

*University of South Florida College of Public Health
College Catalog
2005/2006 Academic Year*

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Versions

- **Adobe Acrobat Version:** The current version you are reading is the *Official Catalog* for a specified time period. This catalog is effective from July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006.
- **On-line version:** Available at www.publichealth.usf.edu, the on-line version in HTML format is the most up-to-date version of the University of South Florida College of Public Health Catalog. All approved changes, additions and corrections are incorporated as soon as possible, thus allowing the College to communicate these in a timely manner.

Disclaimer

This catalog includes policies, procedures and program descriptions in effect at the time of publication. The College and the University reserve the right to repeal, change, or modify the policies, procedures and program descriptions at any time.

Diversity

The University of South Florida is committed to the principles of equal education and employment opportunities without regard to race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, Vietnam or disabled veteran status as provided by law and in accordance with the University's respect for personal dignity. These principles are applied in the conduct of University programs and activities and the provision of facilities and services.

Students with Disabilities

Students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services at <http://www.sds.usf.edu/>

Refer to USF Graduate Catalog

The University of South Florida Graduate Catalog is located at <http://catalog.grad.usf.edu/>

Letter from the Dean

What is public health? It is what we do as societies to create opportunities for each of us to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. It is in our individual interest to enjoy the highest possible quality of life; it is in our collective interest to promote the greatest well-being for the good of the broader community. Public health concerns itself with every facet of health, from the molecular to the global, from the physical environment to the realm of social interaction, from the scientific to the political. As such, public health as a profession is like no other.

And it is indeed an exciting time to be a public health professional! In the Fall of 2004, presidential elections took place in the United States, as they do every four years, and in Afghanistan where they have not taken place for 5,000 years. Civil strife continues in the Middle East, in Central Africa and in Eastern Europe weakening infrastructures and distracting leaders from maintaining proven public health interventions. HIV, polio, cholera, yellow fever and other infectious diseases continue to exact a cruel toll on developing nations, while chronic diseases such as heart disease and cancers emerge as a result of increasing Westernization. Closer to home, we face the devastation of hurricanes, a shortage of flu vaccine, and the insidious health threats posed by our increasing obesity. On an ironic note, the war

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against terrorism has resulted in a dramatic expansion of efforts to prepare the public health workforce, as we now, finally, recognize that homeland security and national defense include protecting the public's health.

Here at the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida we enjoy being part of a learning community that actively participates in the progress of public health. As scholars and educators, our faculty and staff are developing, translating and disseminating new knowledge every day. As participatory learners, our students engage in these efforts, while they build the knowledge, skills and competencies that will enable them to lead in improving and promoting the health of populations across the globe. Together with our partners in practice and our colleagues within health sciences, we are eagerly translating our science into real improvements in the public's health.

What is public health? It's *your* health. Come visit with us and learn of the many opportunities we are creating to offer you a fulfilling career as a public health professional. I look forward to welcoming you to our community.

*Donna J. Petersen, MHS, ScD
Dean*

Overview

University of South Florida

Among the 20 largest Universities in the United States, USF was designated as a Research One University in 1998. Founded in 1956, USF has built a solid reputation as a leader in research and learning offering comprehensive student centered programs. USF serves over 41,000 students with over 200 academic programs on campuses in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota and Lakeland. USF library holdings total over 6.2 million, and offer internet access to hundreds of library data bases throughout the world.

Located on 1,700 acres in the metropolitan area of Tampa Bay, USF has formed vital partnerships with business leaders and organizations throughout the region and has contributed to the well-being of its immediate urban neighborhoods through research and service projects. USF brings in more than \$250 million annually in sponsored research, contracts and grants.

The University's economic impact on the Tampa Bay region totals more than \$1 billion. The University's operating budget is over \$1 billion and it employs three of every 100 Tampa Bay residents. More than 85,000 of 190,000 graduates continue to live in the Tampa region.

For more information please go to:

University Overview at <http://www.usf.edu/overview.html>

Quick Facts about USF at <http://www.usf.edu/ata glance.html>

USF Fact Book at <http://isis.fastmail.usf.edu/bpa/factbook/fb2005/>

Health Sciences Center

The College of Public Health is part of the USF Health Sciences Center, which also includes the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, and the School of Physical Therapy, a network of hospitals and community clinics, library, research laboratories and media center. For more information go to www.hsc.usf.edu/abouthsc

College of Public Health

Mission

Our mission is to promote public health through research, education and service.

