

**University of South Florida, College of Public Health  
Department of Community and Family Health**

**Doctor of Public Health in Community and Family Health**

A **Doctor of Public Health** graduate with a concentration in Community and Family Health will be able to:

College-wide DrPH Competencies	Community & Family Health DrPH Competencies
1. Critically evaluate and use scientific theories and frameworks relevant to public health practice	1. Defend the importance of theoretical frameworks in planning, implementation, and evaluation of community and family health interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Distinguish among major and emerging intrapersonal, interpersonal, organizational, and community level theories used in community and family health</li> <li>b. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Apply appropriate theoretical frameworks to public health assessments, interventions, evaluations and policy</li> </ul>
2. Critically analyze substantive public health problems using evaluation, applied research and statistical methods	2. Describe strengths and weaknesses of research designs and methods in population health 3. Differentiate among analytical techniques to determine the most appropriate for specific research and policy questions, then identify and apply those techniques as needed. 4. Interpret research findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Derive pertinent implications from research findings. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Indicate and address study limitations</li> <li>b. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Indicate directions for future policy and research</li> </ul>
3. Collect, synthesize and apply knowledge from a broad range of public health disciplines	5. Describe significant public health achievements, changing paradigms, and continuing challenges 6. Analyze research traditions in community and family health from the standpoint of practice and the philosophy of science
4. Design, implement and evaluate innovative strategies and interventions to solve public health problems	7. Formulate research questions and testable hypotheses that will impact community and family health 8. Describe techniques and methods for community-based participatory research 9. Assess appropriateness of existing data sets to answer research questions

<p>5. Demonstrate leadership by mobilizing, coordinating and directing collaborative actions targeting a public health problem</p>	<p>10. Advocate for public health issues in community and family health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Advocate for evidence-based practices</li> <li>b. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Describe criteria for evidenced-based practices</li> <li>c. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Identify need for changes to existing policy or practice</li> </ul> <p>11. Translate research into practice and policy implications</p> <p>12. Describe techniques and methods for including community members in planning, implementing, and evaluating public health programs</p> <p>13. Disseminate knowledge across targeted audiences in practice, policy, and community settings</p> <p>14. Apply ethical standards of public health in the conduct and dissemination of research and policy</p>
<p>6. Demonstrate effective written and oral skills in communicating accurate statistical, programmatic, and scientific information in both professional and lay settings</p>	<p>15. Align presentation and teaching methods to learner needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Sub-competency:</u> Demonstrate skills that facilitate learning in both formal and informal settings</li> </ul>

Association between courses and the competencies for  
DrPH in Community and Family Health

Courses	Competencies (see page 1-2 for specific competencies)														
Pre-requisite courses that provide foundation for meeting competencies	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
PHC 6410 Social and Behavioral Sciences Applied to Health or equivalent	x				x	x									
PHC 6000 Epidemiology or equivalent		x			x										
PHC 6050 Biostatistics 1 or equivalent		x	x	x											
PHC 6357 Environmental and Occupational Health or equivalent					x										
PHC 6102 Principles of Health Policy and Management or equivalent					x						x				
Required Courses	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>Applied Research Courses (15 credits)</b>															
PHC 6501 Biostatistics II			x												
Evaluation course		x	x	x		x	x		x						
Quantitative Research Methods		x	x	x			x		x						
Qualitative Research Methods		x	x					x							
PHC 6010 Epidemiology Methods I		x					x		x						
<b>Policy, Leadership and Management (12 credits)</b>															
PHC 7152 Policy and Practice in Community and Family Health				x						x	x		x	x	x
Planning course*	x									x		x			x
Management/Leadership course*										x			x	x	
<b>7000 Level (12 credits)</b>															
PHC 7931 Advanced Doctoral Seminar					x	x				x					
PHC 7936 Seminar in Health Care Outcomes		x	x												
PHC 7937 Advanced Seminar in Grant Writing	x	x	x				x								
PHC 7934 Writing for Scholarly Publication in Health Sciences				x							x		x		x
PHC 7935 Community Based Health Promotion	x				x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	

