

# Public Health (PH)

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## **PH-400. Introduction To Public Health. 3 Hours.**

This course will provide an introduction to public health. Students will critically examine the history of public and community health, the biopsychosocial determinants of health, the basic structures and operations of public health and health care delivery systems, and approaches to impacting public health through transdisciplinary policies, programs, and interventions. The information in this course will focus particularly on marginalized communities with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections of race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location.

**Requirement:** Accepted to the MPH program or Program coordinator approval.

## **PH-405. Social And Behavioral Health Theory. 3 Hours.**

This course will cover theories of social and behavioral health and their application to the assessment, implementation, and evaluation of public health initiatives. In this course students will learn how to implement health behavior interventions that use intrapersonal, interpersonal, and ecological/community theories and models to create positive health behavior changes within individuals, communities, and societies. The assessment, implementation, and evaluation of health behavior interventions will focus particularly on marginalized communities with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location.

**Requirement:** Accepted to the MPH program or Program coordinator approval.

## **PH-410. Epidemiology. 3 Hours.**

This course provides a general introduction to the study of the occurrence, distribution, and determinants of health and diseases, injuries, disability, and mortality in populations. Using transdisciplinary approaches, it examines marginalized communities with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections of race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. Students are introduced to measures, study designs, theoretical approaches, and advocacy strategies to reduce health disparities within groups. Students are also introduced to key ethical issues pertaining to these study designs and theoretical approaches, and their relationship to prevention and treatment paradigms and public policy.

**Requirement:** Accepted to the MPH program or Program coordinator approval.

## **PH-415. Biostatistics. 3 Hours.**

This course provides an introduction to statistical methods with a focus on public health. Topics include collection, summarization, and analysis of data and the interpretation of and inferences from results. It will include analyses of data that demonstrate how bias affects marginalized communities, with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. Students will study current research articles to develop their ability to distinguish bias in data collection, data analysis, and resulting government policy. The course includes a project focusing on health disparities.

**Requirement:** Accepted to the MPH program or Program coordinator approval.

## **PH-420. Environmental Health. 3 Hours.**

This course addresses topics in Environmental Health as they relate to public health. Students develop the knowledge to discuss topics such as air quality; water quality; food safety; risk assessment; indoor health; vector and pest management; and the management of chemical, biological, and physical environmental agents. The context will focus on marginalized communities with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. This will be accomplished through case analyses and with the goal to advocate for equity and justice in legislation and policy.

**Requirement:** Accepted to the MPH program or Program coordinator approval.

## **PH-425. Global Health. 3 Hours.**

This course uses a multidisciplinary approach to discuss the major underlying determinants of poor health. Students will be introduced to the evolution of modern approaches, the setting of global health priorities, the functions and roles of global health systems, and an overview of current global health practices. Students will explore the factors shaping the global distribution of disease and their connection with issues of social, economic, and political development. Students will also consider the impacts of globalization, climate change, and other environmental factors on health risks and availability of health resources.

## **PH-430. Health Communications & Social Marketing. 3 Hours.**

This course is a critical review of the role of health communications and social marketing in public health. Students will be exposed to principles of and develop skills in conducting a needs assessment; identifying communication goals, objectives, and strategies; designing and testing messages and materials; and developing an implementation and evaluation plan. Central to the design and development process is sensitivity to audience literacy and marginalized communities, with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. Evidence-based approaches are employed.

**Requirement:** MPH majors only

**Prerequisite:** PH-400 with a minimum grade of C and PH-405 with a minimum grade of C and PH-410 with a minimum grade of C and PH-415 with a minimum grade of C and PH-420 with a minimum grade of C.

**PH-440. Health Disparities & Health Advocacy. 3 Hours.**

This course provides students with theoretical applications to conduct research and identify interventions to reduce health disparities. Content focuses on how health disparities are defined, their prevalence, why and among whom they exist, issues and methods of measurement, and approaches to addressing them. Disparities in health and health care will be a central focus, with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections marginalized communities experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. An inquiry-based learning project and conference proposal will integrate lectures, in-class activities, guest speakers, and readings.

