

Final Progress Report

NIOSH Graduate Training Program

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List of Terms and Abbreviations

1. Environmental Health (EH)
2. Epidemiology (EPI)
3. Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH)
4. Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH)

Abstract

Epidemiologic methods have emerged as one of the most important tools in the evaluation of health effects of occupational and environmental exposures. For the stated priorities of each of the sector areas in the NIOSH National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA), epidemiologic research is an essential tool. The RSPH NIOSH training program combined training in epidemiologic skills and knowledge of the substantive area of occupational and environmental health to produce masters and doctoral-level graduates well prepared for research and public health practice careers in occupational epidemiology.

In the most recent competing continuation (2007-2012), we continued the MSPH program in occupational and environmental epidemiology and added a new component, doctoral training in occupational and environmental epidemiology. The curriculum for both programs provides rigorous training in analytical epidemiology and biostatistics, and a strong foundation in occupational and environmental health, including exposure assessment and industrial hygiene, occupational health policy, injury and toxicology. Throughout the training period, the program supported trainees through advisement for course selection, development of practicum and thesis opportunities, and career planning, in addition to financial assistance for tuition and travel to present research at technical meetings. Post-graduation, advisement continued through serving as references for continuing education or employment opportunities and professional counseling. The program faculty have active research programs that provide excellent opportunities for thesis and dissertation research, and an extensive supporting faculty is available for mentoring.

Since its inception in 1998, our training program has supported 47 outstanding students. In the most recent competing continuation (2007-2012), 19 MSPH and 2 doctoral students were supported by the training grant. The program has continued to be highly successful in recruiting high-caliber students. MSPH trainees consistently have higher mean GPAs and GRE scores than RSPH MPH students as a group, and the doctoral trainees have higher mean GRE scores than the Emory graduate school as a whole.

Trainees contributed to the field even before graduation; many received awards, presented at professional conferences, worked at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other major public health organizations, worked at Emory University as graduate research assistants, coauthored manuscripts, and published theses. Graduates of the MSPH program have pursued productive careers related to occupational/environmental epidemiology or additional doctoral-level training. The doctoral-level training component provides even more depth in training and is producing graduates prepared to be leaders in this field.

Section 1

Significant (Key) Findings

In the most recent competing continuation (2007-2012), we continued the MSPH program in occupational and environmental epidemiology and added a new component, doctoral training in occupational and environmental epidemiology. In developing the program, we made a conscious decision to expand beyond the narrowly defined field of occupational epidemiology to include environmental epidemiology more broadly, as the specific skills involved are nearly identical. We feel that by broadening the program it appealed to a larger pool of individuals and the training provided flexibility to our graduates in responding to job opportunities and changes in the job market. In fact, we found that some of our students enter with a general interest in environmental health and emerged choosing to focus on occupational exposures. Our advisory committee (see Table1) recently corroborated this decision as being an excellent strategy for maximizing student interest in the program and training a flexible workforce to tackle the emerging problems of the future.

Program leadership and faculty. Dr. Paige Tolbert is Director of this program and Drs. Kyle Steenland and Lyndsey Darrow are co-directors. They worked closely together to administer all aspects of the program. Decisions regarding program policies and directions were made jointly, in consultation with our advisory panel. One of the three directors was assigned primary responsibility for each student in the program, monitoring progress, assisting in identifying thesis/dissertation topics and helping to identify internship and job opportunities. Ariadne Swichtenberg, the assistant director for academic programs for the Department of Environmental Health, serves as coordinator for the MSPH program and provides logistical support, and Jena Black, assistant director for the doctoral academic program for the Department of Epidemiology, serves this function for the doctoral program. Dr. Tolbert oversaw all aspects of the training program, ensuring that the program met its objectives. In addition to the leadership team, an extensive faculty was available to support student training and research in occupational epidemiology (see Tables 2-3).

Curriculum. The EH-EPI MSPH training program incorporated coursework, a research thesis project, and practical experience training (200-400 hours). The curriculum for the MSPH degree was designed to provide a rigorous foundation in analytical epidemiology and required the most quantitative epidemiology and biostatistics course sequences at the school (see Tables 4-5). It was also designed to provide a strong foundation in occupational and environmental health; graduates were expected to be familiar with the principles of exposure assessment and industrial hygiene (essential for evaluating exposure assessment in epidemiologic studies), occupational health policy (essential in understanding, and influencing, the uses of epidemiologic data), and toxicology (essential in relating epidemiologic results to toxicologic evidence).

