Epidemiology Accelerated Master’s Degrees

The Epidemiology Program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst is offering an Accelerated Master’s degree to eligible undergraduates. The program is rigorous and demanding and is designed to offer high achieving students with a quick path to a terminal graduate degree. Students graduating from the program will have both an undergraduate degree in their area of study and a Master’s degree of Science or Public Health with an emphasis in Epidemiology.

Eligibility

- Students with GPAs must have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher;
- Students are required to take 18 credits for both junior and senior year (or as needed to complete credit requirements on time); this includes 2 graduate courses each semester of senior year;
- After acceptance to the Accelerated Master’s program and during the senior undergraduate year, the student will still have to apply formally to the graduate school, take the GRE test, and comply with all application requirements as usual.
- Eligibility is not limited to UMass Public Health Science majors; students from other majors and the Five Colleges may apply to the 4+1 program, and should contact Dr. Brian Whitcomb for information about applying from outside the UMass Public Health Sciences B.S. program.

Course Sequencing

- In order for students to complete the program, students must meet minimum undergraduate credit requirements to complete their degree during their senior year. Proper course sequencing is essential to complete prerequisites for required courses and stay on track for timely degree completion, and accepted students should work closely with advisors toward this end.

- Both the MPH and MS may require registration for classes in the summer following UG graduation, possibly to include EPI 698: Practicum and/or EPI 632: Applied Epidemiology.

- Detailed information on suggested course sequencing is shown in the Accelerated Degree Student Handbook and is also available at the following website: http://www.umass.edu/sphhs/epidemiology/degree-programs/accelerated-41-masters-degree-programs.

Application Process

- This application form, an unofficial transcript, and 2 letters of recommendation are required. Letters of recommendation should come from faculty or an internship/work supervisor. Applications are due October 15th. Students notified of final decisions regarding applications by email.
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There are four parts to the application. Please type all of your answers. Completed applications can be submitted to Dr. Gloria DiFulvio, in Arnold House room 308.

PART ONE: Fill in the information below

Name: __________________________________________ Date: _________________________

Spire ID: ________________ Track: _____________________ Year of Graduation:_____________

Double Major: __________________________ Minor: ___________________________________

Local Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Permanent Address: _______________________________________________________________

E-mail: _________________________________________________________________________

Phone(s): Cell: __________________________________ Other: _________________________

PART TWO: Unofficial Transcript

• Please attach a current unofficial transcript with your application as well as a copy of your most current Academic Requirements Report and send to Gloria DiFulvio at the address below.

PART THREE: Letters of Recommendation

• Have two letters of recommendation sent to (letters from those who can speak to your academic abilities are preferred):
  
  Gloria DiFulvio
  Undergraduate Program Director
  308 Arnold House
  715 North Pleasant St.
  Amherst, MA 01003

  ★ Letters should be sealed and signed across the seal if in hard copy. Signed PDFs on letterhead can be emailed from recommenders directly to Gloria@schoolph.umass.edu.

PART FOUR: Personal Statement

• The personal statement should describe your academic interests, career goals, reasons for pursuing the Accelerated Master’s degree in Epidemiology, preference for the MPH or MS, collateral field interest and the courses you’re taking to fulfill that area (for UMass Public Health students), and any other information you wish considered in the review of your application.

  ★ Suggestion: Essay should be double-spaced and no more than 5 pages long.