



SUNY  
DOWNSTATE

# School of PUBLIC HEALTH

*BUILDING THE BRIDGE  
TO **HEALTH EQUITY***

SUPPLEMENTAL  
STUDENT  
HANDBOOK

2020-2021

SUNY  
DOWNSTATE

THIS HANDBOOK IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Dear Student:

Welcome to the School of Public Health and to SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University. The School of Public Health is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health and the New York State Education Department.

**The School of Public Health Student Handbook**, is provided to assist you with the resources available to guide you in your pursuit of your educational goals. The handbook is an information compendium concerning academic requirements for the School of Public Health Program. **Please note the Student Handbook contains only information pertinent to the School of Public Health degree(s).** For more complete details regarding SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University policies, student rights and responsibilities, and names, locations, and telephone numbers of campus services, please consult the **SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University Student Handbook**.

**Please study the School of Public Health Student Handbook and the SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University Student Handbook** thoroughly. Both student handbooks contain information and rules and regulations that pertain to this academic year only.

SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University reserves the right to alter the existing rules and regulations, and academic programs, as deemed necessary for the institution. SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University expressly reserves that right, whenever deemed advisable, to:

1. Change or modify its schedule of tuition and fees;
2. Withdraw, cancel, reschedule, or modify any course, program of study, degree, or any requirement or policy in connection with the foregoing, and,
3. Change or modify any academic or other policy.

Essential changes to information in this Student Handbook concerning new academic regulations, policies or programs will be published in newsletters or other University publications. It is the responsibility of each student to ascertain current information that pertains to the individual's program, particularly with regard to satisfaction of degree requirements by consultation with the student's advisor, the student's program, the School of Public Health Dean's Office, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of the Registrar, and other offices as appropriate. In preparing this Student Handbook, efforts were made to provide pertinent and accurate information; however, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University assumes no liability for School of Public Health Student Handbook errors or omissions.

If there is something in this Student Handbook that you do not understand or wish to have clarified, please schedule an appointment with a member of the administration in the Dean's office: 718-270-1065.

We hope your time with us will prove fulfilling and valuable.

Sincerely,

Kitaw Demissie, MD, PhD  
Dean and Professor  
School of Public Health

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## **SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH MISSION STATEMENT, VISION AND GOALS**

### **Vision:**

Grow the SUNY Downstate School of Public Health into a nationally recognized School of Public Health that is known for:

- advancing Global Health
- creating innovative models to empower communities to address health disparities
- fostering the development of new knowledge and public health practices
- leadership in Urban and Immigrant Health
- promoting health equity
- training diverse public health professionals

### **Mission:**

The mission of the SUNY Downstate School of Public Health is to advance public health knowledge, promote health and well-being, and prevent disease and disability within communities, particularly in urban and immigrant ones. Such actions are accomplished through excellence in the education of public health professionals, scientific investigation of public health issues, and service to communities through collaborative partnerships.

### **Goals:**

#### **Instruction:**

- To provide an academic environment for public health education, research, and practice in an urban setting with an emphasis on urban and immigrant health.
- To educate individuals through an academic program that prepares graduates to identify, address, and resolve public health issues and manage public health programs in different settings, especially urban environments with diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, and socioeconomic groups.

#### **Research:**

- To advance public health knowledge through scientific investigation of health and disease, with a focus on urban and immigrant health issues.
- To disseminate and interpret research results to professionals, patients, individuals and their families, and the public.

#### **Service:**

- To advance the health of underserved communities, both locally and globally, through collaborative public health approaches to health promotion and disease prevention and intervention.

#### **Professional Public Health Values:**

1. Advancement of public health knowledge
2. Promotion of health and well-being
3. Prevention of disease and disability
4. Reduction of premature mortality
5. Health Equity

6. Academic excellence in the education of public health professionals
7. Academic integrity
8. Grounded scientific research in public health problems
9. Partnerships with local and regional community organizations to effect health promotion and disease prevention
10. Provision of service to local and regional populations and communities to improve health and prevent disease and disability
11. Protection of, and respect for participants involved in public health research, for example: conducting research with 'informed consent' per National Institutes of Health (NIH) guidelines
12. Compliance with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) guidelines
13. Medical and Public Health Ethics
14. Diversity of the Student Body
15. Diversity of the Faculty and Staff
16. Community Service
17. Faculty Participation in School Governance
18. Student Participation in School Governance

## SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Kitaw Demissie, MD, PhD Dean and Professor	718-270-1056 PHAB 5-036
Michael A. Joseph, PhD, MPH Vice Dean and Associate Professor	718-270-1061 PHAB 5-038
Aimee Afable, PhD, MPH Associate Dean for Community Engagement	718-270-6397 PHAB 4-
Denise M. Bruno, MD, MPH Associate Dean for Global Engagement and Director of the Center for Global Health	718-270-2954 PHAB 4-012
Michael Szarek, PhD, MS Executive Director of the Center for Clinical and Outcomes Research	718-804-7834 PHAB 4-033
Tracey E. Wilson, PhD Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development	718-270-2105 PHAB 4-0xx
Marlene Camacho-Rivera, ScD, MS, MPH Assistant Dean for Student Success and Engagement	718-270-4386 PHAB 4-0xx
Daniel Ilyayev, M.S. Ed. Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Student Affairs	718-270-2759 PHAB 5-025
Catherine Seelig, MS Administrator	Tel: 718-804-7827 PHAB 5-034
Dorine Cooper, MA Executive Assistant to the Dean	718-270-8377 PHAB 5-037A
Francine Benjamin, MS Grants Manager	718-613-8780 PHAB 5-032
Arlene Mbonu, MA Applied Practice Experience Coordinator	718-613-8376 PHAB 4-011
Raeann Rolston Recruitment Specialist	718-221-5280 PHAB 5-028
Evelyn Alleyne Staff Assistant	718-270-5191 PHAB 5-027
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## SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology

**Interim Chair:** Elizabeth Helzner, PhD

**Departmental Coordinator:** Arlene Mbonu, MA

718-613-8376

Department of Community Health Sciences

**Chair:** Barbara Delano, MD, MPH

**Departmental Coordinator:** Arlene Mbonu, MA

718-613-8376

Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences

**Chair:** Laura Geer, PhD, MHS

**Departmental Coordinator:** Francine Benjamin, MS

718-613-8780

Department of Health Policy and Management

**Interim Chair:** Daniel Ehlke, PhD, MA

**Departmental Coordinator:** Evelyn Allyene

718-804-7836

SPH e-mail: [publichealth@downstate.edu](mailto:publichealth@downstate.edu)

**In addition to consulting the School of Public Health Student Handbook, all School of Public Health (SPH) students, both single and concurrent degree, should consult the SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University Student Handbook for more detailed information regarding SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University Policies and Procedures.**

## **CURRICULUM GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

The goal and objectives of the School of Public Health at SUNY Downstate are congruent with state-of-the-science public health programs across the country; and specifically address the issues in urban and immigrant health. The underlying premises though reflect the essentials that are public health no matter where it is practiced.

### **Goal**

The goal of the SUNY Downstate SPH is to provide an academic environment for public health education, research, and practice, in an urban setting with an emphasis on immigrant health.

### **Objectives**

1. To prepare graduates to identify, address, and resolve public health issues and manage public health programs in diverse settings, especially urban environments with different racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, and socioeconomic groups.
2. To prepare students to advance public health knowledge through scientific investigation of health and disease, with a focus on urban and immigrant health issues.
3. To prepare students to disseminate and interpret research results to professionals, patients, and the public.
4. To prepare students to advance the health of the communities through collaborative public health approaches to health promotion, disease prevention and intervention, particularly urban and immigrant health communities.

## **TEXTBOOK POLICY**

Students are encouraged to purchase textbooks at a retailer of their choice. A booklist will be made available to students on the SPH website sixty (60) days prior to the start of the semester to ensure that students have ample time to purchase textbooks prior to the start of the semester.

**The Medical Research Library (located at 395 Lenox Rd.)** during the following business hours:

### **Fall and Spring Terms:**

Monday - Thursday: 8:30am - 12 midnight  
Friday: 8:30am - 9pm  
Saturday: 9am - 9pm  
Sunday: 12 noon - 12 midnight

### **Summer Term:**

Monday - Thursday: 8:30am - 12 midnight  
Friday: 8:30am - 5pm  
Saturday: 9am - 5pm  
Sunday: 12 noon - 12 midnight

## DEFERRAL OF ADMISSION

Accepted applicants to the School of Public Health (SPH) who request a deferral of admission and who are granted a deferral, are deferred for only one year. Deferrals of admission will not be extended beyond the one-year limit except under extraordinary circumstances.

