

Program Director

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Mission

The DrPH degree is the terminal degree in the professional discipline of public health. Consistent with this advanced professional orientation, the DrPH Program will prepare future public health leaders to apply critical thinking and rigorous research methods to the complex practical problems facing practitioners and policy-makers in public health practice. The DrPH Program is designed to both follow and promote the principles of academic public health practice. As noted in a recent ASPH publication, public health practice is the strategic, organized, and interdisciplinary application of knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to perform essential public health services and other activities to improve the populations' health. Academic public health practice is the applied, interdisciplinary pursuit of scholarship in the field of public health. Recent events sharply illustrate the need for public health professionals who can provide the leadership to expand and strengthen the US and global public health systems. The DrPH program is designed to prepare professionals with skills to provide this leadership.

From the combination of course work and the implementation of the knowledge in the context of a thesis project in outstanding international placements, the DrPH degree in global Health will enable professionals to develop innovative approaches to and ability to negotiate the complex interrelationship between health and political, economic, and human development.

Goals

The DrPH graduate will be prepared to assume an advanced level of leadership in global health, in the context of health research as well as implementation programs in an international setting.

Admissions Requirements

The Doctor of Public Health Program is designed for mid-career professionals seeking to become public health leaders. Applicants who have completed an MPH degree from a Council of Education for Public Health (CEPH) accredited program are strongly preferred for admission to the DrPH Program. Alternatively, applicants with a master's degree in another field may indicate their relevant training, research experience, or educational background comparable to the MPH. Doctoral applicants admitted without an MPH will be required to take additional course work at the graduate level that does not apply toward the minimum 60 credits required. For the DrPH. Qualified applicants with degrees from institutions in foreign countries are also eligible for admission. All applicants must submit scores from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) taken within five years of the date of application. Because admission to this program is highly selective, successful applicants have competitive academic credentials and substantial prior public health professional work experience related to the specialty field to which they are applying.

Competencies

The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Program prepares professionals to assume national and international leadership positions in environmental and occupational health, global health, health behavior, and health policy. The field of public health provides unique insights into the complex interrelationships between health, politics, and human development. It enables professionals to address public health issues by marshalling research and analytic skills to develop innovative approaches to understand health and to promote and advocate for improved health outcomes. Upon completion of the DrPH program, students in the program will demonstrate ability in the core competencies listed here: http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/academicprograms/programs/doctor_public_health/Core%20Competencies.pdf Students in the DrPH Global Health program will demonstrate ability in the following program-specific competencies listed below:

Program-Specific Competencies

- Apply the theories and principles of epidemiology, economic and social development, and policy analysis to the identification, classification and elaboration of global health threats and opportunities at the community, national and international levels. Relevant Courses: PubH 252, PubH 247, PubH 249, PubH 260, PubH 401, PubH 403, PubH 406, PubH 410, PubH 414, PubH 415, PubH 416, PubH 417, PubH 418
- Critically assess the functions, capacities, management and governance of governmental, international and non-state organizations in the translation of evidence and the application of scientific research to inform public health policy making and strategy development. Relevant Courses: PubH 401, PubH 406, PubH 410, PubH 414, PubH 416, PubH 417, PubH 418
- Critically analyze complex global health trends, differentiating determinants that can be effectively addressed through technical, behavioral, social and economic interventions and prioritizing approaches based on economic affordability and political feasibility. Relevant Courses: PubH 252, PubH 247, PubH 249, PubH 260, PubH 403, PubH 406, PubH 415, PubH 416, PubH 417, PubH 418
- Successfully apply public health theory and experiential evidence in the development and management of project, program and institutional strategies capable of reducing risks, addressing underlying vulnerabilities, and mitigating the impacts of the global burden of disease. Relevant Courses: PubH 247, PubH 401, PubH 413, PubH 414, PubH 416, PubH 417, PubH 418
- Effectively synthesize health research findings with economic and social arguments to formulate communication strategies in global health action in various professional, institutional, political and cultural settings. Relevant Courses: PubH 247, PubH 260, PubH 401, PubH 410, PubH 414, PubH 417, PubH 418
- Evaluate the benefits, costs and effectiveness of global health project, program and policy approaches and interventions through the appropriate choice and application of qualitative and quantitative survey and analysis methods. Relevant Courses: PubH 252, PubH 260, PubH 406, PubH 415, PubH 416, PubH 417, PubH 418

