



SUNY Downstate School of Public Health

**Handbook for the DrPH Dissertation
PUBH 8001**

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DrPH DISSERTATION PUBH 8001: 12 credits

I. INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW

A. Overview

The Dissertation represents the culmination of the doctoral student's progress through the Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) program. The purpose of the DrPH Dissertation is to demonstrate that the student:

- has a mastery of a broad range of public health competencies
- understands the diverse aspects of the field of study and his or her particular area of focus within that field;
- is able to appropriately frame his or her study question(s) and specify appropriate tasks to answer the question(s);
- can carry out the tasks necessary to complete the study;
- produces a final paper or papers worthy of publication.

The Dissertation must represent the original thinking and analysis of the student. It does not necessarily require the collection of new data; but it must demonstrate that the doctoral candidate is capable of independent scientific analysis at an advanced professional level.

A wide variety of topics and approaches are appropriate for a DrPH Dissertation. For example, the thesis must go beyond the scope of efforts that normally would be expected in a professional work assignment and deal with higher level leadership, policy, methodological and evidence-based aspects of the selected topic. The DrPH Dissertation may take the form of a policy analysis, complex intervention design, or program evaluation. The Dissertation can also take the form of a more traditional Dissertation and address an issue of research significance following a more conventional research approach.

B. Timing

The Dissertation preparation process should formally begin immediately following successful completion of the DrPH Qualifying Examination (QE) and Field Experience (FE). At this point, the student has officially transitioned to doctoral candidacy.

In the case of human subject studies, the student may commence completing Institutional Review Board (IRB) certification requirements (CITI training and Conflict of Interest training) prior to completion of the Qualifying Examination and Field Experience.

C. General Content

The Dissertation must take one of two forms: 1) A single, summative document that has publishable potential, 2) Two (2) scientific articles prepared for peer-reviewed journal publication, as part of a larger document. It is highly recommended that the student submit these articles to scholarly journals for publication, but successful completion of the Dissertation will not be contingent upon the acceptance decisions of the journal(s) in question. Each of the two papers should stand on their own merit, and, in addition, the papers together should embody a recognizable unifying theme. An integrating document (separate from the two individual papers) should be prepared to present and critically review the unifying theme.

The single summative document would include the following chapters: Introduction, Literature Review, Methods, Results and Conclusions. See Appendix C for more detailed descriptions of the formats for these two Dissertation options.

Most DrPH Dissertations will include, but will not necessarily be limited to, the following general content:

- A statement of the public health project to be addressed
- A critical exhaustive review of the scientific literature relevant to that project
- An analysis of the social, economic, political, and/or cultural context for the project
- A description of the analytic methods and data sources used in making recommendations for the solution of the problem the project addresses
- The analytic results and their implications for the problem under study
- A strategy for implementing and evaluating the recommendations

D. Length

The page length of the Dissertation will vary based on whether the student elects to write two publishable scientific articles as part of a larger document, or a single Dissertation document (the traditional option), and may also vary based on subject matter. Although no required page length is specified, it is understood that, taken together, the two publishable papers should contain as much substantive information as is usually expected in the methods and results sections of a traditional Dissertation.

E. Process

The DrPH Dissertation (PUBH 8001) is a twelve (12) credit experience extending, on average, over a three-year period, and must be (1) based on an original public health project, (2) deemed to have publishable potential, and (3) acceptable to the sponsoring Department and to a committee of Dissertation readers.

The Dissertation process consists of two (2) major stages:

- The Dissertation Proposal and Oral Defense of Dissertation Proposal, and
- The Dissertation and Oral Dissertation Defense.

Students may wish to do their Field Experience in the same topic area in which they will conduct their Dissertation research. The Field Experience can, in part, provide an opportunity for networking and for developing greater knowledge of a particular field that will be studied in greater depth during the Dissertation research process.

F. Registration

DrPH students must maintain continuous registration every semester from the start of the program until completion of the doctoral dissertation. Upon successful completion of all coursework, the QE, FE and Dissertation proposal, students must register for 1–3 Dissertation credits until the full 12 credits have been completed.

If the student has finished all 12 credits and still has not completed and defended the Dissertation, then the student must continue to register for one (1) credit per semester until the Dissertation has been successfully completed.