## MAXIMUM TIME ALLOWED FOR DEGREE COMPLETION

**ACPH:** The maximum time allotted for completion of the ACPH degree is three (3) years unless there are compelling extenuating circumstances.

**MPH:** The maximum time allotted for completion of the MPH degree, regardless of concurrent degree involvement is six (6) years unless there are compelling extenuating circumstances.

**DrPH:** The maximum time allotted for completion of the Doctor of Public Health degree, regardless of concurrent degree involvement is eight (8) years unless there are compelling extenuating circumstances.

**Maximum time allowed for degree completion may be extended in the event a student goes on a Leave of Absence.**

## CREDIT TRANSFER POLICY

### ACPH Program Transfer Credits

Transfer credits are not accepted toward the Advanced Certificate program.

### MPH Program Transfer Credits

Please note that a maximum of twelve (12) *graduate level* credits from another CHEA regionally accredited college and/or university can be transferred into the MPH program. Transfer of credits for courses used towards the completion of a granted degree will not be considered. Students must seek approval for the departmental chair of their concentration, prior to registering for courses at other CHEA accredited institutions.

### DrPH Program Transfer Credits

A maximum number fifteen (15) *doctoral level* credits from another CHEA regionally accredited college and/or university can be transferred into the doctoral program. Courses used towards the completion of a granted degree will not be considered. However, some DrPH coursework may be waived if relevant doctoral level courses have been taken at another institution. Students must seek approval for the departmental chair of their concentration, prior to registering for courses at other CHEA accredited institutions.

For transfer of credits or a waiver, the accepted student must provide: 1) a detailed course syllabus and 2) an official transcript verifying at least a B grade (3.0 on a 4.0 system) in that particular course(s).

**If the student fails to provide appropriate proof of course content equivalency and an official transcript in a timely fashion, the option for credit transfer may be denied.**

## **ACADEMIC ADVISING, SUPERVISION, AND EVALUATION OF STUDENT PROGRESS**

Each student is assigned a faculty advisor upon admission to the School. Advisor assignments are based on faculty availability within the School. Faculty advisors assist students in selecting a program of study and monitoring progress toward the successful completion of the degree. Advisors are available throughout the academic year to assist students with problems or issues and for discussions regarding academic progress and career opportunities. Advisors may be changed by request to and with the approval of the departmental chair.

Advisors are required to remain current with each student's academic progress. Instructors are required to inform the advisor at appropriate intervals concerning students who are having academic difficulties. The advisor will, in turn, share said status with the departmental chair. Together, the advisor, and, as needed, the departmental chair, will work with the student to find necessary assistance.

Students are required to maintain regular contact with advisors. Each student has the responsibility to meet with his/her faculty advisor at least once each semester prior to registration in order to review completed course work and course requirements and assure that the course plan is appropriate.

Students are required to enter a unique PIN code before proceeding with online registration. At the end of an advising session, and upon approval of the course selection, the student's advisor will provide a unique PIN code that will allow a student to proceed with registration via the Banner-Self-Service system. PIN codes change every term and as such students must meet with the faculty advisor prior to every registration period.

It is the policy of the School of Public Health not to retain inactive students. To remain active, students must be registered for at least one course during the fall and spring terms. Students who are inactive for one (1) full year will be withdrawn from the School. There is no appeal for this determination.

Confidential files will be maintained on each student charting the student's academic progress according to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Students may not register for more than fifteen (15) credits per semester. Under extenuating circumstances, however, a student may seek Dean's approval to register for more than fifteen (15) credits.

For **MPH** students, a special emphasis is placed upon advising students engaged in the Culminating Experience. Each student and faculty advisor must review the protocol for the Culminating Experience and assure that the proper documents are completed.

For **DrPH** students, a special emphasis is placed upon advising students engaged in the doctoral dissertation process. Each student and his/her dissertation advisor (committee chair) and Committee, must work closely throughout to assure that the student and accompanying requirements and documents are completed properly. Note that the student engaged in dissertation work must register for thesis advisement each semester until the dissertation is completed and approved.

