



# BS in Public Health: Epidemiology (662543) MAP Sheet

Life Science, Public Health

For students entering the degree program during the 2025-2026 curricular year.

## FRESHMAN YEAR

First-Year Writing or A HTG 3.0  
Religion Cornerstone course 2.0  
HLTH 101 3.0  
HLTH 210 3.0  
Arts or Letters GE 3.0  
UNIV 101 2.0  
Total Hours 16.0

### *2<sup>nd</sup> Semester*

First-Year Writing or A HTG 3.0  
HLTH 312 3.0  
HLTH 313 3.0  
Religion Cornerstone course 2.0  
STAT 121 (Languages of Learning GE) 3.0  
Total Hours 14.0

## SOPHMORE YEAR

### *3<sup>rd</sup> Semester*

HLTH 314 3.0  
HLTH 440 3.0  
CIV 1 or 2 GE 3.0  
Social Science GE 3.0  
General Elective 1.0  
Elective Hours 2.0  
Total Hours 15.0

### *4<sup>th</sup> Semester*

HLTH 315 3.0  
HLTH 345 3.0  
Major elective courses 6.0  
Religion Cornerstone course 2.0  
Elective Hours 1.0  
Total Hours 15.0

## JUNIOR YEAR

### *5<sup>th</sup> Semester*

HLTH 316 3.0  
Major elective courses 6.0  
Religion elective 2.0  
CIV 1 or 2 GE 3.0  
Elective Hours 1.0  
Total Hours 15.0

### *6<sup>th</sup> Semester*

HLTH 447 3.0  
Major Elective 3.0  
Applied Learning Experience 3.0  
Adv. Written/ Oral Comm GE 3.0  
Religion Elective 2.0  
Elective Hours 1.0  
Total Hours 15.0

## SENIOR YEAR

### *7<sup>th</sup> Semester*

HLTH 449 3.0 (fall only)  
CIV 1 or 2 GE 3.0  
Religion elective 2.0  
Arts or Letters GE 3.0  
Physical Science GE 3.0  
Elective Hours 1.0  
Total Hours 15.0

### *8<sup>th</sup> Semester*

HLTH 493 3.0 (winter only)  
Major elective course 3.0  
Elective Hours 6.0  
Biological Science GE 3.0  
Total Hours 15.0

\*Prior to taking HLTH 493, the student must complete HLTH 210, 313, 314, 315, 345, 440, 447, 449.

See University Core requirements here:

<https://catalog.byu.edu/generaleducation>

Note: Check with department for current availability of all courses.

Note: We encourage students to take HLTH 440 and HLTH 447 as early as possible in the epidemiology emphasis to contribute to research opportunities and/or secure internship opportunities. HLTH 440, 447, and 449 should be taken in sequence; they should not be taken concurrently in the same semester.

Note: Students are encouraged to complete an average of 15 credits hours each semester or 30 credit hours each year, which could include spring and/or summer terms. Taking fewer credits substantially increases the cost and the number of semesters to graduate.

## THE DISCIPLINE

Public health professionals work to create conditions that ensure the health and safety of individuals, families, and communities. Public health students are trained to inform, educate, and empower people about health issues; mobilize communities to take ownership for their own health; monitor health status and diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards; develop policies and laws to protect health and ensure safety; and link people to needed health services. The public health mission is

carried out through organized, interdisciplinary efforts that address the physical, mental, and environmental health concerns of communities and populations at risk for disease and injury.

Four of several disciplines within public health are represented as emphases within the major: (1) the environmental/occupational health emphasis trains students to identify and control factors in the environment (air, water, food, toxins, etc.) or conditions at the workplace which affect health; (2) the epidemiology emphasis prepares students to investigate and discover what causes disease and disability and how diseases are spread or distributed across populations; (3) health promotion emphasis students are prepared to facilitate health behavior change among individuals and improves population health through policy, advocacy, education, and communication; and (4) the health science emphasis provides students with a strong public health foundation in the integration of public health with primary care and with other sectors, in cultural competency and health systems, health-related data analysis, and in upstream approaches to health inequities, particularly in vulnerable and diverse populations. Health science students pursue advanced degrees in medicine, dentistry, physician assistantship, or other allied health areas.

Epidemiologists are interested in understanding the distribution and determinants of disease, disability and other health related- events. Epidemiologists may be involved in planning and carrying out investigations or research studies to understand how disease or disability are distributed by person, place, and time factors and to identify genetic, behavioral, social, and environmental factors that either contribute to or prevent disease or disability. Epidemiologic investigations use data from surveys, interviews, and/or examinations to help answer these questions. As such, epidemiologists will spend time preparing and analyzing data to answer questions about disease distribution and determinants and communicating those results verbally and in writing.

### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Public health is an exciting field of study and a diverse and dynamic profession. It is filled with rewards associated with the pursuit of serving others. The development and delivery of population- based prevention programs will be the key to major advances in health improvement in the 21st century. Public health will continue to be called upon to monitor and assess health problems, prevent and control diseases and injuries, and protect the health of communities and worksites from various environmental and occupational risks associated with man-made and natural disasters and emergencies.

With the appropriate practice experiences, public health graduates have increased qualifications to work in governmental health agencies on the local and state level. Those wishing to work specifically in epidemiology generally require a master's degree. Likewise, jobs at the federal government and international levels often require

work experience and a graduate degree. Private-sector employment can be found in a variety of businesses, community health agencies, managed care organizations, hospitals, clinics, research institutes, voluntary health agencies, and non- governmental organizations.

Opportunities for employment in public health are available, but recruiters will not typically come to campus to hire graduates. This means graduates must be organized and proactive in their career planning. Students can increase the likelihood of obtaining a position by balancing classroom

activities with voluntary or paid service to public health agencies. For epidemiology students, gaining experience with statistical methods and software applications may be particularly beneficial for success in finding entry-level positions.

While there are many specialties or disciplines in public health, most career opportunities are found in the tracks associated with the major. The skills acquired in the epidemiology emphasis can be applied in general public health jobs with widely variable salaries ranging from approximately

\$35,000–\$60,00. Compensation will vary significantly depending upon the specific discipline, type of organization, and geographic location. However, entry-level salaries with a masters' degree in epidemiology will range from approximately \$45,000–\$70,00 while those with more experience or a doctoral degree may earn more. More specific details about pay and careers in epidemiology can be found at

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/epidemiologists.htm#tab-5>.

For more information on careers in your major, please refer to From Major to Career, a publication which is located in all college advisement centers.

### **MAP DISCLAIMER**

While every reasonable effort is made to ensure accuracy, there are some student populations that could have exceptions to listed requirements. Please refer to the university catalog and your college advisement center/department for complete guidelines.

### **DEPARTMENT INFORMATION**

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