**Prerequisite:** PH-400 with a minimum grade of C.

**PH-450. Health Care Program And Services Administration. 3 Hours.**

This course is designed to develop skills in healthcare program and services administration, including organizational structures, management styles and challenges in public health and healthcare organizations. Students will practice how to successfully manage change, appropriately solve problems, and make ethical decisions with consideration for social determinants of health. Examples will focus on marginalized communities with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. Achieving quality outcomes through planning, organizing, administering, managing, and evaluating public health policy is integral to this course.

**Requirement:** MPH majors only

**Prerequisite:** PH-400 with a minimum grade of C and PH-405 with a minimum grade of C and PH-410 with a minimum grade of C and PH-415 with a minimum grade of C and PH-420 with a minimum grade of C.

**PH-460. Design And Development Of Public Health Programs. 3 Hours.**

This course develops public health program planning, management, and evaluation skills. Planning activities include conducting a needs assessment, setting goals and objectives, selecting intervention strategies, and building an implementation timeline. Management activities include preparing a budget and developing a marketing plan. Evaluation activities include establishing program performance standards and developing an evaluation plan. Emphasis will be placed on evidence-based approaches to reduce health disparities among marginalized communities with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location.

**Requirement:** MPH majors only

**Prerequisite:** PH-400 with a minimum grade of C and PH-405 with a minimum grade of C and PH-410 with a minimum grade of C and PH-415 with a minimum grade of C and PH-420 with a minimum grade of C.

**PH-470. Research Methods In Public Health. 3 Hours.**

This course will cover all aspects of conducting qualitative and quantitative research in the social sciences. Students will learn how to collect and interpret data in an ethical and diversity-sensitive manner. The assessment, implementation, and evaluation of research-related processes and outcomes will include discussion of the general public as well as marginalized communities with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. Students will learn about the proper reporting of data, the accurate interpretation of findings, and the use of ethical inferential procedures.

**Prerequisite:** PH-440 with a minimum grade of C and PH-450 with a minimum grade of C and PH-460 with a minimum grade of C.

**Corequisite:** PH-480.

**PH-480. Internship I. 3 Hours.**

This course is the first part of a two-semester, mentored, learning experience serving as a bridge between public health training and practice. During the internship, students complete a project related to one or more core areas of public health, focusing on marginalized communities and with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. During Internship I, students focus on developing professional skills, work with their faculty supervisor to secure an internship site, and begin the first 50 hours of the 200-hour internship.

**Requirement:** MPH majors only

**Prerequisite:** PH-440 with a minimum grade of C and PH-450 with a minimum grade of C and PH-460 with a minimum grade of C.

**PH-485. Internship II. 3 Hours.**

This course is the second part of a two-semester, mentored learning experience serving as a bridge between public health training and practice. During the internship, students complete a project related to one or more core areas of public health, focusing on marginalized communities and with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. During Internship II, students complete the remaining 150 hours of their internship. Debriefing meetings, a self-evaluation of professional ethics, and a final summary require synthesis and critically analysis.

**Requirement:** MPH majors only.

**PH-490. Capstone. 3 Hours.**

This course is an individualized, mentored learning experience that builds upon the MPH coursework and the internship. It is also an opportunity to work on a public health research project of personal interest with the support of a capstone advisor. Guided by public health theory and principles, students will identify solutions to, or resolve a public health problem for a defined population or community with specific and ongoing attention to the intersections they experience including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, sexuality, socio-economic position, gender, age, trauma, ability and location. The capstone research project requires both written and oral components.

**Requirement:** MPH majors only

**Corequisite:** PH-485.

**PH-498. Public Health Independent Research Project. 3 Hours.**

This course is for students majoring in public health who choose to fulfill graduation requirements via an approved Independent Study. Directed research, analysis, and presentation of a research paper on an important topic in public health are the focus of the course.