Students specializing in the environmental/occupational epidemiology PhD program pursued rigorous training in epidemiologic methods and statistics supplemented by coursework and research apprenticeships in occupational/environmental epidemiology. The PhD program included required and selective courses (see Tables 6-7), two teaching assistant requirements, two research apprenticeship requirements, a doctoral qualifying examination, a dissertation of original research, and a dissertation defense. The PhD program was oriented toward producing graduates who are well-grounded in methodology and who, as they pursue careers as researchers and teachers, will expand the scientific knowledge of the nature of disease in human populations. The program was extremely rigorous and involved advanced courses in epidemiologic methods and statistical theory.

Evaluation. The joint MSPH program is evaluated in several ways to determine its effectiveness at recruiting, training and ultimately placing high caliber applicants in positions as occupational and environmental epidemiologists.

Since July 2007, 19 MSPH and 2 doctoral students have been supported by the training grant. Each year, we succeeded in recruiting the targeted number of students into the program. We are pleased that we recruited more mid-career applicants, including one with a PhD and one with an MD. While we have continued to work hard to increase recruitment of under-represented minorities in the program, we are pleased to have had several minority students successfully complete the program this cycle. The mean GPA for our MSPH trainees (3.60) compared to the RSPH MPH students as a group (3.39), as well the mean GRE verbal/quantitative/writing scores for our MSPH trainees (626/734/4.61) compared to the RSPH MPH students as a group (541/657/4.37), demonstrate that our program was able to attract and train high-caliber students. GRE score comparisons for our doctoral trainees (640/780/5) and the Emory graduate school as a whole (591/733/5) again show that our trainees compared extremely well.

Another way to gauge the effectiveness of our program is to review the performance of our graduates. A very high proportion of our trainees have been nominated for the Shepard Award, given to the best master's thesis in RSPH. Approximately 10-15 students are nominated each year out of approximately 250 theses evaluated. One of our students has been among the nominees almost every year since 2001, the first year our students were eligible, and 10 of our trainees have been finalists for the Shepard Award. Moreover, almost all of our graduates are currently engaged in occupational or environmental epidemiology or related work, or have gained admittance to medical school or doctoral-level epidemiology training programs at prestigious institutions. They are on track to become important contributors to the field. For example, one 2009 graduate joined the Public Health Service as an epidemiologist/project officer (Division of Health Studies, Health Investigations Branch, ATSDR, CDC) studying uranium exposure in the Navajo Nation, and is a member of the NIOSH Nanotechnology Research Center. Another 2009 graduate works in UNC's Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center as manager of the NC-LA Prostate Cancer Consortium. A 2012 graduate is working in the Occupational Health Surveillance Program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in Boston. All trainees from the 2007-2012 cycle are described in more detail in Section 2 of this report in order of entry into the program along with a list of publications of our trainees with graduates' names listed in bold.

Outcomes/Impact

Availability of training-related funds through this grant made establishment of this MSPH program possible through support of the three faculty members who co-direct the program and tuition coverage of trainees. The training-related expenses include a small amount of support for the co-directors, allowing them to administer the program and mentor students. The tuition coverage has been an essential recruitment tool in attracting outstanding students into the program. This degree program would not exist without the training grant. Here is a quote from a recent graduate of the program (quoted with permission): "The NIOSH training grant was one of the main reasons I chose the EH-EPI program at the Rollins School of Public Health. I received excellent training in environmental and occupational epidemiology which allowed me to go on to a fellowship at the US EPA after graduation. I recently started my first job as an epidemiologist and I am so grateful that the training grant helped me get my career started."

Section 2

Scientific Report

Since July 2007, 19 MSPH and 2 doctoral students have been supported by the training grant. These students are described below, in order of entry into the program.

Four students graduated between July 2007 and December 2008 who were supported by the previous cycle of the grant so we will not report on their progress here except to mention what they are doing now: **Jennifer Vaughn** is doing her medical residency in oncology at University of Washington, **Kim Dark** is working for the Environmental Health and Safety Office of Anheuser-Bush in Missouri, and **Sascha Ellington (Nelson)** and **Virginia Roberts** are working as epidemiologists at CDC.