G. Role and responsibilities

Faculty Advisor. Each DrPH student will be assigned a Faculty Advisor who will be available to the student throughout the degree program. This Faculty Advisor will have expertise in the Concentration chosen by the student: Community Health Sciences, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, or Epidemiology. The Faculty Advisor and student will meet at least once a semester to discuss the student's course work, status, and plans throughout the degree process. Formal Dissertation preparation should follow discussions with the student's Faculty Advisor, who is responsible for overseeing the student's successful completion of all preceding academic work in a timely manner, and who will become the Dissertation Proposal Committee Chair.

Student. The student is responsible for completing all coursework in a timely manner, and successfully completing the Qualifying Exam prior to beginning the dissertation process. The student is also responsible for considering potential dissertation topics, discussing them with his/her Faculty Advisor, choosing a Dissertation Proposal Committee Chair and choosing a Dissertation Proposal Committee. The student is further encouraged to attend an information session held at the start of each fall and spring semester that will serve to outline the basics of the dissertation process.

Chair. It is the responsibility of the Dissertation Proposal Committee Chair to discuss potential dissertation topics with the student, and to assess the viability of any proposed projects. The Committee Chair will also guide the student to select other appropriate individuals to serve on the Dissertation Proposal Committee. During the dissertation process, the Committee Chair should plan to meet with the student at least once each month (where possible), to provide appropriate guidance, and to ensure timely completion of the project.

Committee. The Dissertation Proposal Committee, followed by the Dissertation Committee (which will typically contain the same members), is charged with working with the Committee Chair to supervise the student in the timely completion of the Dissertation. Committee members shall read any drafts or proposed extracts the student submits, and return feedback promptly.

Faculty. All School of Public Health faculty need to be familiar with the contents of this Handbook.

II. DrPH DISSERTATION PROPOSAL

A. Dissertation Proposal

The student is expected to develop his/her Dissertation Proposal and defend it orally before his/her Dissertation Proposal Committee. It is preferred that this Oral Defense would follow within, at most, two (2) years of completing the Qualifying Exam. The Faculty Advisor may grant the student additional time to complete this requirement, where appropriate.

A Dissertation Proposal should contain at least:

1. A discussion of the specific problem or issue being investigated. This should include a clear statement of the problem, why it is important, and to whom.
2. Discussion of the social, economic, political and/or cultural context for the problem.
3. Discussion of a conceptual framework and the relevant research and practice literature, and how that literature will be used within the conceptual framework to investigate the problem. Also, describe how the proposed work fits in with the existing literature. Does it fill a gap, resolve a discrepancy, advance prior work, or open a new line of inquiry or area of practice?
4. Study hypotheses (for most dissertations)
5. Identification of the public policy/practice leadership issues associated with the subject and a preliminary assessment of how the work may contribute to resolving such issues.
6. Discussion of the methodology to be used, including statistical analyses, if needed. Students proposing the application of new analytical frameworks or methodologies to previously defined problems should identify major alternative ways of approaching their topic and justify the approach they intend to use.
7. Identification of data or information needs, their sources, and methods of collection.
8. How human subjects will be protected (if applicable).
9. Potential obstacles, study limitations or other issues pertinent to the investigation and how they will be resolved, and present a preliminary outline of the completed dissertation.
10. A work plan for completing the Dissertation which outlines major tasks, time frames and milestones, along with how the committee will review the work along the way.

The Dissertation Proposal shall not exceed forty (40) pages (single-side) of double-spaced typed text, excluding figures. See Appendix B for greater detail on Dissertation Proposal format.

Students must complete IRB certification training before the dissertation proposal can be approved.

B. Dissertation Proposal Committee

The dissertation proposal committee will consist of a minimum of three (3) people. It is strongly recommended that at least two (2) members, one of whom will serve as the committee chair, come from the student's department in the School of Public Health (SPH) and at least one (1) from outside the student's department who may be from another institution. The majority of the members of the committee should be from the School of Public Health. The committee chair has the final decision on the committee composition.

Outside members must hold a doctoral degree in a relevant subject. Adjunct faculty members may serve on a Dissertation Proposal Committee. It is strongly encouraged that one of the members of the committee be a public health practitioner from outside the student's department. Students are encouraged to consider committee members who are experts in the topic or methods proposed for the dissertation, familiar with the student's interests and abilities, and who have the interest and time to serve on the committee. Curriculum Vitae of members outside the School of Public Health should be submitted to the Chair of the committee, the Department Chair and the Dean.

