Epidemiology and Translational Science

The Epidemiology and Translational Science PhD program is a three to five year course of study for individuals wishing to pursue independent research careers. Applicants are expected to have completed training at the master’s level in epidemiology, public health, or related quantitative research fields prior to entering the program. Students are trained in the most advanced methods for studying disease etiology and prevention; for evaluating diagnostic tests and treatment efficacy in clinical settings; and for implementing evidence-based approaches in clinical practice and population health.

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCSF is the largest of its kind in the ten-campus UC system in terms of full-time primary faculty and number of affiliated faculty. Epidemiology serves as a key discipline—an epicenter—in team science and in problem-based learning, bridging basic and population sciences. It serves translational science with a critical perspective on population health and provides instruction on research methods that move basic scientific discoveries to practical clinical applications.

faculty
The program has over 60 primary faculty members in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and 84 affiliated faculty from other UCSF departments as well as from other institutions and organizations throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and the around the country. Affiliated faculty are associated with departments including general and internal medicine, cardiovascular medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, obstetrics and gynecology, neurology, nursing, clinical pharmacy, biopharmaceutical sciences, radiology, and dentistry.

sub-disciplines
epidemiologic research methods
 genetic and clinical epidemiology
 social epidemiology and health disparities
 epidemiology of chronic diseases, including cancer, cardiovascular, musculoskeletal, and Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders
 infectious disease and global health

career outcomes
The PhD program in Epidemiology and Translational Science, founded in 2010, has 4 to 5 incoming students each year. Our alumni have continued careers in academic research at top tier research institutions, taken positions with the CDC, or pursued health research in the private sector.

The Epidemiology and Translational Science Program is based at UCSF's Mission Bay
The doctoral program is housed in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (DEB) and is a joint effort with the University’s Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI). Visit the program website [1] for more information.

The Epidemiology and Translational Science program is offered by the UCSF Graduate Division administered by the UCSF School of Medicine delivered by faculty members in the UCSF School of Medicine

(photograph: student Ekland Abdiwahab with Professor Irene Yen)