Epidemiology

Wasim Maziak, Professor and Chair
Nasar U. Ahmed, Associate Professor
Miguel Cano, Assistant Professor and PhD Program Coordinator
Kristopher P. Fennie, Assistant Professor
Gladys Ibanez, Assistant Professor
Purnima Madhivanan, Associate Professor
Vukosava Pekovic, Clinical Assistant Professor and MPH Program Director
Mary Jo Trepka, Professor

Affiliated Faculty
Jeffrey D. Klausner, Courtesy Professor
David J. Lee, Courtesy Professor
Claudio Miceli, Adjunct Instructor
Khurram Nasir, Courtesy Professor

The Department offers a Graduate Certificate in Epidemiology, a Master’s degree in Public Health with major in Epidemiology; Master’s degree in Public Health with major in Epidemiology with a Concentration in Infectious Disease Epidemiology; and a Ph.D. in Public Health with a major in Epidemiology.

The courses prepare students to investigate the distribution of diseases and health conditions in the population, disease outbreaks and the factors determining the distribution.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the University’s general graduate admission requirements:

1. A Bachelor’s degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university or, in the case of foreign students, an institution recognized in its own country as preparing students for further study at the graduate level.
2. A minimum 3.0 GPA on the last 60 under-graduate hours. In addition, applicants are required to submit 1) a current resume; and 2) a written statement of purpose (career goals). Applicants are also encouraged to submit three letters of recommendation.
3. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required. Students with diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
4. Submission of official GRE scores. Scores must be no more than 5 years old.
5. Applicants with MCAT or DAT scores, or PhD degrees, practicing physicians, dentists or pharmacists or individuals with equivalent background who meet all other departmental requirements (including their verified degrees and institutions from US or abroad by WES) are not required to submit a GRE, or equivalent, standardized test score.

MPH Core Curriculum: (15 credits)

PHC 6000 Epidemiology I: Introduction to Public Health Epidemiology 3
PHC 6010 Introduction to Public Health Policy and Management 3
PHC 6315 Introduction to Environmental Health Sciences 3
PHC 6410 Health Behavior and Public Health 3

Major in Epidemiology: (15 credits)

PHC 6002 Infectious Disease Epidemiology 3
PHC 6003 Chronic Disease Epidemiology 3
PHC 6008 Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology 3
PHC 6013 Epidemiology II: Observational Design 3
PHC 6016 Social Epidemiology 3
PHC 6411 Epidemiology of Health Disparities 3
PHC 6090 Advanced Public Health Statistics 3

Concentration in Infectious Disease Epidemiology (9 credits)

PHC 6002 Infectious Disease Epidemiology 3
PHC 6003 Chronic Disease Epidemiology 3
PHC 6008 Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology 3
PHC 6013 Epidemiology II: Observational Design 3
PHC 6016 Social Epidemiology 3
PHC 6411 Epidemiology of Health Disparities 3
PHC 6090 Advanced Public Health Statistics 3

Electives for Epidemiology: (9 credits)*

PHC 6001 Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology 3
PHC 6004 Injury Epidemiology and Prevention 3
PHC 6007 Cancer Epidemiology 3
PHC 6009 AIDS Epidemiology and Control 3
PHC 6012 Current Research in Epidemiology 3
PHC 6014 Behavioral Epidemiology 3
PHC 6020 Clinical Epidemiology 3
PHC 6033 Mechanism of Complex Disease in Public Health 3
PHC 6055 Data Management and Applied Epidemiologic Analysis 3
PHC 6062 Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis 3
PHC 6064 Model for Binary Public Health Outcomes 3
PHC 6251 Disaster and Emergency Epidemiology 3
PHC 6443 Ethical Issues in Public Health 3
PHC 6536 Health Demography 3
PHC 6591 Reproductive Health Epidemiology 3
PHC 6700 Methods and Analysis of Epidemiologic Research 3
PHC 6703 Epidemiology Methods: Experimental Design 3
PHC 6715 Survey Research in Public Health 3
PHC 6762 International Public Health 3
PHC 6907 Independent Study in Public Health 1-3
PHC 6934 Scientific Writing and Oral Presentation in Epidemiology 3
PHC 6595 Genetic Epidemiology 3
PHC 6034 Intermediate Epidemiology 3

* or any other advisor approved elective, including those offered as Major in Epidemiology courses.