Course Distribution Summary

- Total Credits = Minimum 60
- Transfer Credit Maximum = 12
- Required Foundation Courses and Research Methods = 23 credits
- Required Specialty Field Courses = 6 credits
- Specialty Field Electives = 11 credits
- Professional Leadership = 6 credits
- Dissertation Preparation and Dissertation = 14 credits

REQUIRED FOUNDATION COURSES AND RESEARCH METHODS (23 CREDITS)

Course	Title	Credits	Semester Taken/ Proposed	Grade	Waive	Transferred
PubH 401	Leadership in PH Practice and Policy – Doctoral Seminar	2				Can not be transferred
PubH 260	Advanced Data Analysis for Public Health.	3				
PubH 403	Measurement in Public Health and Health Services Research – Doctoral Seminar	3				Can not be transferred
PubH 252	Advanced Epidemiological Methods	3				
PubH 247	Design of Health Studies	3				
PubH 249	Use of Statistical Packages: Data Management and Data Analysis	3				
PubH 415	Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis	3				
PubH 416	Evaluation Research	3				Can not be transferred

REQUIRED SPECIALITY FIELD COURSES (6 Credits)

Course	Title	Credits	Semester Taken/ Proposed	Grade	Waive	Transferred
PubH 406	Advanced Topics – Health Research in the Global Arena – Doctoral Seminar	3				
PubH 410	Advanced Topics – Health Leadership in International Settings – Doctoral Seminar	3				

ELECTIVE SPECIALTY FIELD COURSES (11 CREDITS)

SAMPLE LIST

Course	Title	Credits	Semester Taken/ Proposed	Grade	Waive	Transferred
PubH 321	Global Health Frameworks	3				
PubH 322	Comparative Global Health Systems	2				
PubH 346	Global Health Economics and Finance	2				
PubH 333	Global Health Policy and Analysis	2				

PubH 326	Global Health Program Management	2				
PubH 336	International Health Organizations	2				
HSML 209	Health Services Finance	2				
HSML 210	Health Services Financial Applications					
PubH 382	Planning and Administration of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs	2				
PubH 383	Evaluation of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs	3				
PubH 363	Introduction to Health Communication and Marketing	3				
PubH 228	Global Environmental and Occupational Health	2				
PubH 223	Toxicology: Applications for Public Health Policy	2				
PubH 242	Clinical Epidemiology and Decision Analysis	2				
PubH 250	Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS	2				
PubH 259	Epidemiologic Surveillance in Public Health	2				
PubH 245	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	2				
PubH 244	Cancer Epidemiology	2				
PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP COURSES (6 Credits)						
PubH 412	Instructional Leadership	Varies				
PubH 413	Research Leadership	Varies				
PubH 414	Policy/Management Leadership	Varies				
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION						
Comprehensive Examination			Semester Taken/Proposed			Grade
DISSERTATION PREPARATION (14 Credits)						
PubH 417	Advanced Health Care and Public Health Research Design Prerequisites: Passing Comprehensive Exams, Approval of the Program Director, and a page-long abstract that includes the following: Student Name, Program Director, Faculty Advisor if different from the Program Director, Title, Objective (including population), Research Methods and Analysis Methods, Anticipated Results/Hypotheses.	2				
PubH 418	Dissertation Research	1 to 12				
PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT EXPERIENCES						
				Semesters		Fulfilled

