

# MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)

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## **MPH 101 | THE SCIENCE OF PROTECTING THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Undergraduate)**

This course examines the philosophy and process of conducting health research for the purposes of protecting the health of the public. Public health research is responsible for many of the laws, policies, and best practices that guide how we prevent disease. Public health research moves beyond conjecture and opinion to provide sound evidence about the risks of ill health and disease. The course employs a series of case studies to evaluate evidence, make sense of correlations, and understand the risks of disease.

## **MPH 395 | SPECIAL TOPICS IN PUBLIC HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Undergraduate)**

This course provides an in-depth examination of various public health issues and can be taken multiple times for each topic offered.

## **MPH 501 | INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course introduces students to the basic tenets of public health, its focus on the prevention of disease and illness, and the promotion of the health and well-being of all people. The course provides a brief history of public health, an introduction to the five core disciplines of public health (epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, social and behavioral health, and health policy and management), and an overview of the field's core functions such as assessment, policy development, and assurance.

## **MPH 502 | INTRODUCTION TO EPIDEMIOLOGY | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course will focus on the theories and methods used in the field of epidemiology to study the occurrence, distribution and determinants of infectious and non-infectious diseases, other forms of illness (particularly those impacted by social and environmental forces), and injury in human populations. The focus will be on determining the impact, magnitude, and patterns of disease/illness/injury frequency so that causal agents can be identified and effective prevention, treatment and control measures can be designed and implemented. The course will explore variations of disease/illness/injury in relation to such factors as age, sex, race/ethnicity, occupational and social characteristics, place of residence, social inequality, susceptibility, exposure to specific agents, and other pertinent characteristics. Also of concern will be the temporal distribution of disease, examination of trends, cyclical patterns, and intervals between exposure to causative factors and onset of disease.

## **MPH 503 | INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course provides an introduction of key aspects of environmental health. Students will understand the reciprocal nature of our interactions with the environment: how the environment affects human health and well-being and how we impact the health of the environment. An emphasis in this course is on understanding environmental media and contaminant exposure routes and pathways; the impacts of contaminated sites on health; environmental health education, and community engagement; basics of environmental regulation; types of contaminated sites; and how environmental factors and contaminants can be involved in the transmission of disease and in adverse health outcomes.

## **MPH 511 | HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR THEORY | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course will examine various theories and models that have been developed to identify the range of psychosocial factors that impact participation in both health-threatening and health-enhancing behaviors, and provide guidance for the modification of such behaviors. The theories and models will be explored from multidisciplinary perspectives and will be applied to an array of health issues. Practical applications of these theories to the development and implementations of theory-based public health interventions that can be applied with multiple populations (e.g., women, adolescents, elderly, people of color) within multiple settings (e.g., communities, schools, health care settings) at various levels of change (e.g., individual, community, social, policy) will also be explored. Cross-listed with PSY 511.

**MPH 501 is a prerequisite for this course.**

## **MPH 512 | RESEARCH METHODS | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course will provide a critical examination of the relative strengths and limitations of various research designs, data collection methods, and types of existing data. Students will develop an understanding of (a) the relative contributions of a mixed-methods approach to public health research, (b) basic issues related to the measurement of public health concepts, and (c) the relative strengths and limitations of various analytic approaches to studying public health problems. Students will familiarize themselves with peer-reviewed journals, how to search for material on specific topics, how to develop a critical reader's eye, and how to summarize and draw evidence-based conclusions from multiple studies.

## **MPH 513 | PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course considers the conceptual and theoretical foundation underlying managerial decision-making. The course introduces students to such basic managerial tools as basic accounting, cost-benefit analysis, budgeting, and marketing. Principles of strategic planning and forecasting are examined. The course goes on to examine the legal framework that governs public health practice, organizations, human resources, research activities, and community as well as individual patient intervention efforts.

## **MPH 515 | PUBLIC HEALTH ETHICS AND POLICY | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course is designed to analyze the ethical basis in which public health practice is grounded. It reviews concepts and ideas developed by a number of disciplines including philosophy, law, political science, and economics.

## **MPH 522 | PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND GRANT WRITING | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course is designed to provide students with the background and skills to develop and evaluate community public health programs in a variety of settings. Students will work individually and as members of teams to design measurable goals, objectives, action plans, timelines, and evaluation indicators of community-based public health programs. Application of methods to logic modeling, proposal writing, budget planning, project management, and data management will be examined throughout the course.