The Dissertation Proposal Committee should be formed by the student in consultation with his or her Faculty Advisor/Dissertation Chair as soon as the student has selected a dissertation topic and following the successful completion of the Qualifying Exams and the Field Experience. The Dissertation Proposal Committee must be approved by the Dissertation Chair and the student's Department Chair (see Appendix A1 for the Dissertation Proposal Committee approval form).

The doctoral Dissertation Proposal Committee is expected to:

- Counsel the student in proposal development
- Determine the acceptability of the proposal as a basis for actually carrying out the work on the doctoral dissertation
- Become the Dissertation committee (after approval of the proposal, changes to the dissertation committee are allowed contingent on the approval of the Dissertation Chair, Department Chair).

These duties of the Dissertation Proposal Committee should be dispensed through a series of one-on-one meetings with the student, and/or meetings of the full committee, where appropriate.

C. Oral Defense of Dissertation Proposal

If the Dissertation Chair and the other members of the Dissertation Proposal Committee find the proposal to be acceptable, an oral defense of the dissertation proposal will be scheduled. The student must distribute copies of a dissertation proposal to all committee members and the Dean at least two (2) weeks before the formal oral presentation. All School of Public Health faculty and students should receive a notice of the presentation and a one-page abstract at least one week in advance of the formal oral defense of the dissertation proposal. The Oral Defense of Dissertation Proposal is a public event. Good attendance is strongly encouraged and therefore, the student and committee are encouraged to schedule the oral defense at a time of maximal convenience for would-be

The student should take no more than thirty (30) minutes to present the Oral Defense of Dissertation Proposal to his/her Dissertation Proposal Committee, to School of Public Health faculty and students, and others. The presentation will be followed by questioning from the student's Dissertation Proposal Committee and from School of Public Health faculty and students. The purpose of the Oral Defense of Dissertation Proposal is to ascertain that the proposed work is appropriate and that the student has adequate knowledge of the topic and the skills to complete the work successfully.

The observation and evaluation of, and subsequent decision making regarding acceptance of the Oral Defense of the Dissertation Proposal by the Dissertation Proposal Committee will usually be restricted to members of the Dissertation Proposal Committee. On occasion, a committee may invite others to participate on a non-voting basis. All internal members of the committee are expected to be present at the oral defense; the oral defense will be rescheduled if, at the appointed time, more than one internal member of the committee is absent from the Oral Defense of the Dissertation Proposal. The committee shall evaluate the student's knowledge of the relevant literature, scientific judgment, ability to reason, ability to use the techniques proposed, understanding of the basis of the techniques to be used and the feasibility and adequacy of the proposed experiments.

The committee should render, by majority vote, one of the following judgments:

- a) proposal and its defense fully acceptable
- b) proposal and its defense acceptable with modifications
- c) proposal and its defense unacceptable

The Chair should communicate the findings of the Dissertation Proposal Committee in writing to the student, to the student's Department Chair and to the Dean, within one (1) week after the Oral Defense of the Dissertation Proposal. Suggested modifications or reasons for outright rejection should be noted. All voting members of the committee must sign off on the communication before it is sent.

The student must summarize comments received from the Dissertation Proposal Committee and the public in a memo to the Dissertation Chair and specify plans for incorporating them into a revised proposal. The purpose of this memo is to clarify what revisions are required (if any) to make the proposal acceptable. The Dissertation Chair will sign-off on this memo and circulate it to the Dissertation Proposal Committee for their concurrence. Based on the extensiveness of the required revisions and committee expectations, the Dissertation Chair will decide if there is a need for the committee to formally review the revised Dissertation Proposal or if the memo will suffice. The final approved Dissertation Proposal will be circulated to the Dissertation Proposal Committee.

If the Dissertation Proposal or its Oral Defense is judged unacceptable, the work must be reformulated and another Oral Defense presented. The committee shall set a timetable for a new Oral Defense. A student may, with the agreement of the Dissertation Chair, request appointment of a new Dissertation Proposal Committee. However, a Dissertation Proposal, which has been twice rejected, cannot be presented again. A lone dissenting member of the Dissertation Proposal Committee who is unable to accept the final committee decision must

resign. The Dissertation Chair must then identify a replacement objective reviewer, who is willing to serve on the committee, then suggest him or her to the Departmental Chair a replacement.