Course Descriptions 2009-2010				
HSML	209	Health Services Finance	2	Introduction to health resource management and funds administration for health services organizations. Budgets, financial statements, and reports. Financial analysis. Management of plant and equipment. Regulation and containment of costs. Safeguarding assets. Prerequisite: 2-3 semester hours of introductory accounting.
HSML	210	Health Services Financial Applications	2	Application of health finance theory to health services organizations and systems. Budgeting process, understanding profit and loss, managing resources including accounts receivable, labor and supplies. The budget as a tool for analyzing operational changes. Prerequisites: HSML 209
PubH	223	Toxicology: Applications for Public Health Policy	3	Introduction to principles of toxicology with emphasis on concepts most relevant in risk assessment, management, and communication; and public health policy. Prerequisites: Organic Chemistry, Fall
PubH	228	Global Environmental and Occupational Health	2	Examines environmental and occupational health issues at various stages in the development process. Emphasis will be placed on principles of development economics and associated environmental health issues. Prerequisites: 204. Fall, Alternate Years
PubH	242	Clinical Epidemiology and Decision Analysis	2	Quantitative and qualitative approaches to decision making, including risk-benefit analysis, decision analysis, and cost-effective analysis. Applications to technology assessment; development of clinical guidelines. Prerequisites: PubH 202, 203, Spring Note: MPH Health Policy, MS Health Policy and Doctoral Students concurrently take PubH 209 topics course by the same name for 1 credit, thereby enrolling for three total credits (PubH 242 – 2 credits plus PubH 209.xx, same name – 1 credit).
PubH	245	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	2	The role and conduct of laboratory and field investigations in the epidemiology of infectious diseases. Prerequisite: PubH 203. Spring
PubH	247	Design of Health Studies	3	Epidemiologic concepts and methods applied to specific research questions especially new types of public health problems. Recognition and development of the most appropriate study design for a specific health issue. Ecologic, cross-sectional, case-control, cohort studies and clinical trials. Sampling, measurement, questionnaire design, causality and causal criteria. Development of a research proposal. Prerequisite, PubH 203, Fall Year 1
PubH	249	Use of Statistical Packages: Data Management and Data Analysis	3	This course familiarizes the student with one of the most widely used database management systems and statistical analysis software packages, the SAS System, operating in a Windows environment. Throughout the course, several database management system techniques and data analytical strategies for the appropriate analysis of datasets obtained from a variety of studies will be presented. Statistical techniques covered include linear regression, analysis of variance, logistic regression, and survival analysis. Prerequisite, PubH 202, Fall Year 1
PubH	250	Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS	2	Methodological issues central to HIV/AIDS research. Biases peculiar to HIV/AIDS epidemiologic studies (both observational and experimental designs). The natural history of HIV, diagnosis, surveillance,

				vulnerable subpopulations, behavioral facets, and evaluation of epidemiologic studies with an emphasis on methodological considerations. Prerequisite: PubH 203, Recommended 202. Fall
PubH	252	Advanced Epidemiology Methods	3	Advanced quantitative epidemiologic methods, with a focus on basic data analytic techniques, identifying and evaluating bias and adjusting for confounding. Dose-response, trend analysis, and multiple linear and logistic regression models. Prerequisites or co-requisite: 249; Prerequisite 247. Spring Year 1
PubH	259	Epidemiology Surveillance in Public Health	2	Focus on foundations of public health surveillance systems for communicable as well as chronic diseases. Outbreak investigation methods will be included, as well as surveillance data sources, data management, data analysis, ethical issues, surveillance system evaluation, and use of information for prevention. Surveillance systems for reportable diseases, nosocomial infections, bioterrorism events, cancer, environmental disease, vaccine-related adverse events, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, and military personnel will be discussed. Prerequisites: PubH 202, 203. Spring
PubH	260	Advanced Data Analysis for Public Health	3	Advanced data analysis using the SAS System to expand on the analytic techniques gained in PubH 202 and PubH 249 and to provide students with the applied statistical skills required to analyze various types of public health datasets. Prerequisites: PubH 249. Spring Year 1
PubH	321	Global Health Frameworks	3	Provides a foundation of the various frameworks and techniques used to study global health. The frameworks examined will include epidemiology, anthropology, economics, human rights, and ethics among others. The perspectives studied will provide an introduction and understanding of how global health issues are framed, structured and presented. Fall, Spring
PubH	322	Comparative Global Health Systems	2	Examines what national health systems are, how they differ, and how they are performing. Health systems will be analyzed through four different lenses: Health Care Organization; Health Workforce Development; Health Care Financing and Health Policy Development. The course compares health systems and health reforms in seven regions of the world and draws lessons on how health system performance might be improved. PubH 321; Corequisite PubH 332 Spring
PubH	346	Global Health Economics and Finance	2	Fundamentals of macro- and microeconomics and financial analysis in international health including degree of centralization, public-private sector roles, and roles of international donor agencies. Prerequisite: PubH 321, Fall, Spring
PubH	333	Global Health Policy and Analysis	2	Introduces policy and analytical issues that have implications for the health of populations worldwide, as well as various concepts, paradigms, practices and programs that have global health policy implications. Major areas of focus will include: the role of regional and international health organizations in developing and implementing global health policies and conducting policy analyses; and the critical role of rich and poor nations in global health policy and analysis. Prerequisites: PubH 205, PubH 321, PubH 340 Spring
PubH	326	Global Health Program Management	2	Management concepts and techniques related to the implementation of health and development programs and projects. Theories of management: planning, monitoring, and budgeting; the role of the manager; management of human and other resources, communication and leadership; motivation, quality control, teamwork, organizational culture and ethics. Prerequisite: PubH 321, Fall
PubH	363	Introduction to Public Health Communication and	3	Communication theories and methods used in promoting health and preventing disease. Theoretical background in communication and behavior science and practical communication development methods.