2009 graduates:

Bonny Blackard (thesis advisor: Thun) – Bonnie worked as an intern at the American Cancer Society while she was in the program. Her thesis was an investigation of the roles of various risk factors in trends of pancreatic cancer conducted with Michael Thun and his colleagues at ACS, which was a finalist for Shepard Award for best thesis. (Papers resulting from her ACS internship include: Thun M, **Blackard B**. Pharmacologic Effects of NSAIDs and Implications for the Risks and Benefits of Long-Term Prophylactic Use of Aspirin to Prevent Cancer. *Recent Results Cancer Res.* 2009;181:215-21, and Thun M, Jemal A, Desantis C, **Blackard B**, Ward E. An overview of the cancer burden for primary care physicians. *Prim Care.* 2009 Sep;36(3):439-54.) Bonnie is now working UNC's Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center as manager of the NC-LA Prostate Cancer Consortium.

Candis Hunter (Mayweather) (thesis advisor: Sarnat) – During her second year in the program, Candis was awarded an EPA STAR fellowship to study occupational exposure to nanoparticles. For her thesis, she designed an epidemiologic study to investigate health effects of nanoparticles in the workplace, in collaboration with mentors at NIOSH in Cincinnati where she had a summer internship. She presented her work on "A Task-Based Exposure Matrix Toward Evaluating and Identifying Occupational Exposure to Carbonaceous Nanomaterials" at the NIOSH, Industry-wide Studies Branch All Hands Meeting, Cincinnati, OH, February 2009, and at the International Congress for Occupational Health, Cape Town, South Africa, in March 2009 (training grant helped cover her travel to this meeting). (Published in: *National Nanotechnology Initiative, 2011. Strategy for Nanotechnology-related Environmental, Health, and Safety Research.* Washington, DC: Office of Science and Technology Policy (**Mayweather (Hunter) C**, contributing author) Available at:

http://www.nano.gov/sites/default/files/pub_resource/draftehsstrategy-17dec2010-to_post.pdf.) She also presented on the "Anheuser-Busch Environmental Conservation Team" at the Environmental Protection Agency Southeast Regional Collegiate Scholars Conference Atlanta, GA. Since graduating, she had joined the Public Health Service as an epidemiologist/project officer, Division of Health Studies, Health Investigations Branch, ATSDR, CDC. Her primary project is a three year study designed to examine uranium exposure and birth outcomes in the Navajo Nation and to provide health education regarding prenatal care utilization and mitigation of uranium exposure. She also serves as the agency representative for the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI) Environmental and Health Implications Working Group and is a member of the NIOSH Nanotechnology Research Center (NTRC).

Samantha Parker (thesis advisor: Strickland) – Samantha Parker did her thesis on the environmental epidemiology and regional variation of clubfoot birth defects with Dr. Matt Strickland making use of data from the Metro Atlanta Congenital Defects Program and other birth defect registries (**Parker SE**, Mai CT, Strickland MJ, Olney RS, Rickard R, Marengo L, Wang Y, Hashmi SS, Meyer RE. Multistate study of the epidemiology of clubfoot. *Birth Defects Research Part A: Clinical and Molecular Teratology*,

2009;85(11):897-904.) She presented this work at the National Birth Defects Prevention Network Annual Meeting, 2009 and her poster won first place in the Birth Defects Risk Factors category. Since graduating, she has started the doctoral program in epidemiology at Boston University School of Public Health. ***As an example of training the trainers through this training grant, she reports that she is a teaching assistant for Dr. Katie Applebaum, the first graduate of this training program and now on the faculty at BU.***

2010 graduates:

Megan Jacobsen (thesis advisor: Sarnat) – In 2009, Megan obtained an ASPH/CDC/ATSDR Environmental Epidemiology internship. For her thesis, she reviewed and analyzed spirometry data collected from five communities receiving asbestos-contaminated vermiculite from the Libby, Montana mine as a part of the National Asbestos Health Program (NAHP), conducted by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. She examined various occupational, recreational, and household exposure routes for the residents of these five communities. Megan is now working as an Associate Health Scientist conducting risk assessment at ChemRisk in San Francisco.

Kristen (Gillmon) Adams (thesis advisor: Strickland) – For her thesis, Kristen studied the effect of a ban on smoking in public places on asthma emergency department visits in Atlanta. After graduating she worked as an ASPH fellow at EPA in Washington, DC. She just started work as an epidemiologist for Epidemiology International.

Whitney Neal (thesis advisor: Goodman) – Whitney studied the role of cadmium in prostate cancer for her thesis under the supervision of cancer epidemiologist, Michael Goodman. She is now employed as a health scientist at the Office of Science at CDC's NCEH/ATSDR.