## Course of Study

- A. **Prerequisites:** Applicants must have an MPH, MHA or equivalent degree from an accredited university, and a minimum of two years work experience in public health, a closely related field or as a health professional.
- B. **Required Coursework:**

### DrPH Curriculum

#### **Public Health Core (15 credit hours) if not already earned in a previously granted masters degree**

PHC 6000 Epidemiology  
PHC 6050 Biostatistics I  
PHC 6102 Principles of Health Policy and Management  
PHC 6357 Environmental and Occupational Health  
PHC 6410 Social and Behavioral Sciences Applied to Health

#### **7000 Level (12 credit hours)**

PHC 7931 Advanced Doctoral Seminar  
PHC 7936 Seminar in Health Care Outcomes  
PHC 7937 Advanced Seminar in Grant Writing  
PHC 7152 Policy and Practice in Community and Family Health  
PHC 7934 Writing for Scholarly Publication in Health Sciences  
PHC 7935 Community Based Health Promotion  
PHC 7935 Special Topics in Public Health  
PHC 7910 Directed Research

#### **Applied Research (15 credit hours)**

PHC 6051 Biostatistics II  
Evaluation course  
Quantitative Research Methods\*  
Qualitative Research Methods\*  
*\*Two mixed methods courses may substitute for the Quantitative and Qualitative research methods courses*  
Choose one:  
PHC 6010 Epidemiology Methods I  
PHC 6011 Epidemiology Methods II  
PHC 7001 Practical Issues in Epidemiology

#### **Policy, Leadership and Management (12 credit hours)**

Policy course\*  
Planning course\*  
Management/Leadership course\*  
Elective  
*\*Each department (or doctoral committee if department guidelines do not exist) should choose the appropriate policy, leadership, and management courses for the student's plan of study*

### Potential Courses

PHC 6104 Management of Public Health Programs  
PHC 6180 Health Services Management  
PHC 6181 Organizational Behavior  
PHC 6146 Health Services Planning and Evaluation  
PHC 6148 Strategic Planning and Health Care Marketing  
PHC 6151 Health Policy and Politics  
PHC 6191 Quantitative Analysis in Health Care Management  
PHC 6760 Health Program Evaluation

**Discipline-Specific (minimum of 18 credit hours)**

Courses should pertain to focal discipline and interest area. Hours can be transferred from Master's degree

**Culminating Requirements (18 credit hours)**

Written qualifying exam

and

Practice-Based Dissertation (requires 9 credit hours of PHC 7908 Specialized Study, which encompasses a field placement, and 9 credit hours of PHC 7980 Dissertation)

**Total Hours = 90**

- C. **Teaching:** All doctoral students will demonstrate or document proficiency in teaching academic courses at the university level or in organizing and delivering professional development (training) courses. The doctoral committee will determine the required teaching/training activities or if previous university teaching or extensive prior training experience is sufficient to exempt the student from further teaching/training requirements.
- D. **Practice:** All DrPH students will engage in a practice-based specialized study for a total of 9 credit hours. This provides an opportunity for in-depth study in a particular area of public health. The practice-based study is designed to focus on developing and demonstrating strategic policy-making skills and advanced leadership skills in the identified public health discipline. It will be jointly planned by the student, faculty advisor and Field Placement Coordinator. A qualified community-based professional preceptor will mentor the student in the practice setting. DrPH students in the Global Health department are required to do their field work outside of the United States.
- E. **Qualifying Exam:** When all required coursework is satisfactorily completed, the student must pass a written comprehensive qualifying examination covering the subject matter in the major and related fields. The department sets the specific criteria. This exam may be supplemented by an oral exam as determined by the department. Results of the written exam will be communicated in writing to the student within 15 working days of the examination. If all or part of the exam is failed, the student has one more opportunity to retake the exam. Each department has specific guidelines for retakes. After successful completion of the qualifying exam and appropriate paperwork is submitted to Graduate School, the student is admitted to candidacy and may register for dissertation hours.
- F. **Dissertation:** All students must follow the University's "Guidelines for Dissertations and Theses."