



GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Biostatistics and Epidemiology

Global and Community Health

chhs.gmu.edu/gch

Biostatistics

The **graduate certificate in biostatistics** prepares students to apply statistical methods to quantitative analysis of health care issues. It is aimed at health scientists and professionals in government agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health. It is also aimed at professionals in pharmaceutical companies, research hospitals, public health agencies, and other medical research organizations who design medical experiments and analyze and interpret increasingly complex health care data. The program helps prepare students to begin careers in such organizations.

The certificate is a joint graduate certificate program from the Department of Statistics in the Volgenau School of Information Technology and Engineering and the Department of Global and Community Health in CHHS. Courses are taught by faculty members from both programs.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education in a discipline related to health science or statistics, with a GPA of 3.00 in the last 60 credits. Related fields include medicine, biology, nursing, health science, biostatistics, statistics, mathematics, and psychology. A course in statistics and a course in college algebra with a grade of B or higher are required for admission to the program.

Program of Study

The certificate program consists of **15 credits** as follows:

Required Courses	15
<i>Students must complete one course from each of the five groups below.</i>	
STAT 535 or 554	3
STAT 660 Biostatistical Methods	3
GCH 712 Introduction to Epidemiology	3
GCH/NURS 804 or STAT 656 or STAT 658	3
GCH 805 or STAT 662	3
TOTAL	15

Epidemiology

Epidemiology is the study of factors that influence the occurrence, distribution, prevention, and control of disease. The **graduate certificate in epidemiology** prepares students to apply the principles and methods of epidemiology to health research. The program emphasizes development of such skills as study design, data collection and management, data analysis and interpretation, and communication of research findings. Students in the program must complete introductory courses in epidemiology and biostatistics and then choose four elective courses in such areas as infectious disease epidemiology, chronic disease epidemiology, social epidemiology, and advanced epidemiological methods.

Admission Requirements

Students applying to the program must hold a bachelor's degree. Course work in statistics, health science, biological science, and the social sciences is beneficial in preparation for this certificate.

Program of Study

The certificate program consists of **18 credits** as follows:

Required Core Courses	6
GCH 601 Introduction to Biostatistics (or approved graduate-level statistics course)	3
GCH 712 Introduction to Epidemiology	3
Electives	12
<i>Select four from the following:</i>	
GCH 605 Social Epidemiology	3
GCH 680 International Research Ethics and Methods	3
GCH 722 Infectious Disease Epidemiology	3
GCH 726 Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology	3
GCH 732 Chronic Disease Epidemiology	3
GCH 752 Nutritional Epidemiology	3
Other epidemiology-related courses may be accepted with prior approval of program director.	
TOTAL	18

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Certificate Requirements

Candidates must complete required course work with a minimum GPA of 3.00, with no more than 3 credits with a grade of C, to earn the certificate.

Contact Information

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CHHS Graduate Admissions

College of Health and Human

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The above information is based on the 2009–2010 University Catalog and is subject to change without notice or obligation. It is not to be regarded as a contract.

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