**MPH 525 | PROGRAM EVALUATION | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course will provide students with a comprehensive theoretical, methodological and ethical foundation for conducting public health program evaluation. Students will experience the practice aspects of evaluation including communicating and negotiating with stakeholders, conducting an evaluability assessment, developing logic models and evaluation questions, identifying appropriate data collection methods, gathering reliable and valid evaluation data that are appropriate to the selected design and analysis methods, analyzing data, reporting evaluation results, and ensuring evaluation use. The instructor will facilitate a learning and skill-building environment, drawing on personal experiences and the expertise of others in the field.

**MPH 530 | SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course examines conceptual approaches and empirical findings related to the social and structural determinants of health. Students are introduced to the history and development of social epidemiology as a field of study, with emphasis on the tension between problem-focused and solution-focused research. Topics include the health effects of income inequality, racism/discrimination, and neighborhood effects, including social capital.

**MPH 531 | DATA ANALYSIS | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course explores how statistical methods are used in the contemporary literature, focusing for the most part on social epidemiology. The course builds from an understanding of univariate and bivariate statistics and examines a range of multivariate strategies: ordinary least squares (OLS) regression, logistic, ordinal, and multinomial models, and hierarchical (multilevel) regression. The course revolves around a close reading of the research literature and hands-on application of statistical analysis; as such, the emphasis is on critically evaluating published work and setting up/interpreting analyses.

**MPH 541 and MPH 502 (or instructor consent) are prerequisites for this class.**

**MPH 532 | DATA ANALYSIS II | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course focuses primarily on regression models, with an emphasis on understanding the effects of compositional and contextual variables. Students develop statistical analysis to test theories and aid in the development of interventions to improve community health and reduce health inequities.

**MPH 531 is a prerequisite for this course.**

**MPH 535 | PROGRAM DESIGN AND EVALUATION | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course will provide a theoretical, conceptual, methodological, and ethical foundation for designing health-based programs and evaluating these programs using qualitative methods. The course will be practically-focused, and you will learn to carry out a qualitative evaluation of a health program in small steps, including: selecting a qualitative approach, developing instruments, sampling, collecting and managing qualitative data, developing codebooks and establishing inter-observer reliability, ensuring credibility and trustworthiness of data, using qualitative software, and reporting findings.

**MPH 541 | BIostatISTICS | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course emphasizes the application of statistical methods to problems of human health and disease. It covers parametric and nonparametric statistical inferential methods for univariate and bivariate situations using SPSS. Specific topics include but are not limited to the following: Interpretation of graphic and descriptive statistics for both quantitative and categorical data, confidence interval estimation and hypothesis testing methods, linear and multiple regression logistic regression, analysis of categorical data and ANOVA. Course emphasizes the statistical interpretation of the literature and analytic projects based on large data sets from published studies, the internet, or the student's workplace.

**MPH 551 | GLOBAL HEALTH INEQUITIES | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course examines theories and data surrounding global health. Topics include epidemiologic transition, the burden of chronic non-communicable diseases in the global south, neglected tropical diseases, and access to medicines. Sociological and anthropological perspectives are explored to understand the structural causes of health inequalities around the world.

**MPH 552 | MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course will utilize a life course perspective to examine contemporary health issues affecting women and children. Students will examine health disparities and social determinants of health, and engage in discourse on a variety of health topics from a social justice framework. Course exercises and assignments will focus on building skills in community assessment, program planning, evaluation, advocacy and policy development, as they apply to maternal and child health.

**MPH 553 | PUBLIC HEALTH AND FORCED MIGRATION | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course is an overview of key public health issues for populations undergoing forced migration. The course emphasizes the contextual factors relevant to the physical and psychosocial challenges faced by displaced populations. Using a community public health approach the course will address: the challenges of health promotion, health care access and delivery; the everyday contexts that affect health; strategies for conducting public health research; and interventions for addressing health outcomes.

**MPH 554 | GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE | 4 quarter hours  
(Graduate)**

This course introduces students to the concepts, principles, tools, and frameworks fundamental to further study in the field of global public health. The course is global in scope but emphasis will be on low and middle income countries. It explores health systems issues and their impact on the health of populations. It outlines theories and models used in interventions to change health behavior and provides an overview of key actors and organizations working to advance health around the globe.

