

General Timeline for the Epidemiology Doctoral Program

Year	1	2	3	4
Research assistantship:	15-20 hours/week + full-time in the summer	15-20 hours/week + full-time in the summer	15-20 hours/week + full-time in the summer	15-20 hours/week + full-time in the summer
Classes:	10-12 credits/semester, including Scientific Writing I, for which a publishable paper is written that is not part of the dissertation	10-12 credits/semester, including Scientific Writing II, for which students begin working on a preliminary draft of their dissertation proposal	6-10 credits/semester, including three advanced epidemiologic methods modules†	~6 credits/semester, primarily dissertation credits
Dissertation:	Background knowledge on dissertation topic area and dataset obtained and strengthened		Dissertation proposal‡ completed and defended	Dissertation completed (includes 2-3 manuscripts intended for publication)
Progress assessment:	Once/semester progress form due, signed by advisor	Once/semester progress form due, signed by advisor; Intradepartmental review (IDR) with mentor and DGS	Once/semester progress form due, signed by advisor	One progress form during the first semester, signed by advisor
Examinations:		<u>Comprehensive Exam</u> (usually in May); after passing, dissertation committee* selected	<u>Oral Qualifying Exam,</u> aka Oral Proposal Defense; after passing, student becomes a PhD candidate	<u>Dissertation Defense</u> (by end of Year 4)

* The dissertation committee must include the mentor, two additional epidemiologists, and one member from biostatistics, all members of the graduate faculty.

† Each module will explore advanced methods in epidemiology related to the student's dissertation topic, involving 8 hours of faculty contact per module.

‡ The dissertation proposal, written under the tutelage of the dissertation committee, includes: specific aims, a critical review of the literature, and a comprehensive methods section detailing hypotheses to be tested and rational for methods to be applied.

Other requirements for graduation:

- Completion of all required courses
- 72 credits (can include 6-12 transfer credits)
- An overall B (3.0) grade point average in the didactic coursework
- A first-authored submitted paper to a peer-reviewed journal, from work performed during the doctoral program
- Ethics training
- Teaching experience