

Graduate Group in Epidemiology PhD Grad Map

The following are suggestions based on previous student experiences. Please note that not all of these are required. Timing of these events will vary based on individual student needs.

	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four +
Achieve Your Academic Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete required coursework (EPI 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208. Note that PHR 266 may be taken in place of EPI 208). See link for more information: https://gge.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/gge-curriculum Meet with faculty to find an advisor. Actively search for a mentor with a project and funding in your area of interest. Aim to find someone by the end of the year. See link for list of GGE faculty: https://gge.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/faculty-and-staff Around the start of spring quarter, evaluate when you want to take the written exam. All coursework except for EPI 208 must be complete before the Prequalifying Written Examination (see first bullet above for classes offered). The written exam is offered once a year. Students usually take it in September right before their second year. A comprehensive study guide will be sent out once a meeting is set up to discuss the written exam (usually in May). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take EPI 208 during Fall Quarter Research units can be taken if needed in order to meet minimum unit requirements. See Student Affairs Officer (Tami Ali) to obtain CRN. If you do not have a research topic yet, begin to outline your research project. Set up regular meetings with your major professor to discuss progress and set deadlines. Set up a meeting with your academic advisor to discuss the Oral Qualifying Exam (QE) and provide input on your desired committee. (Note that your Oral QE committee is different than your dissertation committee.) Start thinking about your dissertation committee. Your faculty advisor can help with this. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue your research and start your data collection and writing. Continue checking in with your major professor to set deadlines. Complete the 299 Research Agreement form with your advisor so that both of you stay accountable. Ask for feedback with your writing. Remember that turnaround time may be long! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan your Exit Seminar / Defense Present your research to GGE students as practice. Review graduation requirements. Try to complete one chapter and have it published by the end of your fourth year.

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Maximize Research Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend conferences. Check with your major professor to ask which conferences to attend. Some general annual conferences: Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER), American College of Epidemiology (ACE), American Public Health Association (APHA). Apply for funding. Apply to the annual call for travel awards Apply for the GGE Fellowship Explore the possibility of writing a grant with your major professor to secure funding (if needed). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present your work at conferences. Ask your major professor which conferences to submit your research to. Apply to the annual call for travel awards Apply for the GGE Fellowship Consider participating in Grad Slam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present your work at conferences. Ask your major professor which conferences to submit your research to. Apply to the annual call for travel awards Apply for the GGE Fellowship Consider participating in Grad Slam. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to attend conferences and connect with possible employers. Apply to the annual call for travel awards Apply for the GGE Fellowship

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Build Skills and Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve yourself in committees and resources (doesn't have to be related to your research) **list some?? Find and apply for TA or GSR (Applications for GGE are put out in April/May). Attend TA workshops. People typically TA for Epidemiology and SPH departments. Other possibilities: EVE, GDB, HDE, Animal Science, Biostatistics graduate group Remember to reach out and utilize your peer mentor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider running for EGGS Board. Find and apply for TA or GSR (Applications for GGE are put out in April/May). Attend TA workshops. People typically TA for Epidemiology and SPH departments. Other possibilities: EVE, GDB, Animal Science, Biostatistics graduate group Remember to reach out and utilize your peer mentor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attending writing workshops and groups to keep yourself accountable. Find and apply for TA or GSR (Applications for GGE are put out in April/May). Attend TA workshops. People typically TA for Epidemiology and SPH departments. Other possibilities: EVE, GDB, Animal Science, Biostatistics graduate group Remember to reach out and utilize your peer mentor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attending writing workshops and groups to keep yourself accountable. Find and apply for TA or GSR (Applications for GGE are put out in April/May). Attend TA workshops. People typically TA for Epidemiology and SPH departments. Other possibilities: EVE, GDB, Animal Science, Biostatistics graduate group Remember to reach out and utilize your peer mentor.

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Engage with Your Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend seminars (GGE mandatory seminar, SVM list-serv, Public Health list-serv, Tami's emails). Remember to attend seminars not only in epidemiology but also in your areas of interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue attending seminars (GGE mandatory seminar, SVM list-serv, Public Health list-serv, Tami's emails). Remember to attend seminars not only in epidemiology but also in your areas of interest Mentor incoming students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue attending seminars (GGE mandatory seminar, SVM list-serv, Public Health list-serv, Tami's emails). Remember to attend seminars not only in epidemiology but also in your areas of interest Mentor incoming students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue attending seminars (GGE mandatory seminar, SVM list-serv, Public Health list-serv, Tami's emails). Remember to attend seminars not only in epidemiology but also in your areas of interest Mentor incoming students

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Launch Your Career	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend Public Health Advising [link] Build your CV and remember to update it periodically. Attend CV workshops hosted by GradPathways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start building your teaching portfolio, including student evaluations for classes where you were a TA. Look at the GGE alumni excel sheet for previous students' places of employment after graduation to give yourself an idea of possible career opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider participating in the FUTURE program Consider participating in the Professors for the Future program Explore a career in academia. Your major professor can help you with this. Consider a postdoc or faculty position.. Look at industry opportunities and start building your industry resume. Explore opportunities at the California Department of Public Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask to stay on epi list-serv when you graduate if still looking for employment Explore a career in academia. Your major professor can help you with this. Consider a postdoc or faculty position. Look at industry opportunities and start building your industry resume. Update your program with job changes (to update the alumni list)

Helpful links:

- **Previous GGE students** and their dissertation topics: <https://gge.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/students/alumni>
- **GradPathways** has resources for writing, teaching, mentoring, career planning, and many other opportunities: <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/professional-development/gradpathways>
- **Center for Educational Effectiveness** has resources for teaching/TAing: <https://cee.ucdavis.edu/>
- **Travel Awards:** <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/current-students/financial-support/internal-fellowships/travel-awards>