If the student successfully completes the Oral Defense, he or she will proceed to the actual research and writing of the Dissertation (see Appendix A2 for the proposal defense approval form).

III. DrPH DISSERTATION

A. Dissertation

Once the Dissertation Proposal Committee has found the Dissertation Proposal to be acceptable, the candidate will then proceed to the research and dissertation writing phase. Throughout the development, implementation, and evaluation of the Dissertation, the candidate should meet regularly with his/her Dissertation Chair. The Dissertation Proposal Committee now converts to the Dissertation Committee. As necessary, the candidate should also meet with other members of his/her Dissertation Committee to review specific portions of the Dissertation as appropriate to their expertise.

Periodic revisions should be circulated to all members of the Dissertation Committee upon approval of the Committee Chair. Revisions should be noted in a cover memo to the Dissertation Committee members such that they will be kept up to date. If necessary, the candidate may find it beneficial to schedule an interim working committee meeting prior to the final Oral Dissertation Defense to enable any concerns of the committee to be raised.

When the Dissertation is deemed complete, final approval must be received in writing, from the Chair of the Dissertation Committee with agreement from all members of the committee. This process must be completed at least one (1) month prior to the proposed date for the Oral Dissertation Defense. It will be the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that the Dissertation format meets the standards and requirements of SUNY Downstate Medical Center. (See Appendix C for more detailed formatting guidelines.) When the candidate and the committee agree that the research is sufficiently completed and the candidate is adequately prepared to defend the Dissertation, the student will submit the draft Dissertation to the committee.

In addition to the elements listed on page 6 for the Dissertation Proposal, the Dissertation will contain:

- The analytic results and their implications for the problem under study
- A strategy for implementing and evaluating recommendations for addressing the problem under study

B. Dissertation Committee

The Dissertation Committee should be comprised of the members of the Dissertation Proposal Committee. Changes to the composition of the committee are permissible and are contingent on the approval of the Departmental Chair.

Committee members are expected to be present during the Defense of the Dissertation. If a committee member no longer works at Downstate or is on leave, they can approve the Dissertation if not physically present at the Defense. They may also submit questions for the Oral Defense in writing.

C. Oral Dissertation Defense

The draft Dissertation will be submitted to the Committee at least one (1) month prior to the scheduled date of the Oral Defense. The Oral Defense of the Dissertation will be announced and open to the public. The candidate must be prepared to defend his/her research against questions from the Dissertation Committee and any individuals present. A successful candidate must demonstrate a firm grasp of the research topic, be able to think on his/her feet and fluently answer complex questions. Students may find it beneficial to attend dissertation defenses in their Department to familiarize themselves with the process.

D. Conduct of the Oral Defense of the Dissertation

At the start of Oral Defense of the Dissertation, the Committee Chair will ask the candidate (and any non-committee members) to leave the room briefly. The committee should review the candidate's strengths, weaknesses and expectations for the defense. At the end of the review the candidate (and non-committee members) should be invited back to begin the presentation. The candidate will have thirty (30) minutes to present their dissertation. At the conclusion of the presentation, The Committee Chair will entertain questions from the committee and others present. Following the question and answer session, the candidate (and non-committee members) will be asked to leave the room and the committee will privately deliberate and make a decision. The committee will vote to either:

- a) Accept the dissertation as is.
- b) Accept the dissertation subject to completion of specific edits or additional work.
- c) Reject the dissertation.

The candidate will then be invited back to the room. The Committee Chair will announce the committee's decision and the individual committee members will give the candidate feedback.

If the committee decides to reject the Dissertation, then the unsatisfactory areas and criteria for improvement must be explained to the candidate. If the Dissertation is rejected but the committee believes that the Dissertation has the potential to be improved and accepted, the candidate may be allowed to defend the Dissertation with specific attention given to the reasons for rejection within six (6) months. A second rejection will be considered final.

E. Time Limits

The candidate will have a total of eight (8) years from the date of entry into the doctoral program in which to defend his or her Dissertation. Candidates who take longer will be required to explain the delay to their Dissertation Chair, Department Chair. A decision will be made on an individual basis whether the candidate may be allowed to remain in the program.