Practicum and Culminating Experience: (6 credits)

PHC 6945 Practicum in Public Health 3
PHC 6930C Integrative Seminar in Public Health 3
Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Major in Epidemiology

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Health is available with a major in Epidemiology. Students will be expected to demonstrate significant research capacity by completing 60 credits beyond the Master's degree and through the writing of an original dissertation.

Doctoral Admissions

Applicants must meet the University's general graduate admission requirements:
1. A four-year bachelor's degree or equivalent from a nationally accredited institution or, in the case of foreign students, from a well-established institution of higher learning that is authorized to grant degrees by appropriate authorities in that country.
2. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA, "B" average, in the last 60 upper-division undergraduate coursework, or a graduate degree from a nationally accredited institution.
3. Official GRE scores (scores must be no more than five years old).
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or a 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required. The College also requires:
   1. A current resume.
   2. Three letters of recommendation.
   3. A writing sample (master's thesis or project, published manuscript, or other).
   4. A personal statement of interest.

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact individual faculty to discuss common research interests since admission decisions may require identification of a potential faculty mentor.

Doctoral Requirements

A student may enroll for dissertation credits after completing all coursework, passing the candidacy examination, and being advanced to candidacy. Dissertation credits cannot be taken before advancement to candidacy.

The candidacy examination will be prepared and graded by a committee consisting of a minimum of three faculty members. Admission to candidacy requires that a majority of the committee members agree that the student passed the examination. A candidacy examination may not be passed conditionally. A "Pass" on the examination cannot be made contingent upon other factors such as the completion of additional coursework or the preparation of extra research projects. Students will be allowed only two attempts to pass the candidacy examination.

After a doctoral student is admitted to candidacy, continuous registration for at least 3 dissertation credit hours each semester (including the summer term) is required until the dissertation requirement is fulfilled.

Required Courses

The program requires a minimum of 75 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate which includes a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation credits. There are three components to the College Ph.D. curriculum. The first is a core curriculum shared across all majors (12 credit hours). The second component is specific to the major (27 credit hours) and secondary field courses (12 credit hours). The third component consists of the dissertation, including 24 dissertation credit hours.

Shared Core Courses: (12 credits)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6000</td>
<td>Epidemiology I: Introduction to Public Health Epidemiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6001</td>
<td>Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology</td>
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<td>PHC 6002</td>
<td>Infectious Disease Epidemiology</td>
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<td>PHC 6003</td>
<td>Chronic Disease Epidemiology</td>
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<td>PHC 6004</td>
<td>Injury Epidemiology and Prevention</td>
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<td>PHC 6007</td>
<td>Cancer Epidemiology</td>
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<td>PHC 6008</td>
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<td>PHC 6009</td>
<td>AIDS Epidemiology and Control</td>
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<td>Current Research in Epidemiology</td>
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<td>PHC 6011</td>
<td>Epidemiology Ii: Observational Design</td>
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<td>Behavioral Epidemiology</td>
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<td>Epidemiology of Health Disparity</td>
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<td>PHC 6018</td>
<td>Ethical Issues in Public Health</td>
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<td>PHC 6019</td>
<td>Health Demography</td>
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<td>PHC 6020</td>
<td>Reproductive Health Epidemiology</td>
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<td>Survey Research in Public Health</td>
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<td>PHC 6939</td>
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<td>PHC 7011</td>
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<td>PHC 7162</td>
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<td>PHC 7982</td>
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<td>PHC 6595</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 7606</td>
<td>Tobacco Use: Causes, Consequences, and Control</td>
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**Secondary Field Courses: (12 credits)**

At least 12 credit hours of approved secondary field courses. Secondary field courses are selected from approved graduate school courses in consultation with academic advisor.

**Dissertation Requirements: (24 credits)**

PHC 7980 Dissertation 24

For additional and updated information about degrees offered, entrance requirements, and services, please visit our website: [http://stempel.fiu.edu/students/advising/index.html](http://stempel.fiu.edu/students/advising/index.html).