *Teaching/Research Training* **-**The teaching experience for doctoral candidates consist of planning, leading, and evaluating a minimum of **two classroom sessions**, which may be online or in-class sessions. It is suggested that all MCHEPI PhD students take the “Foundations of Teaching” course that is offered through the UIC Graduate College (<https://grad.uic.edu/programs/graduate-college-courses/>) or an equivalent course if they are interested in a career in academe. Lecture content should relate to the student’s dissertation focus area (e.g., reproductive and sexual health, pediatric immunization, maternal health, adolescent suicide, etc.)