APPENDIX A1 –

**SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH DISSERTATION PROPOSAL
COMMITTEE APPROVAL FORM**

DEPARTMENT OF _____

DrPH DISSERTATION PROPOSAL COMMITTEE

TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT:

Name: _____

Proposed Committee Members:

Chair: _____

Second Member: _____, Department _____

Third Member: _____, Department _____

Optional members:

Additional Member: _____, Department _____

Additional Member: _____, Department _____

Committee Membership Approved:

Dissertation Chair: _____ Date: _____
(signature)

Department Chair: _____ Date: _____
(signature)



APPENDIX A2 –

**SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DISSERTATION PROPOSAL APPROVAL FORM**

Name of Student: _____

Proposed Dissertation Title: _____

Signature indicates approval of Dissertation Proposal

Committee: _____

Dissertation Chair: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

Second Member: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

Third Member: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

Optional members:

Additional Member: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

Additional Member: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

APPENDIX A3 –

SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
TRANSITION TO CANDIDACY APPLICATION FORM

We have examined the entire graduate record of the student named above.

- ✓ An average of 3.0 (B) has been maintained on all graduate courses taken and on all completed graduate courses on the Program of Study.
- ✓ The written Qualifying Exam has been passed.
- ✓ The Field Experience has been completed
- ✓ A dissertation proposal has been approved.

We recommend that this student be admitted to candidacy for the degree indicated

Signatures below indicate recommendation for candidacy for the DrPH degree.

Name of Student: _____

Proposed Dissertation Title: _____

Dissertation Chair: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

Department Chair: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

Office of Student Affairs: _____ **Date:** _____
(signature)

APPENDIX A4 –
SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DrPH CHECKLIST
For Student and Faculty Advisor Record

Student Name					
Departmental core courses			Doctor of Public Health core courses		Notes
Course	Taken/Exempt		Course	Taken/Exempt	
			BIOS 7200		
			PUBH 7201		
			HPMG 7200		
			PUBH 7200		
Field Experience	Start date	End date	Notes		
Credits transferred		Notes			
Grade changes (e.g. Incomplete Grades)		Notes			
Course	Date				

Course Work Completed		
IRB Modules	Date Completed	
		Notes
IRB Approval	Date	
Milestones	Date completed	Notes
Qualifying Exam		
Deadline to submit topic for Dissertation Proposal to Faculty		
Faculty Advisor approved proposal topic		
Dissertation Proposal Committee chosen		
Approval of Dissertation Proposal Committee by Department Chair		
Deadline to submit Dissertation Proposal to Dissertation Proposal Committee		
Proposal Defense scheduled		
Transition to Candidacy		
Interim progress committee meeting (if necessary)		
Deadline to submit final Dissertation draft to Dissertation Committee (at least one month prior to defense date)		
Dissertation Defense scheduled		
Deadline for Dissertation revisions to be submitted to chair/committee (if necessary)		
Deadline to submit final Dissertation to Student Affairs		
Deadline to file for graduation		
Other:		
Other:		

APPENDIX A5 –

SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ORAL DEFENSE OF DISSERTATION FORM

This form must be completed by all committee members and submitted to the Office of Student Affairs.

Student Name _____ **Defense Date** _____

Dissertation Title: _____

1. Taking the above into consideration, what overall score would you assign to the final defense?

- 1 () Approve
- 2 () Approve pending revisions
- 3 () Reject

Date of Defense _____	
Committee Chair Name _____	Committee Chair Signature _____
Member Name _____	Member Signature _____
Member Name _____	Member Signature _____
Member Name _____	Member Signature _____
Member Name _____	Member Signature _____

APPENDIX A6 –

SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DISSERTATION APPROVAL FORM

Dissertation entitled
[TITLE OF DISSERTATION]

submitted by **[Student's Name and Credentials]**, is accepted by the Dissertation Committee
in partial fulfillment of the:

Degree of Doctor of Public Health in **[Degree Concentration]**
Degree to be awarded **[Month and Year of Graduation]**

Dissertation Advisor Name _____

Dissertation Advisor Signature _____ Date _____

Committee Member Name _____

Committee Member Signature _____ Date _____

Committee Member Name _____

Committee Member Signature _____ Date _____

Committee Member Name _____

Committee Member Signature _____ Date _____

Committee Member Name _____

Committee Member Signature _____ Date _____

Approved by the Chair of the Department of _____

Department Chair Name _____

Department Chair Signature _____ Date _____

APPENDIX B –

SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DISSERTATION PROPOSAL OUTLINE EXAMPLE

While a Dissertation Proposal can be organized in several effective ways, the following example reflects expectations that cover a broad range of DrPH dissertation topics. The bolded and underlined text can be used as proposal headings/sub-headings. References and citations will follow the format of the American Medical Association.