2011 graduates:

Sally Embrey (thesis advisor: Remais) – Sally won the 2011 Humanitarian Award from Emory University for her work on the Nigerian lead poisoning epidemic occurring as a consequence of changes in how gold is mined. A second project, on the widespread ecological disruption of climate change with Drs. Justin Remais and Jeremy Hess, has been accepted for publication (**Embrey S, Remais JV, Hess J (2011) Climate Change and Ecosystem Disruption: The Health Impacts of the North American Rocky Mountain Pine Beetle Infestation. American Journal of Public Health, accepted.**) Sally started a doctoral program this fall in Stanford University's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Heather Freiman (thesis advisor: Marcus) – Heather was given the RSPH's most prestigious scholarship award, the Woodruff scholarship. For her thesis, she worked on a British cohort study assessing effects of PCB exposure. She has been hired as project manager for Kaiser-Permanente Center for Health Research-Southeast, working with Dr. Michele Marcus, former co-director of the NIOSH training program.

2012 graduates:

Elizabeth Burkhardt (thesis advisor: Bostick) – Liz was a part-time student in the program, while she continued as a professional musician (bassoonist for the Atlanta Symphony.) She became interested in the program because of concern about musculoskeletal problems as an occupational risk among musicians. Her thesis was on risk factors for Incident sporadic colorectal adenoma. She did a practicum assessing national data on gasoline ingestion poisonings and the correlation with power outages, in collaboration with scientists at CDC's National Center for Environmental Health. She did a second internship with the American Cancer Society which resulted in a publication (Virgo KS, **Burkhardt EA,**

Cokkinides VE, Ward EM. Impact of Health Care Reform Legislation on Uninsured and Medicaid-Insured Cancer Patients. *The Cancer Journal*, 2010; 16(6); 577-583.) She has continued her work with the Atlanta Symphony while doing part-time work in epidemiologic research.

Radhika Dhingra (thesis advisor: Steenland) – Radhika studied modifiers of the body burden of trihalomethanes with Dr. Steenland, who has an NIEHS R03 focused on this question. While a student here she also worked with Justin Remais on a study of greenhouse gas emissions in China, attended the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene meeting published a paper on this work (**Dhingra R**, Christensen ER, Liu Y, Zhong B, Wu CF, Yost MG, and Remais JV. Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions from Domestic Anaerobic Digesters Linked with Sustainable Sanitation in Rural China. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2011;45(6):2345-2352.) She is now a doctoral student in our Environmental Health Sciences doctoral program.

Jennifer Zora (thesis advisor: Sarnat) – Jennifer is our second dual MD student. She graduated from Harvard College and is President of Health Students Taking Action Together, Inc. She has a strong interest in asthma. She worked as a research assistant on Jeremy Sarnat's Atlanta Commuter Exposures Study, funded by CDC, and did her thesis with Stefanie Sarnat on a PAHO-funded study of air pollution and asthma in El Paso. She is now back at the School of Medicine for her final year of medical training, and will then be awarded her MD/MPH. While in the program she worked with an adjunct faculty member, Fernando Holquin, on a chapter on asthma for a medical textbook (Holquin F, **Zora JE**. Asthma. In: McKean SC, Brotman DJ, Dressler D, et al (eds). *Principles and Practice of Hospital Medicine*. New York: McGraw-Hill; in press.)

MyDzung Chu (thesis advisor: Barr) – MyDzung was a Gates Millennium Scholar. She did an internship at ATSDR on computational toxicology and for her thesis did exposure-duration extrapolations of hazardous inhalation exposures, focussing on Acute Emergency Guidance Level (AEGL) values published by the EPA, and incorporated quantitative structure-activity relationship (QSAR) modeling for AEGLs to determine which structural features or chemical properties are most predictive for modeling AEGL. She also worked with Dr. Dana Barr on chemical extraction and analysis of pesticides in commercially available baby foods as well as pesticide exposure assessment in urine samples for Dr. Alex Lu's PDA study. MyDzung is now working in the Occupational Health Surveillance Program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in Boston.

Bradley Klos (thesis advisor: Tolbert) – Bradley worked as a research assistant SUN Study (Study of the Natural History of HIV/AIDS) at CDC, on which he did his thesis. He has worked with the National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities on a case-control study assessing risk factors for autism. He is interested in environmental interactions on biological and ecological levels, and the quantification of toxic environmental exposures. He is currently doing Peace Corps in Zambia.

