SPECIAL REPORT

OF THE

GRADUATE COUNCIL

concerning

REVISION TO THE PROGRAM:
BIOSTATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY
PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)
(#5530)

Presented at the
782nd Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
December 6, 2018

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

GRADUATE COUNCIL

Nadia Al-Ahmed, Sonia Alvarez, Joseph Black, Justin Burch, D. Anthony Butterfield, Ana Caicedo, Canan Çevik, David Cort, Robert DeConto, Jennifer Friedman, Mark Hamin, Laura Hancock, Neil Immerman, Cynthia Jacelon, Ramakrishna Janaswamy, Barbara Krauthamer, John Lopes, David Morin, Martina Nieswandt, Sarah Pfatteicher, Sarah Poissant, Rebecca Reznik-Zellen, Frederic Schaffer, Patrick Sullivan, Bianki Torres, David Vaillancort, Tilman Wolf, Kristine Yu

GRADUATE COUNCIL

The Graduate Council recommends approval of this proposal.

Briefly describe the Proposal

We propose minor modifications to the tracking form for the degree and the required coursework, both in response to changes in the accreditation criteria as overseen by the Council on Education for Public Health

Please describe the existing program requirements, listing all required courses and available electives, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.

The MPH with concentration in Epidemiology is a 42 credit degree with two options for culminating experience – a 0 credit exit exam or a 3 credit MPH project. Because of the difference in credits and requirements for the culminating experience, there are slightly different
course sequences/options for the two tracks. The following lists all current requirements - coursework and otherwise for each:

Five public health core courses (15 credits), including:
- EPI 630 Principles of Epidemiology
- BIOSTAT 540 Introduction to Biostatistics
- EHS 565 Environmental Health Practices
- HPP 601 Application of Social & Behavioral Theories in Pub Hlth Interventions
- HPP 620 Introduction to the US Health Care System

Three additional required epidemiology and biostatistics classes (9 credits)
- EPI 632 Applied Epidemiology
- BIOSTAT 640 Intermediate Biostatistics
- BIOSTAT 691F Statistical Computing in SAS

Three epidemiology electives (9 credits) chosen from the following:
- EHS 600 Molecular Epidemiology
- EPI 633 Infectious Disease Epidemiology
- EPI 634 Nutritional Epidemiology
- EPI 635 Social Epidemiology
- EPI 636 Epidemiologic Assessment (Clinical Epidemiology)
- EPI 639 Cancer Epidemiology
- EPI 640 Reproductive Epidemiology
- EPI 690EW Women’s Health Epidemiology
- EPI 700 Analysis of Epidemiologic Data
- EPI 737 Intermediate Epidemiologic Methods

Public Health Practicum (EPI 698 – 3 credits)

For students taking the exit exam:

Two “other elective” (6 credits) chosen from among any grad level course offered by the School (or some other area, subject to faculty approval)

Successful completion of the exit exam.

Or,

For students who choose to complete an MPH Project

One “other elective” (3 credits) chosen from among any grad level course offered by the School (or some other area, subject to faculty approval)

EPI 696D – MPH Project (3 credits).
Please describe the requirements that you are proposing, listing course requirements, elective options, as well as any additional requirements, and continuation or admissions policies.

We propose to add a required class that is currently being offered as an optional class - EPI 690R, Introduction to Epidemiologic Research Methods in order to fulfill CEPH content/competency requirements. In order to keep the total credits required for the degree the same in keeping, we propose to reallocate the 3 credits currently assigned to an "other elective" to this new required 3 credit class. Specifically, the proposed requirements are:

Five public health core courses (15 credits), including:
- EPI 630 Principles of Epidemiology
- BIOSTAT 540 Introduction to Biostatistics
- EHS 565 Environmental Health Practices
- HPP 601 Application of Social & Behavioral Theories in Pub Hlth Interventions
- HPP 620 Introduction to the US Health Care System

One required public health core competency class
- EPI 690R Introduction to Epidemiologic Research Methods

Three additional required epidemiology and biostatistics classes (9 credits)
- EPI 632 Applied Epidemiology
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One “other elective” (3 credits) chosen from among any grad level course offered by the School (or some other area, subject to faculty approval)

Successful completion of the exit exam.