**MPH 555 | EPIDEMIOLOGY IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course will focus on the theories and methods used in the field of epidemiology to study the occurrence, distribution and determinants of infectious and non-infectious diseases, other forms of illness (particularly those impacted by social and environmental forces), and injury in human populations. The class examine epidemiology in various global contexts. The focus will be on 95 determining the impact, magnitude, and patterns of disease/illness/injury frequency so that causal agents can be identified and effective prevention, treatment and control measures can be designed and implemented. The course will explore variations of disease/illness/injury in relation to such factors as age, sex, race/ethnicity, occupational and social characteristics, place of residence, social inequality, susceptibility, exposure to specific agents, and other pertinent 100 characteristics. Also of concern will be the temporal distribution of disease, examination of trends, cyclical patterns, and intervals between exposure to causative factors and onset of disease.

**MPH 556 | WOMEN'S HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

An examination of women's health throughout the life cycle, with special emphasis placed on women's structural and societal roles within systems of health and in communities at large, which emphasizes on-going and emerging issues in women's health, such as sexual and reproductive health, contraception, gender-based violence, and chronic diseases, in order to address health disparities and redress health inequalities.

**MPH 557 | ENVIRONMENTAL EPIDEMIOLOGY | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Environmental epidemiology is the science of identifying the role the environment has on the distribution of chronic and infectious disease. In this course, students will learn the practical techniques to identify health disparities and the associated environmental factors including the physical, chemical, biological, and socio-cultural determinants of health. Specific topics will include risk assessment, exposure estimation, and epidemiological study design demonstrated through case study analysis, critical review of the literature, data collection, and interpretation.

**MPH 558 | QUALITATIVE METHODS IN PUBLIC HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course introduces students to the theory and application of qualitative inquiry. The course covers a variety of qualitative approaches including depth interviewing, focus groups, and photovoice. It also guides students through the process of designing a qualitative study, including: developing data collection instruments, managing data collection, analyzing qualitative data, and disseminating findings.

**MPH 559 | VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course explores violence from a public health perspective. It will examine various forms of violence, including: Interpersonal violence (e.g., community, family/partner violence), self-inflicted violence (e.g., suicide and self-harm) and collective violence (e.g., social violence and structural violence). It will also examine theories to explain violence and public health policies, programs, and community-based practices to address and prevent violence.

**MPH 595 | SPECIAL TOPICS IN PUBLIC HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Special courses will be offered as students and faculty affiliated with the MPH program identify selected topics of common interest.

**MPH 599 | INDEPENDENT STUDY IN PUBLIC HEALTH | 1-4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This course can be taken in consultation with a supervising faculty member.

**MPH 600A | PREPARATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE A | 0 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This year-long course includes a series of skills-based workshops designed to introduce students to the specialized skills and competencies needed in the public health workplace. These workshops are designed to complement the core MPH curriculum and are selected based on regular feedback from faculty, public health practitioners, and students.

**MPH 600B | PREPARATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE B | 0 quarter hours (Graduate)**

This year-long course includes a series of skills-based workshops designed to introduce students to the specialized skills and competencies needed in the public health workplace. These workshops are designed to complement the core MPH curriculum and are selected based on regular feedback from faculty, public health practitioners, and students.

**MPH 600C | PREPARATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE C | 1 quarter hour (Graduate)**

This year-long course includes a series of skills-based workshops designed to introduce students to the specialized skills and competencies needed in the public health workplace. These workshops are designed to complement the core MPH curriculum and are selected based on regular feedback from faculty, public health practitioners, and students.

**MPH 602 | CAPSTONE SEMINAR IN COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTICE I | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Students will develop their capstone thesis as a culminating experience in the MPH program. The capstone is a high-quality written product that demonstrates synthesis of foundational and concentration competencies. The capstone topic will examine a public health issue and explore this in a community setting with the goal of generating actionable recommendations. The topic should align with a student's educational and professional interest. The capstone will be assessed by faculty reviewers to ensure that it meets appropriate competencies. In Capstone Seminar I, students will complete a literature review on a chosen health issue and conduct an assessment of that issue in a priority community, using publicly available data.

**MPH 603 | CAPSTONE SEMINAR IN COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTICE II | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Students will develop their capstone thesis as a culminating experience in the MPH program. The capstone is a high-quality written product that demonstrates synthesis of foundational and concentration competencies. The capstone topic will examine a public health issue and explore this in a community setting with the goal of generating actionable recommendations. The topic should align with a student's educational and professional interest. The capstone will be assessed by faculty reviewers to ensure that it meets appropriate competencies. In Capstone Seminar 2, students will conduct an analysis of three policies pertaining to their health topic, and advocate for a chosen policy in a brief format. They will also share findings of their capstone thesis in a formal presentation.