Christopher Simpson (thesis advisor: Steenland) – Chris assisted Dr. Anne Spaulding in the Department of Epidemiology on research primarily concerning HIV among jail and prison populations and Dr. Ani Satz in the Health Policy and Management Department and Emory Law School, helping her write a casebook on Disability Law by researching and writing reports on certain conceptual issues. He did his thesis working with Dr. Kyle Steenland on a study of health effects of worker and community exposure to PFOA. He is now a doctoral student in Epidemiology at the University of Washington.

Incoming students:

Miranda Delahoy (thesis advisor: Levy)

Jennifer Isenburg (thesis advisor: Tolbert)
Jessica Belle (thesis advisor: Steenland)
W. Wyatt Wilson (thesis advisor: Tolbert)

Transferred out of MSPH program:

Jane Li found the program more quantitative than expected in her first year and transferred out of the program to another program.

Continuing doctoral student:

Katie Gass (thesis advisor: Strickland) – Katie Gass, MPH, is the first doctoral student supported by the training grant. She is an outstanding student and recipient of the Woodruff scholarship, the university's most prestigious scholarship. She is in her third year of the doctoral program and has passed her qualifying exams. She is planning to conduct her dissertation on air pollution measurement error and modeling issues relating to our work for the EPA Clean Air Research Center. Dr. Matt Strickland is chairing her doctoral committee.

Incoming doctoral student:

Audrey Flak (thesis advisor: TBA) – Audrey Flak, MPH, is an incoming doctoral student who will be the second doctoral student funded by the training grant. Prior to starting the program this fall, she has been working at the National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities.

Our target for each year is to recruit three new MSPH students and one PhD student, and to continue training our ongoing students.

Table 1. Advisory Panel for Emory’s NIOSH Training Grant in Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology

Name	Affiliation
1. Rana Bayakly, MPH	Director, Occupational Health Surveillance Program, and Chief, Chronic Disease, Injury, and Environmental Epidemiology Section, Georgia Department of Human Resources
2. William Bullock, DHSc	Director of Industrial Hygiene, CSX Transportation Corporation
3. Henry Falk, MD, MPH	Former Director, Coordinating Center for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention and Assistant Surgeon General, CDC (Retired)
4. Thomas Fariss, MD, MPH	Corporate Medical Director, Kimberly-Clark Corporation
5. Candis Mayweather Hunter, MSPH	Alumna of EOH-EPI MSPH; Epidemiologist, Division of Health Studies, Health Investigations Branch, ATSDR, CDC
6. Richard Lemen, PhD	Former Assistant Surgeon General and Deputy Director, NIOSH, CDC (Retired)
7. J. Donald Millar, MD, DTPH (Lond.)	Don Millar and Associates, Inc, Consulting in Occupational & Environmental Health; Former Director, NIOSH, CDC (Retired)
8. Joel Moorhead, MD, MPH, PhD	Occupational Medicine Consultant; Former Environmental & Occupational Medicine Residency Director, RSPH, Emory
9. Melvin Myers, MPA	Former Deputy Director, Office of Extramural Coordination and Special Projects, NIOSH, CDC (Retired)
10. Patty Olinger, RBP	Director, Environmental Health & Safety Office, Emory University
11. Virginia Roberts, MSPH	Alumna of EOH-EPI MSPH; Surveillance Epidemiologist, Waterborne Disease Branch, CDC
12. Pamella Thomas, MD	Occupational Medicine Consultant; Former Medical Director, Wellness, Health & Productivity, Lockheed Martin
13. Michael Thun, MD	Vice President Emeritus, Epidemiology & Surveillance Research, American Cancer Society
14. Steve Tochilin, MBA, MPH	General Manager, Environmental Sustainability, Delta Air Lines
15. Mary White, ScD	Chief of Epidemiology and Applied Research Branch, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, CDC