		Marketing		Prerequisite: PubH 207. Summer, Fall, Spring
PubH	383	Evaluation of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs	3	Provides students with the knowledge, competencies and skills to plan and implement and evaluation of health promotion-disease prevention programs for a defined population at risk. Fall, Spring
PubH	382	Planning and Administration of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs	2	Students will develop skills to effectively plan, implement, and manage programs that address public health problems for defined populations in a variety of settings. The PRECEDE/PROCEED framework will be used to guide this process. Fall, Spring
PubH	401	Leadership in Public Health Practice and Policy	2	Principles of public health practice and policy with a focus on the interdisciplinary and strategic application of skills, knowledge and competencies necessary both to perform public health core functions and to enhance the capacity to perform these functions. Fall Year 1
PubH	403	Measurement in Public Health and Health Services Research	3	Reviews principles of measurement and assessment as they apply to public health and health services research constructs, reviews existing state-of-the-art measures of individual and population health status (e.g., morbidity, mortality, functioning and health-related quality of life) and of individual and community health behavior, and explores current measurement issues in health research. Prerequisite: PubH 260, Fall Year 2
PubH	406	Advanced Topics - Health Research in the Global Arena	3	Alternative field methods adopted from sociology, anthropology, economics, and political sciences for social sciences and policy research. Builds data collection, instruments, measurements, indicators, and data analysis and interpretation skills in specific socio-cultural contexts. Explores ethical issues in international research. Fall
PubH	410	Advanced Topics - Health Leadership in the International Settings	3	A participatory graduate seminar providing a continuity bridge for departmental DrPH students progressing into the second and third years of academic study. Designated to provide students with the tools and experience needed to build their capacity for leadership in global health. Prerequisite: PubH 406, As needed
PubH	412	Instructional Leadership	1-6	Students participate in a range of activities designed to develop and enhance their teaching skills. These activities include course development, teaching masters level courses, acting as TA for undergraduate courses, advising students about their class performance, evaluating student performance, and developing remedial programs for students.
PubH	413	Research Leadership	1-6	Students participate in a range of activities designed to develop and enhance their research methods and analytic skills. These activities include participating in the development and submission of sponsored research proposals; being formally affiliated with a research project, assuming responsibility for completing a real-world research project; engaging in empirical data collection and analysis efforts.
PubH	414	Policy/Management Leadership	1 - 6	Students participate in a range of activities designed to develop and enhance their management, leadership and policymaking skills as applied to problem solving in real-world settings, such as public health departments, community health centers, legislative settings, and public or teaching hospitals.
PubH	415	Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis	3	Techniques for designing and conducting qualitative research and for analyzing and reporting qualitative data relevant to program development and implementation, community assessment, and policy analysis. Prerequisite: PubH 260, Spring Year 2

PubH	416	Evaluation Research	3	Principles of evaluation research emphasizing the ability to synthesize the population-based intervention literature, apply planning and management methods, describe and apply research methods from a range of disciplines, and prepare research proposals at the R01 level. Pre or co-requisite: PubH 403, Prerequisite 260, Fall Year 2
PubH	417	Advanced Health Care and Public Health Research Design	2	Design of protocol suitable for implementation as part of Doctor of Public Health dissertation requirement. Prerequisites: Passing Comprehensive Exams, Approval of the Program Director, and a page-long abstract that includes the following: Student Name, Program Director, Faculty Advisor if different from the Program Director, Title, Objective (including population), Research Methods and Analysis Methods, Anticipated Results/Hypotheses. Grade = Credit/No Credit Fall, Spring
PubH	418	Dissertation Research	1 to 12	Dissertation Research for DrPH. Prerequisite: 417