Vision

- A College that will be the leading authority in public health education, research, policy and practice in Florida.
- A growing national and international reputation that is the product of our collective efforts.
- A scholarly environment that attracts the best people to freely explore their intellectual interests.
- A passion for learning and scholarship in public health to create healthy communities.
- A superior and diverse learning community seeking excellence.
- A supportive culture that fosters personal and professional development.
- An environment that values interdisciplinary collaboration within the College and across the Health Sciences Center, the University and the community.
- A school of first choice for those who want to pursue creative public health solutions.
- Accountable to each other for co-creating the College's destiny.

Goals

Goal 1: Strong Focused Research Programs that Reward and Encourage Scholarship and Creative Activities.

The College of Public Health intends to be a leading authority in public health education, research, policy and practice in Florida, and in national and international arenas. The faculty embraces the responsibility for the generation of new knowledge needed to address the public health issues through focused research programs. The involvement of students at all levels of research and creative activity is deemed essential to the educational process. The organization of large centers within the College is expected to centralize the critical mass of talent necessary to be competitive for large interdisciplinary projects and international activities.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1.1 Provide research leadership.
- 1.2 Increase interdisciplinary research.
- 1.3 Create a clear set of expectations related to research productivity.
- 1.4 Formally recognize research.
- 1.5 Foster collaborative international research.
- 1.6 Provide research opportunities for students.
- 1.7 Increase community-based research.
- 1.8 Expand pre-and post-award infrastructure to assist with grant preparation.

Goal 2: Continual Improvement of Academic Programs and Student Centered Learning.

The College will maintain and create high quality and diverse learning opportunities for students that not only allow for the meeting of public health competencies but also opportunities for experiencing academic citizenship. We will continue to expand our distance learning programs; enhance our website to allow for better communication and involvement of all students; involve students with centers; collaborate with the Health Sciences Center; use various technologies to achieve our educational goals; and refine our assessment of educational outcomes. There will be strong emphasis on recruiting outstanding and diverse students through existing and new degree and certificate programs. Finally, we will continue to

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aggressively pursue funding opportunities for research-oriented students, so they can be successfully recruited and given the opportunity to learn and engage in stimulating, cutting edge scholarly research.

OBJECTIVES:

- 2.1 Assure graduates have the necessary skills and knowledge in public health core and concentration areas.
- 2.2 Recruit a qualified and diverse student body.
- 2.3 Improve teaching skills.
- 2.4 Create opportunities for students to experience academic citizenship.
- 2.5 Expand the use of technology to reach both traditional and non-traditional students.
- 2.6 Expand the role of the College's centers in providing quality educational opportunities.
- 2.7 Improve the skills of the public health workforce.
- 2.8 Develop interdisciplinary learning opportunities, especially community-based efforts.
- 2.9 Increase interest in public health by undergraduate students.
- 2.10 Create a Public Health Practice group to investigate College practice and academic initiatives.

Goal 3: A College Culture that Supports our Mission, Vision, and Values

The advancement of the mission, vision and values occurs in a nurturing environment that can share governance; improve the work environment and recognize achievement; promote collegiality and emphasize the value of a diverse faculty, staff and student body.

OBJECTIVES:

- 3.1 Share governance.
- 3.2 Create an environment where a diverse workforce and student body can thrive.
- 3.3 Recognize achievements of students, faculty and staff.
- 3.4 Promote collegiality as a central value.
- 3.5 Promote community engagement as an integral value.
- 3.6 Give emphasis to a diverse faculty, staff and student body.

GOAL 4: A Strong Sustainable Infrastructure

The challenges of evolving public health practice must be driven by research and programmatic resources well beyond the capability of state support. Acquisition and maintenance of substantive regional, national and international leadership and capacity in public health demand strong, diversified, long-term external funding. This funding should be built through and upon a viable faculty and student friendly infrastructure that nurtures and augments the development, acquisition, management and deployment of external research and programmatic funds.

OBJECTIVES:

- 4.1 Increase charitable gifts.
- 4.2 Increase the number of grants and the amount of funding with special emphasis on full indirect.
- 4.3 Provide accurate, timely financial reports for decision-making.
- 4.4 Assure optimal and equitable use of resources.
- 4.5 Attract and retain a highly qualified and productive faculty.
- 4.6 Seek additional agreements with external agencies to partner in public health initiatives.

Goal 5: Active Service and Meaningful Community Engagement

University scholars work with the community to utilize scientific knowledge and professional experiences to achieve practical benefits that can both serve and engage the global community. We stand committed to ensure that all activities meet the highest ethical standards. In addition, the College's reputation and

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effectiveness in improving public health is dependent on the involvement of its students and staff as partners in service activity efforts.

