Epidemiology is the basic science of public health. Its practitioners work to uncover clues about health and wellness that are hidden in the patterns of exposures and diseases observed in different populations. As a student in this program, you will be trained in current epidemiological concepts and methods and will be able to explore various specialized fields within epidemiology.

THE EPIDEMIOLOGY PROGRAM takes full advantage of the many collaborative opportunities of a land grant university while maintaining focus on rigorous training in epidemiologic methods and principles. The MPH in Epidemiology is designed primarily for those interested in using epidemiologic skills in applied settings — international health, health departments, non-governmental agencies, or CDC and WHO field programs, but can also be the basis for doctoral training in epidemiology or a complement to other doctoral or professional training. The PhD concentration in Epidemiology will prepare you for careers in research and teaching in universities, federal or state agencies, and private institutions. Through a combination of coursework, practice opportunities and doctoral research, PhD students develop skills in the design, conduct and management of research that will prepare them to become independent researchers and teachers.

THE CURRICULUM builds on the core epidemiology competencies developed by the Association of Schools of Public Health and incorporates those established by the CDC Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists for applied epidemiology.
As a graduate of our MPH program, you will be able to:

» Recognize public health problems pertinent to the population and identify key related sources of data
» Understand, calculate and apply the basic terms, measures and methods used in epidemiology
» Apply principles of ethical/legal practice and cultural competency as they relate to study design and data collection
» Draw appropriate inferences from epidemiological data including identifying strengths and limitations of reports
» Apply epidemiologic skills in the formulation or application of public health programs or policies

In addition to formal training in epidemiological and biostatistical methods, you may choose from coursework covering specialty areas within the field, including infectious disease, disaster preparedness, cancer, aging, spatial methods and public health surveillance.

Our faculty

Our faculty have rich and diverse backgrounds in both applied and analytical epidemiology. Epidemiology faculty members have conducted food-borne outbreak investigations, investigated cancer clusters, worked closely with local departments of public health, explored the best practices for keeping an aging population healthy, studied the impact of diet and exercise in people living with HIV, worked with obstetricians and midwives, and have had many other public health research and practice experiences. As a master’s or doctoral student, you will benefit from this range of experience and expertise in both the classroom and in the pursuit of your own research and practice experiences.

Our graduates

Upon graduation, you will be well prepared for work in local, state and federal public health agencies, as well as profit and not-for-profit health-related agencies and industrial and commercial epidemiology programs. PhD graduates will be prepared for an academic or professional career conducting epidemiological studies of human health.

How to apply  To learn more about our program and/or to apply, visit health.oregonstate.edu/epi or call 541-737-3825.