### Distribution of Required Credits

- 9 credits of research skill courses. (Most commonly SPH-Q 502, 601, and 602)
- 30 credit hours in the major area
- 9-15 credits in the minor area (outside the major department)
- 0-28 credits supporting electives or second minor
- SPH-E 651 Epidemiology and SPH-X 505 Principles and Foundations of Public Health, are required courses for all Ph.D. students who have not earned an MPH degree from an accredited public health program. Credit for these courses may apply to the major, minor, or electives areas.
- 20-30 credits of dissertation (The number of credit hours is negotiated between the course prescription committee and the student.)
- 90 credits total for the Ph.D. degree

### Important notes

A maximum of 15 credit hours of independent study, readings, and research courses will be allowed.

Course work, which is completed more than seven (7) years prior to the qualifying examination, is not applicable to the program. However, the advisory committee, through its chair, may request revalidation of old course work with a written description of the student’s demonstration of currency of knowledge. A maximum of 30 credit hours may be revalidated.

### Transfer of graduate credit hours (usually from a Master’s degree)

- A maximum of 30 credit hours from other approved graduate institutions may be accepted towards the credits required for the Ph.D.
- The form to request transfer of graduate credit may be found at: [www.publichealth.indiana.edu/current-students/forms.shtml](http://www.publichealth.indiana.edu/current-students/forms.shtml), under “For Graduate Students.” The completed form should be submitted to SPH Room 115, for final approval.
- Independent courses, such as readings, research, independent study, thesis, internship, and practicum credit hours completed at another institution or as part of the master’s program, may not be counted in the total credits required for the degree.
- All transfer courses must have a grade of “B” or better. Courses with S/F grades are not acceptable.
Research Skills “Tools” Courses

- A minimum grade of B (3.0) must be obtained in each course used in meeting the research skill requirement.
- Credits earned in meeting research skills requirements may be counted in the total of 90 credits required for the degree.

Prerequisites

- All Ph.D. students must complete SPH-X 590 and SPH-Q 501, or their equivalents, as prerequisites to the major work.
- SPH-Q 501 or its equivalent will not count on the course prescription toward the required total of 90 credits.
- Center for English Language Training must certify attainment of English competency (International students only).

Academic Standing

- All graduate students are expected to maintain an overall grade point average of at least 3.0.
- Courses with grades below C will be calculated into the GPA, but will not count toward degree requirements for doctoral degrees.

Residency

- Two consecutive semesters of full-time work in residence on the Bloomington campus are required.

Note: These are minimum School of Public Health-Bloomington requirements. Additional requirements may be assigned by the individual departments or by a student’s advisory committee.