I. Background and Problem Statement

- a. Study Objectives: a high-level description of the broad issue the Dissertation will address and the study purpose and scope.
- b. Background and Context: background and contextual factors that will help frame the issue. These may be historical, legal/ethical, population need, political, service delivery, policy, and socio-economic dimensions that are relevant to understanding the issue.
- c. Problem Statement and Study Questions/Specific Aims: a more detailed statement of the problem/issue including specific questions that will be addressed in the study along with propositions that will be tested.
- d. Leadership Implications and Relevance: factors that make this a leadership issue and the broader relevance for public health policy and practice. This is an important element that partially distinguishes the DrPH Dissertation from the PhD Dissertation and therefore should be an integral part of the work, as opposed to a secondary consideration that gets addressed in a conclusion as is often the case with traditional research topics.

II. Conceptual and Analytical Framework

- a. Literature Review: what scholarly and practice literature is relevant to the issue, problem statement, and study questions? Including a good part of the literature review is desirable to help focus the proposal.
- b. Conceptual Framework: How will the literature be used to operationalize the study questions through the development of indicators and measures that will focus data collection and analysis?
- c. Logic Model: a preliminary logic model that graphically connects key elements of the study.

III. Study Design, Data, and Methods

- a. Analytical Approach: specify an integrated approach for how data will be collected and analyzed to answer the study questions. This might be a case study, policy analysis, action research, a high-level evaluation or a mixed methods design. Identify the unit of study (e.g. organization, jurisdiction, geographic area). Provide a justification for why this design is effective.
- b. Data Sources, Data collection and Management. describe the data collection instruments, subject selection rationale (sampling), and data collection procedures. Provide sample instruments if possible. A table which maps data collection instruments to research questions is valuable. Describe data collection and management procedures.
- c. Analysis Plan: how will the data be analyzed? What analytical or statistical procedures will be employed? Anticipate and include data table examples where possible.
- d. Validity Considerations: describe study limitations and threats to validity and how they will be addressed.

IV. Dissertation Products and Work Plan

- a. What thesis products will be produced? A traditional report? Two publishable papers? If so, what peer reviewed journals will be targeted?
- b. Outline of the Dissertation product (or working draft report if publishable papers are the final product).
- c. Work Plan: Major study activities, milestones, anticipated due dates, and committee review points, preferably in Gantt chart format.
- d. Summarize procedures to meet IRB concerns including IRB training, and obtaining approvals.

APPENDIX C –

SUNY DOWNSTATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DISSERTATION OUTLINE

Students have two options for the format of the final Dissertation product. The more traditional **first option A** is for the Dissertation to be one document composed of a number of chapters. Formatting will follow the School of Public Health DrPH Dissertation Template. References and citations will follow the format of the American Journal of Public Health.

The **second option B** is two (2) publishable scientific manuscripts that will be submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, along with an Introductory chapter, Literature Review and Conclusions chapter. Neither of the two (2) scientific manuscripts can consist of a revised version of the Literature Review chapter. The Introductory chapter, Literature Review and Conclusions chapter will follow the School of Public Health DrPH Dissertation Template. References and citations for those sections will follow the format of the American Journal of Public Health.

For the two publishable manuscripts, the student will adopt the format requirement of the journal to which the manuscript will be submitted. Manuscripts must actually be submitted to the journals if this option is selected. Students should work with their committee to determine the most appropriate journal to which they submit their manuscripts.

Specific chapter and/or manuscript titles for both options are listed below:

I. Introductory chapter

To include the elements of the Background and Problem Statement listed in the proposal outline (Appendix B)

II. Literature Review

Option A	Option B
Traditional Dissertation	2 publishable manuscripts option
III. Study Design, Data, and Methods	Paper #1 - formatted for journal submission
IV. Results chapter	Paper #2 - formatted for journal submission

V. Conclusions

To include implications of results for the problem under study, recommendations for future research and public health practice, and a strategy for implementing and evaluating recommendations.

VI. Appendices

To include, as appropriate, items such as survey instruments, foundational tables, organizational charts, additional tables, and other items not appropriate for a journal article nor the body of the Dissertation document.