Or, for students who choose to complete an MPH Project
EPI 696D – MPH Project (3 credits).

Please provide the rationale for these revisions.

CEPH has introduced new substantive competencies that were not being met by the previously required coursework. The new class we've developed - EPI 690R Introduction to Epidemiologic Research Methods - fills this gap by including material required by CEPH to fill competencies for all students in PH.

Academic Requirements Review

See attached.

MOTION: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision to the Program: Biostatistics and 10-19 Epidemiology Public Health (MPH), as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 19-025.
### MPH Epidemiology (42 credits) Academic Advising and Tracking Form

Department of Biostatistics & Epidemiology
(Requirements Apply to Students Admitted Fall 2015)

Name: ____________________________________      ID# _______________       Date entered: ________________

## I. REQUIRED CLASSES

### Public Health Core (15 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem/Yr</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>BIOSTAT 540</td>
<td>Introductory Biostatistics [or 591AF, Biostatistical Methods I]</td>
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<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>EPI 630</td>
<td>Principles of Epidemiology</td>
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<td>______</td>
<td>EHS 565</td>
<td>Environmental Health Practices</td>
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<td>HPP 601</td>
<td>Application of Social &amp; Behavioral Theories in Public Health Interventions</td>
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<td>HPP 620</td>
<td>Introduction to the U.S. Health Care System</td>
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(Substitutions for core courses only if approved by department; if approved, write name of substituted course above)

### Other Epidemiology/Biostatistics (9 credits)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem/Yr</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>EPI 632</td>
<td>Applied Epidemiology</td>
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<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>BIOSTAT 640</td>
<td>Intermediate Biostatistics [or 591NR, Biostatistical Methods II]</td>
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<td>______</td>
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<td>BIOSTAT 691F</td>
<td>Data Management</td>
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## II. ELECTIVE CLASSES

### Epidemiology Courses (9 credits minimum. Note: if Culminating Experience Option 2 then PubHlth 631 required)

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<th>Sem/Yr</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title</th>
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### Other Elective(s) (3 credits minimum. Note: if Culminating Experience Option 1 then 6 credits minimum)

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<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course #</th>
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## III. CULMINATING EXPERIENCE

Choose Option 1 (Exit exam + 3 credit course) or Option 2 (MPH Project)

### Option 1

Additional course (3 credit elective) + Exit Exam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective course:</th>
<th>Exit Exam date:</th>
<th>Exit Exam result:</th>
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### Option 2

MPH Project + oral presentation

EPI 631: Scientific Writing for Thesis, Dissertation and Grant Proposals
EPI 696D: MPH Project

1. Committee: Advisor (epi): ________________________________
   Member (epi or bio): ________________________________
2. Topic: ____________________________________________
Date presented: ___________________________  Grade (P/F): ________________________
IV. PRACTICUM

EPI 698, Practicum (3 credits) Semester:_________ Date completed:_________________

Site supervisor: Tel:
Organization:
Address:
Date student report filed: Date preceptor report filed:

IV. TRANSFER CREDIT, RECORD OF CONTACTS, ETC.

Course Credits Approved for Transfer by Graduate Program Director (12 credit maximum)
No more than 6 max from UMass/Worc, 6 max non-degree, 6 max non-UMass school; Graduate credits may not have been used toward a previous degree; must carry a "B" or better grade and be relevant to Epi major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem/Yr taken</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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Statute of Limitations Extension: (Maximum extension 4 months under extraordinary circumstances)

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<tr>
<th>New SOL Date</th>
<th>Reason for Extension</th>
<th>Faculty requesting</th>
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Advisor Contact Record: (At least one contract per semester is recommended)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Advisor</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Nature of Contact</th>
<th>Advisor’s Signature</th>
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Permanent Contact Information:

Street: ____________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: ____________________________
Email: __________________________________________________________

Certification of Total of Credits Towards Degree/All Degree Requirements Satisfied

_______________________________________________________________
Faculty Advisor Signature Date

Copies of all administrative memos related to degree requirements must be stapled to this sheet. This form, attachments, and a copy of the final transcript are filed in the departmental archives.