Table 2: Full-Time Faculty Resources in Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology (Core And Supporting Faculty)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Dana Barr, PhD	Biomonitoring, biomarker development and application, analytic chemistry
Michael Caudle, PhD	Environmental toxicology
Matthew Freeman, PhD	Environmental epidemiology, global environmental health, sanitation
Karen Levy, PhD	Environmental epidemiology, global environmental health
Richard Hertzberg, PhD	Risk assessment of chemical mixtures
Mitchel Klein, PhD	Epidemiology methods, air pollution epidemiology
Yang Liu, ScD	Remote sensing, GIS
Gary Miller, PhD	Neurotoxicology
Justin Remais, PhD	Environmental engineering, spatial analysis, disease ecology
P. Barry Ryan, PhD	Exposure assessment, human biomonitoring, analytical chemistry
Jeremy Sarnat, ScD	Exposure assessment, air pollution
Stefanie Ebelt Sarnat, ScD	Exposure assessment and air pollution epidemiology
N. Kyle Steenland, PhD	Occupational/environmental epidemiology, methods
Matthew Strickland, PhD	Environmental epidemiology, reproductive epidemiology
Paige Tolbert, PhD	Environmental/occupational epidemiology
Andrea Winquist, MD, PhD	Environmental health disparities
Ying Zhou, ScD	Risk assessment, exposure modeling

DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

Harland Austin, DSc	Quantitative methods, occupational epidemiology
Ruth Berkelman, MD	Bioterrorism surveillance, public health preparedness
Roberd Bostick, PhD	Cancer epidemiology
John Carter, PhD	Geographic information systems
Lyndsey Darrow, PhD	Environmental and occupational epidemiology; reproductive epidemiology
Carolyn Drews-Botsch, PhD	Perinatal epidemiology, ophthalmic epidemiology, analytic methods
W. Dana Flanders, MD, DSc	Quantitative epidemiology, methods
Michael Goodman, PhD	Cancer epidemiology
Carol Hogue, PhD	Reproductive epidemiology, women's and children's health
David Kleinbaum, PhD	Quantitative epidemiology, methods
Jonathan Liff, PhD	Cancer epidemiology and surveillance, Atlanta SEER Registry
Michele Marcus, PhD	Reproductive and occupational/environmental epidemiology
John McGowan, Jr, MD, MPH	Infectious disease epidemiology
Jennifer Mulle, PhD	Genetic epidemiology
Godfrey Oakley, MD	Birth defects surveillance, pediatric and perinatal epidemiology
Anne Spaulding, MD	Infectious and chronic disease epidemiology in prison populations
Yan Sun, PhD	Genetic epidemiology, gene-environment interaction, biomedical informatics
Viola Vaccarrino, MD, PhD	Cardiovascular disease epidemiology

OTHER DEPARTMENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics:

Howard Chang, PhD	Bayesian statistics in environmental epidemiology, time series methods
Vicki Hertzberg, PhD	Biostatistics in environmental and occupational epidemiology
Robert Lyles, PhD	Biostatistics, measurement error in occ/env epi studies
Lance Waller, PhD	Biostatistics, spatial analysis of environmental factors, GIS

Department of Behavioral Science & Health Education:

Michelle Kegler, PhD	Environmental health promotion, community interventions
Nancy Thompson, PhD	Behavioral epidemiology, injury and violence prevention

Department of Global Health:

Christine Moe, PhD	Environmental microbiology, infectious disease epidemiology
Claire Null, PhD	Environmental economics, microfinancing

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Deborah Houry, MD	Emergency medicine, injury prevention and control
Jeremy Hess, MD	Emergency medicine, emergency preparedness, environmental sustainability

Table 3: Selected Adjunct Faculty Resources in Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology

NAME	RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS
John Abraham, PhD (ATSDR)	Exposure reconstruction, health consultations
Scott Bartell, PhD (UCIrvine)	Risk assessment, environmental biostatistics
William Bullock, DHSc (CSX Transp)	Industrial hygiene
Paula Burgess, MD (ATSDR)	Emergency response, chemical terrorism, susceptible populations
Ralph Coates, PhD (CDC)	Cancer epidemiology
Adolfo Correa, MD (CDC)	Birth defects epidemiology and surveillance
Owen Devine, PhD (CDC)	Statistical methods in risk assessment
Ramana Dhara, MD (private practice)	Occupational and environmental medicine
Richard Ehrenberg, MD (NIOSH, ret)	Occupational illness and injury surveillance
Thomas Fariss, MD (Kimberly-Clark)	Occupational health
Henry Falk, MD (CDC, ret)	Environmental epidemiology, injury control, environmental health policy
Howard Frumkin, MD (UWash)	Environmental health, environmental and occupational medicine
Richard Hertzberg, PhD (EPA, ret)	Risk assessment, chemical mixtures
Barry Johnson, PhD (ATSDR, ret)	Environmental health policy
Muin Khoury, MD, PhD (CDC)	Genetic epidemiology
Richard Lemen, PhD (NIOSH, ret)	Occupational health
David Mannino, MD (CDC)	Environmental and occupational epidemiology
Mike McGeehin, PhD (CDC)	Environmental toxicology, health investigations
Frank Mitchell, DO (ATSDR, ret)	Occupational medical surveillance
Moiz Mumtaz, PhD (ATSDR)	Risk assessment of chemical mixtures
Melvin Myers, MPA (NIOSH, ret)	Occupational health policy
Glen Satten, PhD (CDC)	Genetic statistics
Thomas Sinks, PhD (CDC)	Environmental and occupational epidemiology
Jim Smith, PhD (CDC)	Occupational and environmental radiation health effects studies
Mary Alice Smith, PhD (UGA)	Developmental toxicology
Pamela Thomas, MD (Lockheed)	Occupational medicine
Michael Thun, MD (ACS,formerly NIOSH)	Cancer epidemiology
Mary White, ScD (CDC)	Cancer epidemiology
Phillip Williams, PhD (UGA)	Industrial hygiene

