

Public Health Practice

Alert! As of Spring 2008, the PHP program no longer requires students to submit GRE scores for admission consideration. However, students still have the option to take and submit GRE scores with their application materials.

The Master of Public Health in Public Health Practice is a college-wide interdisciplinary program designed to prepare experienced health professionals to assume leadership roles as members of multidisciplinary teams so that they are able to develop, implement, and evaluate programs that have an impact on the health of the public. The Public Health Practice MPH provides a broad spectrum of skills and knowledge important for effective health professionals working in public health settings. Students in the program will gain skills related to: public health practice; epidemiology; program analysis and inference from data; development of programs that take into account cultural, social, economic, ethical and legal factors; community-based health policy and program planning; and budgeting and management.

The MPH in Public Health Practice is offered in two formats: Online MPH Program via distance learning and Executive Weekend MPH program. The Online MPH via distance learning is primarily intended for off-campus students who are unable to come to campus for their education. The Executive MPH Program is a unique and customized weekend program to serve the needs of the busy health care practitioner. Classes in this format are offered one weekend a month. Each program has specialized staff to assist students. The program includes:

- Five core discipline areas (Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Health Policy Management, and Social and Behavioral Sciences)
- An integrated interdisciplinary, cross-cutting set of overall competency domains (Communication and Informatics, Diversity and Culture, Leadership, Professionalism, Program Planning, Public Health Biology, and Systems Thinking)

Online MPH via Distance Learning

The Online MPH via Distance Learning offers a convenient and affordable avenue for off-campus health care professionals to earn a Master's degree through distance learning. The courses in the Online MPH in Public Health Practice are delivered using web-based technologies. With the help of skilled instructional designers, faculty create course content that is delivered using multimedia technologies such as the Internet, DVDs, CDs, videotape, streaming media, web-based tutorials, and so on. Faculty within these courses utilize email, web conferencing, discussion forums and virtual chat features to enhance instruction. Students can complete almost all degree requirements for the online MPH with minimal on-campus requirements of no more than one calendar week. Courses are available in the online format in the Fall, Spring and Summer semesters. The time required to complete the online MPH program ranges from approximately 2.5 to 5 years, depending on time of entry into the program, course sequence and availability, as well as student circumstances and academic status. Students must meet certain technology requirements and are required to pay a technology fee to participate in all online courses. For more information about the Online MPH program, go to <http://publichealth.usf.edu/php/onlinemph>. Contact the Public Health Practice Program office by email at php@health.usf.edu or call (813)974-6606 (SunCom 574-6606) or toll free (888)USF-COPH (press 5).

Executive MPH

The Executive Weekend MPH program is a unique and customized program to serve the needs of the busy health care practitioner. Past and current students have represented many health care fields and specialties including physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, occupational therapists and many more. This diversity provides students with the opportunity to meet and collaborate with colleagues from other specialties and geographic areas while enhancing the student's ability to work in multi-disciplinary teams. Students gain strategic vision while participating on diverse teams with other students averaging three to 33 years of work experience in public health. Courses in this format are intensive, in-depth and offered one weekend a month on the Tampa campus. Small class sizes guarantee students individual attention and rich face to face interactions with experienced peers and faculty. Due to the customized nature of this program, additional fees are assessed and enrollment is limited. For more information, visit: <http://publichealth.usf.edu/php/home.html>.

Program Competencies

In addition to the overall [Master of Public Health degree](#) competencies, *Public Health Practice* graduates will be able to:

1. Appraise the health status of populations by acquiring skills and knowledge about determinants of health and illness, factors contributing to health promotion and disease prevention, and factors influencing the use of health services;
2. Define the basic outcome indicators and goals of public health practices and how they differ from private health care;
3. Utilize basic quantitative and qualitative research designs used in public health;
4. Determine appropriate use of data and statistical methods for problem identification and resolution, and program planning;
5. Develop skills in public health program planning, implementation and evaluation;
6. Describe how a person's cultural background, socioeconomic status, level of education, occupational risks, age, disabilities and lifestyle preferences impact their current and future health status;
7. Articulate the ethical, administrative, legal, social and political implications of preventive and health promotion services;
8. Demonstrate effective integration of the core disciplines in improving public health outcomes;
9. Describe methods for assembling and sustaining a successful coalition of partners;
10. Demonstrate the ability to perform effectively as part of a team;
11. Develop effective leadership and advocacy skills in advancing public health issues and concerns; and
12. Define the elements for effective communication of important public health information, needs, policies and problems

Prerequisites

- Public health course prerequisites: N/A
- Suggested/preferred undergraduate majors: Health sciences or health related professions.
- Prerequisite undergraduate courses: HSC 4551 Survey of Human Diseases or similar courses.
- Work experience: Three years of health-related experience **required**.

- Minimum undergraduate GPA: 3.0 or better.
- Other criteria: Minimum technology requirements include intermediate computer skills, two letters of recommendation, resume, and goal statement.

Additional Program Information

- [Curriculum Flow Chart and New Electives](#)
- Since students admitted to this concentration are required to have significant (three-years of health related) experience, only one credit of field experience is required. The field experience is designed to expose the student to new or unfamiliar areas of public health.
- Electives may be courses that apply towards a graduate certificate or from elective options.
- [Description of Public Health Practice](#)

Additional Links

- [Link to PHP Website](#)
- [College Master of Public Health Requirements](#)
- [Academic and Student Affairs](#): Registration, Academic Procedures, etc.
- [Tuition and Financial Aid](#)
- [College Admission Requirements](#)
- [Course Descriptions](#)
- [Public Health Generalist Certificate](#)
- [Dual Degree Offered](#)

College of Public Health - Program Curriculum Check Sheet						
Name:			Dept: College Wide			
Advisor:			Degree: MPH			
Semester/Year Accepted:			Concentration: Public Health Practice			
Any grade below a C (C- to F) is required to be retaken. The grade will be included in the student's GPA.						
College Core Courses			Total Needed	15	Grade	Sem/Yr Taken
PHC	6000	Epidemiology	3			
PHC	6050	Biostatistics I	3			
PHC	6102	Principles of Health Policy and Management	3			
PHC	6357	Environmental and Occupational Health	3			
PHC	6410	Social and Behavioral Sciences Applied to Health	3			
During 2nd Semester meet with advisor and begin planning field experience. See http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/academicaffairs/fe/						
Public Health Practice Required Courses			Total Needed	12		
PHC	6120	Community Partnerships and Advocacy	3			
PHC	6421	Public Health Law and Ethics	3			
PHC	6930	Public Health Seminar	3			
<i>Choose one of the following:</i>						
PHC	6104	Management of Public Health Programs	3			
PHC	6146	Health Services Planning and Evaluation	3			
Electives (see <i>Additional Program Information on previous page</i>)			Total Needed	12		
Culminating Experiences			Total Needed	4		
PHC	6945	Supervised Field Experience	1			
PHC	6977	Special Project	3			
		Comprehensive Exam – no credit (part of Public Health Seminar)				
Minimum 42 credit hours (not including field experience)			Total GPA Hours			GPA
			Total Hours Attempted			
Rev Fall2009						The College Reserves All Rights to Repeal And/or Modify