OBJECTIVES:

- 5.1 Encourage faculty, students and staff to actively engage in service leadership.
- 5.2 Enhance our national image through service to professional societies and associations.
- 5.3 Increase continuing professional education activities to meet public health workforce needs.
- 5.4 Increase student involvement with the community.
- 5.5 Cultivate community access and participation in College activities.
- 5.6 Increase or expand participation with USF sponsored community collaborations.
- 5.7 Increase involvement of College Advisory Committee.
- 5.8 Re-evaluate the role of the Florida Health Information Center.

Values

- 1. Commitment to Public Health - In supporting our fundamental commitment to the principles of public health we value:
 - A. A population, culturally diverse approach to solving public health problems
 - B. The efficacy of prevention and health promotion
 - C. An ecological, systematic approach to public health
 - D. Development and participation in community partnerships
 - E. Service to underserved and vulnerable populations
 - F. The best quality and equity in all public health services
- 2. Discovery - In upholding our commitment to discovery we pledge to:
 - A. Be innovative in addressing public health problems
 - B. Use the highest ethical standards
 - C. Assure our discoveries are appropriately and widely disseminated
 - D. Appreciate the scholarly activities and contributions of others
 - E. Expect excellence
- 3. Collaboration - In participating in collaborative efforts we are:
 - A. Supportive of each other's pursuits and disciplines
 - B. Sincere in our efforts and communication to develop partnerships
 - C. Willing to engage in positive collaborations to promote healthy communities
- 4. Collegiality - In promoting collegiality we strive to:
 - A. Assume personal responsibility for our relationships
 - B. Foster ethical and respectful relationships
 - C. Support effective relationships among the wide variety of public health disciplines and settings
- 5. Life long learning - Recognizing that life long learning is essential, we are committed to:
 - A. Foster an environment that encourages a continuous pursuit of knowledge and skills
 - B. Constantly improving educational methods and outreach to students and the public health workforce
 - C. Assure skills and knowledge learned are relevant to public health.

Description and Resources

Established in July 1984 with an initial enrollment of 100 students, the College is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) and has graduated 1,975 students. Current enrollment includes 495 Masters and 91 doctoral full and part-time students. Constructed in 1991, the College building houses an auditorium, classrooms, a distance education studio, computer classrooms, and 17 laboratories. More than 91 faculty provide education, research and service impacting local, state, national and global public health.

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The field of public health is broad and draws its strength, as well as its students, from diverse academic disciplines including, but not limited to: health care, natural sciences, business, education, engineering, law and social services. The curriculum features cooperative learning, research, problem-solving, and field experience so that faculty and students together contribute to pursuits essential to the health of human society. Alternate delivery of degrees and certificates by web, satellite, executive format, weekend, and alternate calendar options greatly expand student opportunity.

Laboratory resources deserve special description.

- Computer Labs serve as both classroom and work stations. There are two in the College. The first is a teaching classroom with 46 stations. Students have free, 24-hour access to the second computer lab which offers 33 stations.
- There are 17 Research Labs that support research in environmental health, industrial hygiene, physiology, water and air quality, immunology, toxicology, parasitology, risk management, ergonomics, heat stress, occupational safety, electron microscopy infectious diseases and microbiology. In addition, the William "Doc" Myers Tampa Branch Laboratory (Florida Department of Health) is physically located on the USF campus and offers a unique public-public partnership between the academic and applied aspects of disease surveillance, detection, and prevention.

Accreditation

The University of South Florida is accredited by the **Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools** (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award degrees at the baccalaureate, master, specialist and doctoral levels, including the Doctor of Medicine.

The College of Public Health is fully accredited by the **Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH)**. CEPH (800 Eye Street, NW, Suite 202, Washington, D.C. 20001-3710) is an independent agency that is recognized by the US Department of Education to accredit schools of public health. The College received notice dated June 7, 2004, that it has been reaccredited for seven years, through July 1, 2011; this is the maximum possible number of years attainable in a reaccreditation cycle.

The MSPH in Industrial Hygiene is accredited by the **Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology**. 111 Market Place, Suite 1050, Baltimore, MD 21202-4012. Telephone 410-347-7700.

Research

Through research and study, faculty and their students seek solutions to complex health problems that result in positive impact on the health of the community (local, state, national, and global).

Support for research comes from public agencies including the National Institutes of Health, Health Resources Services Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, from private agencies, foundations and business, and from governmental partners such as the Florida Department of Health. Local affiliations include county public health departments, hospitals, HMOs and community based clinics.

For more information on the multi-faceted research aspects of the College, go to:

- Office of Research: <http://publichealth.usf.edu/officeresearch/>
- Centers and Institutes: <http://publichealth.usf.edu/researchcenters.html>

Faculty Research Interests Links

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Faculty research interests can be found at <http://publichealth.usf.edu/facultyaffairs/facultyprofile.html>