Table 4. Course Requirements for Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology MSPH Program

Hrs/Course No.	Course Title
4 BIOS 500	Statistical Methods I
2 BIOS 591P	Statistical Methods II
4 EPI 530	Epidemiologic Methods I
3 EPI 534	Epidemiologic Methods II
1 EPI 533	Programming in SAS
2 EPI 538	Advanced Epidemiologic Methods I
2 EPI 591U	Application of Epi Concepts
3 EPI 740	Epidemiologic Modeling
2 EH 540	Environmental Hazards I
3 EH 520	Human Toxicology
2 EHS 747/EPI 747	Methods in Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology
3 EH 570	Environmental and Occupational Health Policy
2 EH 580	Injury Prevention and Control
0 EH/EPI 595R	Practicum
3 EH 599R/EPI 599R	Thesis
2 BSHE 500	Behavioral and Social Sciences in Public Health
2 HPM 500	Intro. to U.S. Healthcare System
2 GH 500	Critical Issues in Global Health
1 IBS 606	Values in Science
A minimum of two courses are required from the following list of Electives:	
2 EPI 537	Epidemiology of Chronic Disease
2 EPI 552	Genetic Epidemiology
2 EPI 591S	Social Epidemiology
2 EPI 743	Cancer Epidemiology
2 EPI 744	Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology
2 EPI 746	Reproductive Epidemiology
2 EPI 750	Analysis of Longitudinal Data in Epidemiological Research
2 EH 515	Air Quality in the Urban Environment
2 EH 524	Risk Assessment I
2 EHS 760	Advanced Risk Assessment
2 EH 527	Biomarkers and Environmental Public Health
2 EH 541	Environmental Hazards II
2 EH 546/GH 580	Environ. Microbiology: Control of Food & Waterborne Diseases
2 EH 550	Environmental and Occupational Health Practice
2 EH 581	National Security & PH Consequences of Disasters & Terrorism
2 EH 582	Global Climate Change: Health Impacts & Response
2 EH 584	Built Environment and Public Health
2 EH 596	Research Design in Environmental Health
2 INFO 530	Geographic Information Systems
48	(total required credit-hours)

Table 5. Sample Sequence for Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology MSPH Program

	Hrs	Course No.	Course Title
<i>Fall Semester, Year 1</i>			
	4	EPI 530	Epidemiologic Methods I
	4	BIOS 500	Statistical Methods I
	1	EPI 533	Programming in SAS
	3	EH 520	Human Toxicology
	2	EH 540	Environmental Hazards I
	2	EH 580	Injury Prevention & Control
Total:	16		
<i>Spring Semester, Year 1</i>			
	3	EPI 534	Epidemiologic Methods II
	2	BIOS 591P	Statistical Methods II
	3	EPI 591U	Application of Epi. Concepts
	2	GH 500	Critical Issues in Global Health
	2	Electives	
Total:	12		
<i>Fall Semester, Year 2</i>			
	3	EPI 740	Epidemiologic Modeling
	2	EHS 747/EPI 747	Methods in Environmental and Occupational Epi
	2	BSHE 500	Behavioral & Social Sciences in PH
	2	HPM 500	Intro. to US Healthcare
	1	IBS 606	Values in Science
	2-4	Electives	
Total:	14-16		
<i>Spring Semester, Year 2</i>			
	3	EH 570	Occ. and Envir. Health Policy
	2	EPI 538	Advanced Epi. Methods I
	0	EH 595	Practicum
	4	EPI 599R/EH 599R	Thesis
	4	Electives	
Total:	13		

