



**INTEGRATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE  
EPIDEMIOLOGY MPH ESSAY/THESIS AGREEMENT**

MPH students are required to complete an essay or thesis that demonstrates synthesis of foundational and program-specific competencies. Students must submit this agreement approved by their faculty or essay/thesis advisor prior to beginning their essay/thesis.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** Epidemiology

**Pitt Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Advisor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Advisor Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you working with data owned by an organization outside of Pitt Public Health?**

If yes, please provide the following information.

**Organization Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Will the organization contact be a member of your essay/thesis committee?**

**Essay/Thesis Title:** Identify the title or topic of your essay/thesis.

**Competencies:** Identify three competencies that will be attained through essay/thesis activities. Two competencies must be selected from the [CEPH MPH Foundational Competencies](#) and one competency from the [Epidemiology MPH Competencies](#).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Approvals:** Please send via Docusign at [my.pitt.edu](http://my.pitt.edu).

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## EPIDEM MPH Competencies

EPIDEM 1	Identify and apply advanced epidemiologic analyses using descriptive and inferential statistical approaches
EPIDEM 2	Interpret epidemiologic results in a causal framework
EPIDEM 3	Evaluate the strengths and limitations of epidemiologic literature
EPIDEM 4	Identify major diseases, their descriptive epidemiology, and risk factors
EPIDEM 5	Conduct analysis of epidemiologic data using linear, logistic, Cox, and Poisson regression models
EPIDEM 6	Describe the clinical trial study design and its application, strengths, and limitations

## CEPH MPH Foundational Competencies

MPH 1	Apply epidemiological methods to settings and situations in public health practice
MPH 2	Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
MPH 3	Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming, and software, as appropriate
MPH 4	Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice
MPH 5	Compare the organization, structure, and function of health care, public health, and regulatory systems across national and international settings
MPH 6	Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and systemic levels
MPH 7	Assess population needs, assets, and capacities that affect communities' health
MPH 8	Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design, implementation, or critique of public health policies or programs
MPH 9	Design a population-based policy, program, project, or intervention
MPH 10	Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
MPH 11	Select methods to evaluate public health programs
MPH 12	Discuss the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
MPH 13	Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
MPH 14	Advocate for political, social, or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations
MPH 15	Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity
MPH 16	Apply leadership and/or management principles to address a relevant issue
MPH 17	Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges
MPH 18	Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
MPH 19	Communicate audience-appropriate (i.e., non-academic, non-peer audience) public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
MPH 20	Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content
MPH 21	Integrate perspectives from other sectors and/or professions to promote and advance population health
MPH 22	Apply a systems thinking tool to visually represent a public health issue in a format other than standard narrative