**MPH 602 is a prerequisite for this course.**

**MPH 604 | PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

In this course, students address professional issues and competencies in the field of public health, with a focus on community health practice. Students are expected to integrate knowledge and skills obtained throughout their MPH training, capstone, and practicum portfolio, and synthesize the meaning of this within a broader public health context. At the end of the quarter, students will deliver a structured poster presentation at the MPH Program forum.

**MPH 602 and MPH 603 are prerequisites for this class.**

**MPH 605 | CAPSTONE SEMINAR IN SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY I | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Students will develop their capstone thesis as a culminating experience in the MPH program. The capstone is a high-quality written product that demonstrates synthesis of foundational and concentration competencies. The capstone topic will examine a public health issue through the analysis of a public health dataset with the goal of informing population-based health initiatives. The topic should align with a student's educational and professional interest. The capstone will be assessed by faculty reviewers to ensure that it meets appropriate competencies. In Capstone Seminar I, students will prepare a background and significance section and develop a methods section for their capstone.

**MPH 600 is a prerequisite for this course.**

**MPH 606 | CAPSTONE SEMINAR IN SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY II | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Students will develop their capstone thesis as a culminating experience in the MPH program. The capstone is a high-quality written product that demonstrates synthesis of foundational and concentration competencies. The capstone topic will examine a public health issue through the analysis of a public health dataset with the goal of informing population-based health initiatives. The topic should align with a student's educational and professional interest. The capstone will be assessed by faculty reviewers to ensure that it meets appropriate competencies. In Capstone Seminar II, students will analyze data, contextualize their findings in the peer-reviewed literature, and prepare a final presentation of their capstone project.

**MPH 605 is a prerequisite for this course.**

**MPH 607 | PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN SOCIAL EPIDEMIOLOGY | 4 quarter hours (Graduate)**

In this course, students address professional issues and competencies in the field of public health, with a focus on social epidemiology. Students are expected to integrate knowledge and skills obtained throughout their MPH training, capstone, and practicum portfolio, and synthesize the meaning of this within a broader public health context. At the end of the quarter, students will deliver a structured poster presentation at the MPH Program forum.

**MPH 606 is a prerequisite for this course.**

**MPH 698 | CAPSTONE THESIS COMPLETION | 0 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Students may register for this class if they are engaged in work on their capstone thesis. Registration requires certification by the chair that the student is engaged in writing. The course does not apply to completion of an IN in a class. This is a zero-credit course.

**MPH 699 | PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICUM | 1 quarter hour (Graduate)**

Students placed in practicum are required to enroll in MPH 699, Pass/Fail course. MPH 699 is a year-long course with no in-person class time. However, the course D2L site serves as the centralized location for practicum paperwork, portfolio submissions, hour counts, and the coordination of practicum-related administrative matters. Students are required to successfully complete MPH 699 to be eligible for degree conferral.

**MPH 600 is a prerequisite for this course.**

**MPH 699A | PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICUM A | 0 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Students placed in practicum are required to enroll in MPH 699. MPH 699 is a year-long course and only meets a few times a year, as needed.

The course D2L site serves as the centralized location for practicum paperwork, portfolio submissions, hour counts, and the coordination of practicum-related administrative matters. Students must successfully complete MPH 699 to be eligible for degree conferral.

**MPH 699B | PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICUM B | 0 quarter hours (Graduate)**

Students placed in practicum are required to enroll in MPH 699. MPH 699 is a year-long course and only meets a few times a year, as needed.

The course D2L site serves as the centralized location for practicum paperwork, portfolio submissions, hour counts, and the coordination of practicum-related administrative matters. Students must successfully complete MPH 699 to be eligible for degree conferral.

**MPH 699C | PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICUM C | 1 quarter hour (Graduate)**

Students placed in practicum are required to enroll in MPH 699. MPH 699 is a year-long course and only meets a few times a year, as needed.

The course D2L site serves as the centralized location for practicum paperwork, portfolio submissions, hour counts, and the coordination of practicum-related administrative matters. Students must successfully complete MPH 699 to be eligible for degree conferral.