Table 6. Required Courses for Doctoral Degree in Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology

Hrs/Course No.	Course Title
<u>Epidemiology Department required coursework</u>	
4	BIOS 500 or 506 Statistical Methods I
3 or 4	BIOS 591P or 507 Applied Linear Models
4	BIOS 510 Probability Theory
4	EPI 530 Epidemiologic Methods I
3	EPI 534 Epidemiologic Methods II
1	EPI 533 Data Management (SAS)
3	EPI 591U Application of Epidemiologic Concepts
3	EPI 731 Analytical Foundations of Epidemiology
2	EPI 738 Advanced Epidemiologic Methods I
2	EPI 739 Advanced Epidemiologic Methods II
3	EPI 740 Epidemiologic Modeling
3	EPI 750 Longitudinal Data Analysis
1	EPI 790R PhD Journal Club (taken at least four times)
24	EPI 799 Research Hours
<u>Additional required coursework for Env/Occ Epidemiology program</u>	
3	EOH 520 Occupational and Environmental Toxicology
2	EOH 524 Risk Assessment I
2	EHS 737/EPI 747 Methods in Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology
2	EOH 540 Recognition, Assessment and Control of Occ. and Env. Hazards I
2	EOH 580 Injury Prevention and Control
1	IBS 606 Values in Science
Complete a minimum of two courses from the following list of electives:	
2	EPI 537 Epidemiology of Chronic Disease
2	EPI 552 Genetic Epidemiology
2	EPI 591K New Topics in Epidemiologic Methods
2	EPI 743 Cancer Epidemiology
2	EPI 744 Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology
2	EPI 746 Reproductive Epidemiology
3	EOH 501 Global Perspectives in Environmental and Occupational Health
2	EOH 525 Risk Assessment II
2	EOH 541 Recognition, Assessment and Control of Occ. and Env. Hazards II
2	EOH 546/GH 580 Envir. Microbiology: Control of Food and Waterborne Diseases
2	EOH 550 Environmental and Occupational Health Practice
3	EOH 570 Occ. and Env. Health Policy
2	EOH 581 National Security and Public Health Consequences of Disasters and Terrorism
2	EOH 591E/GH 591V Environment, Climate and Infectious Disease
2	EOH 591S Air Quality in the Urban Environment: Survey of Research Methods and Recent Findings
2	EOH 591 Biomarkers and Environmental Public Health
2	INFO 530 Geographic Information Systems

Table 7. Sample Sequence for PhD Program in Environmental/Occupational Epidemiology

Hrs	Course No.	Course Title *
Fall Semester, Year 1 (TATTO 600 taken in August)		
3	EOH 520	Occ. and Envir. Toxicology
4	EPI 530	Epidemiologic Methods I
4	BIOS 506	Statistical Methods I
2	EPI 533	Data Management SAS
1 / 14	EPI 790R	PhD Journal Club
Research Apprenticeship with Faculty		
Spring Semester, Year 1		
2	EOH 580	Injury Prevention and Control
2	EOH 524	Risk Assessment I
3	EPI 534	Epidemiologic Methods II
4	BIOS 507	Applied Linear Models
2	EPI 538	Advanced Epidemiol. Methods I
1 / 14	EPI 790R	PhD Journal Club
Teaching Assistant (TATTO 605)		
Fall Semester, Year 2		
1	IBS 606	Values in Science
2	EHS 747/EPI 747	Methods in Envir & Occ. Epid.
2	EOH 540	Recognition, Assessment and Control of Occ. and Envir. Hazards I
2	EPI 743	Epidemiology of Cancer
3	EPI 740	Epidemiologic Modeling
4	BIOS 510	Probability Theory
1 / 15	EPI 790R	PhD Journal Club
Research Apprenticeship with Faculty		
Spring Semester, Year 2		
2	EPI 746	Reproductive Epidemiology
2	EOH 591K	New Topics in Epidemiologic Methods
2	EPI 591U	Application of Epidemiologic Concepts
3	EPI 731	Analytical Foundations of Epidemiology
3	EPI 750	Longitudinal Data Analysis
1 / 13	EPI 790R	PhD Journal Club
Teaching Associate (TATTO 610)		
Summer, Year 2		
Epidemiology Qualifying Examination		
Years 3-5		
Additional elective courses and Dissertation Research		

Publications of Trainees During and After Training Program

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