

## CRITERIA FOR MINORING IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

The department's Graduate Studies Committee has established a set of guidelines as to what constitutes a minor in this department. The following criteria must be met to declare a minor in Epidemiology:

- Doctoral level status
- Minimum of 15 credits hours in EPID
- EPID 710, EPID 712, EPID 715, and EPID 716, with the remainder of credits in any **substantive** epidemiology courses.
  - EPID 705 is a prerequisite for EPID 715 but does not count toward the minor.
  - SAS competency is a prerequisite of EPID 715/716 and must be demonstrated via passing the exemption exam offered every summer or successful completion of BIOS 511 or EPID 700.
  - BIOS 600 is a corequisite for EPID 710/712 and BIOS 645 is a corequisite for EPID 715.
  - EPID 718 is not required for the minor nor does it count towards the minor.

### Additional Criteria:

- EPID 600 hours will not count toward a minor in epidemiology.
- Neither independent study hours nor research hours will count toward an epidemiology minor.
- No transfer courses will count toward an epidemiology minor.
- The EPID Academic Coordinator can assist in the planning of appropriate courses.
- A minor advisor is not required.
- Graduate School policy requires that the dissertation committee include at least one faculty member from the minor program.
- The Minor Declaration Form is available on The Graduate School's [Academic Forms](#) webpage. The form must be signed by the Director of Graduate Studies from both the student's major department and the Department of Epidemiology. **The student and their Academic Coordinator are responsible for filing the original with The Graduate School.**
- Effective Fall 2005, students must earn a grade of P or better in courses applying to the minor.
- **The Department's "L" grade policy applies to core methods courses for all minor students.**

### Department of Epidemiology's "L" Grade Policy:

The following policy applies to a grade of L in an Epidemiology "core methods" course (i.e., EPID 705, EPID 710, EPID 712, EPID 715, EPID 716, EPID 718, and EPID 722):

- A grade of L in a core methods course requires that a meeting among the student, the faculty mentor, the course instructor, and the Academic Coordinator take place within two weeks. The purpose of the meeting is to ascertain the factors associated with the poor performance and to implement the steps described below. The student's Academic Coordinator is responsible for initiating this meeting at the earliest convenience of all involved.
- Students who receive a grade of L in a core methods course must retake the course and receive a minimum of a P, unless exempted as described below.
- The student is expected to retake the course – or to be granted an exemption by the GSC – within one year of taking the core methods course that resulted in an L grade. If this timeline is not met, the student must ask his/her advisor to present an alternative timeline to the GSC.
- The timeline for a student's Intradepartmental Review is not affected by an L grade.
- Students who take a core methods course as part of a minor in epidemiology are required to adhere to the L grade policy of the Department of Epidemiology.

### **Conditional advancement to a higher-level course for a student who receives a grade of L in a core methods course.**

- Students who receive a grade of L in a core methods course may advance to the pertinent higher-level methods course in epidemiology (prior to retaking the course in which they received an L) only if approved by the instructor of the higher-level course and endorsed by the student's advisor.

### **Exemption from the requirement to retake a core methods course.**

- A high performance in the higher-level course (above the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile) allows the student to submit a request to the GSC to be exempted from having to retake the lower-level course graded as 'low pass' (L).

### **Questions should be directed to:**

Valerie Hudock, Academic Coordinator, (966-7459; [vhudock@unc.edu](mailto:vhudock@unc.edu)) or [epidemiology@unc.edu](mailto:epidemiology@unc.edu).

**Gillings School of Global Public Health  
Department of Epidemiology**

**EPID Minor Milestone Checklist**

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the Declaration of Minor form (available on the [Graduate School Forms](#) page)

Submit the completed Minor Declaration form for:

\_\_\_\_\_ Approval from your department's Director of Graduate Studies (DGS)  
**Your Academic Coordinator can help with this step.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Approval from Epidemiology's Director of Graduate Studies (DGS)  
**The EPID Academic Coordinator will help with this step. Submit to [epidemiology@unc.edu](mailto:epidemiology@unc.edu).**

\_\_\_\_\_ Processing at The Graduate School  
**Your Academic Coordinator will help with this step.**

Satisfactory completion of required prerequisite courses:

\_\_\_\_\_ EPID 700 or BIOS 511 (or exemption exam)      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ EPID 705      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Satisfactory completion of required corequisite courses:

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOS 600 (or approved exemption)      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_  
**BIOS 600 is a corequisite to EPID 710/712**

\_\_\_\_\_ BIOS 645 (or approved exemption)      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_  
**BIOS 645 is a corequisite to EPID 715**

Satisfactory completion of required minor courses:

\_\_\_\_\_ EPID 710      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ EPID 712 (effective Fall 2021)      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ EPID 715      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ EPID 716      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Substantive EPID course      Semester taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Specify course: \_\_\_\_\_ (A list of qualifying courses is on next page.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Inclusion of an EPID faculty member on your dissertation committee

Faculty member name: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact the Academic Coordinator in Epidemiology at [epidemiology@unc.edu](mailto:epidemiology@unc.edu).

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Substantive EPID courses:

- EPID 625: Injury as a Public Health Problem (Fall)
- EPID 626: Violence as a Public Health Problem (Spring)
- EPID 735: Cardiovascular Epidemiology (Fall)
- EPID 743: Genetic Epidemiology: Methods and Applications (Fall)
- EPID 750: Fundamentals of Public Health Surveillance (Fall)
- EPID 755: Introduction to Infectious Disease Epidemiology (Spring)
- EPID 758: Methods and Principles of Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology (Summer)
- EPID 759: Methods in Field Epidemiology (Spring)
- EPID 760: Vaccine Epidemiology (Spring)
- EPID 765: Methods and Issues in Pharmacoepidemiology (Spring- odd years)
- EPID 766: Epidemiologic Research with Healthcare Databases (Spring- odd years)
- EPID 770: Cancer Epidemiology and Pathogenesis (Spring; odd years)
- EPID 771: Cancer Epidemiology: Survivorship and Outcomes (Spring; even years)
- EPID 772: Cancer Prevention and Control (Fall)
- EPID 785: Environmental Epidemiology (Spring)
- EPID 790: Intervention Epidemiology (Fall; 2 credits)
- EPID 814: Obesity Epidemiology (cross-listed; NUTR administers)
- EPID 818: Analytical Methods in Nutritional Epidemiology (cross-listed; NUTR administers)
- EPID 826: Social Epidemiology: Concepts and Measures (Fall; 2 credits)
- EPID 827: Social Epidemiology: Analysis and Interpretation (Spring; 2 credits)
- EPID 851: Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology (Fall)

Notes:

- 1.) Not all of the listed courses are 3 credits. So, an additional substantive course would need to be taken to complete the required credit hours for the minor.
- 2.) Not all courses are offered every year.