Graduate Group in Epidemiology

The mission of the Graduate Group in Epidemiology (GGE) is to provide rigorous training in the principles and practice of epidemiology with an emphasis on quantitative analytic methods and the mentoring of novel epidemiologic research. The mission is achieved by integrating the comparative methods and approaches of epidemiology with those of related disciplines including biostatistics, microbiology, ecology, nutrition, health economics, animal husbandry, and social medicine. Areas of emphasis include infectious disease epidemiology; wildlife epidemiology; zoonotic and vector-borne diseases; epidemiologic methods and biostatistics; occupational and environmental epidemiology; nutritional epidemiology; health services and health economics; social and behavioral epidemiology; and reproductive, perinatal, pediatric and developmental epidemiology.
Why Epidemiology?
Epidemiology is the multidisciplinary study of the distribution and determinants of health and disease in populations; it aims to advance scientific understanding of how to prevent, control, and eradicate disease and to enhance population performance and health.

Our Program
Our program prepares students to become tomorrow’s leaders in academic research, government and industry; it is the only U.S. program that trains both human and veterinary epidemiologists.

- The program provides a thorough grounding in principles of epidemiology, study design, and quantitative methods.
- Students learn to critically evaluate current research and undertake their own original investigation.
- Eight areas of emphasis are offered in addition to Designated Emphases in International and Community Nutrition and the Biology of Vector-Borne Diseases.

What to Expect
The Graduate Group in Epidemiology emphasizes the Doctor of Philosophy degree. Students entering the program with the prerequisite background can complete required course work in four quarters. Students advance to candidacy by passing a qualifying oral examination. The Ph.D. is awarded following completion of research and a written dissertation. A Master’s degree is also offered. We strongly encourage applications from underrepresented minorities.

Funding
The University offers a variety of fellowships for prospective and continuing students including several designed to promote campus diversity. Research and teaching assistantships are also available. Students are supported through extramural grants and receive competitive stipends following NIH guidelines. The deadline for online fellowship applications is January 15. Instructions for applying can be found online at http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/prospective/steps-to-applying.html.

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