## **ACADEMIC COUNSELING**

The Academic Counseling Offices of the respective Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Health Professions, and the School of Public Health are available to students for academic support. They provide individualized instruction, workshops, and resource materials on time management, study organization, test-taking techniques, and stress management. Group tutorials will be available for selected courses as needed. Referrals for one-to-one tutoring are available. An educational counselor is available to meet with individual students who are experiencing academic difficulties. The SPH will provide additional resources as needed.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty in their academic pursuits. Academic dishonesty is considered a threat to the integrity and reputation of SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University and all the faculty and students associated with it. Since academic integrity and behavior of students suggest their future professional behavior and integrity in fulfilling their public health responsibilities, the faculty and students of SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University are committed to upholding and enforcing the highest standards of academic integrity. Students found guilty of any form of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, forgery, plagiarism, and any other infringements that may imply deviance from the highest standards of honesty in all aspects of academic endeavor.

### Forms of Academic Dishonesty

**Cheating:** This is defined as giving or obtaining information by improper means in meeting any academic requirements. Cheating is a serious violation that includes, but is not limited to, the following examples:

- a. The use of the same work for academic credit in more than one course without the knowledge or consent of the instructor(s).
- b. The fabrication of any information used to satisfy any academic requirement.
- c. Behavior that constitutes academic dishonesty during an examination include, but is not limited to:
  - 1) Copying the work of others.
  - 2) Deliberately exposing examination materials to review or use by other students.
  - 3) Using notebooks, textbooks, information, or materials not specifically authorized by the instructor.
  - 4) Speaking or communicating regarding the exam with other students at any time during the examination.
  - 5) Using a cell phone, beeper or other electronic device during an examination.
  - 6) Leaving the examination for any length of time during the examination, without the authorization of the instructor/proctor. (Leaving the examination room after the exam has started will only be authorized for genuine issues or emergencies. Student may be escorted when leaving and returning to exam room.)

**Forgery:** This is defined as the alteration of academic forms, documents, or records or the signing of such forms or documents by someone other than the designated or authorized individual. Forgery also includes modifying an examination or assignment that has been graded and returned to the student for review.

**Plagiarism:** This is the representation, intentional or unintentional, of someone else's words or ideas as one's own. This includes using the work of another student, past or present, as well as the work of published authors. Since under New York State law, words in print are the property of the author or publisher, the intent to deprive that person of property is a form of larceny punishable by fine. When using another person's words in a paper, students must place them within quotation marks or clearly set them off in the text and give them appropriate attribution by footnoting or references. When students use only the ideas and change the words, they must clearly identify the source of the ideas. Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is therefore a violation of the property of the author plagiarized and of the implied assurance by the students when they hand in work that the work is their own. This includes those individuals who facilitate acts of academic dishonesty by providing papers or other information by another student as their own work. If students have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, it is their responsibility to clarify the matter by conferring with the instructor.

The model for citations and references used in course work is the Manual of Style of the American Medical Association (AMA), Tenth Edition. You can review examples on the AMA Citation Style website (<http://www.lib.jmu.edu/citation/amaguide.pdf>).

**Multiple Submissions:** Submitting substantial portions of the same work for credit more than once, without the prior explicit consent of both the instructor to whom the material is being submitted and the instructor to whom it has been submitted in the past is considered a multiple submission and is considered a violation of academic rules.

**Procedures for Resolving Academic Integrity Cases:**

Step 1. The faculty member/course director should first determine the nature of the breach/infraction of academic policy. During this process, the faculty member/course director must assemble credible and convincing evidence that a breach/infraction of academic policy has occurred and memorialize it in writing.

Step 2. The faculty member/course director should present this evidence in writing and verbally to the Chair of the Department for discussion.

Step 3. If the Chair of the Department believes the evidence to be credible and convincing, the faculty member/course director must communicate to the student in writing within 48 hours of that confirmation that a breach/infraction of academic policy has occurred and arrange to meet with the student as soon as possible.

Step 4. After discussion with the student, the faculty member/course director should determine the course of action. This can include:

- a. requiring that the student redo the assignment in the case of plagiarism
- b. giving a failing grade on the specific academic effort under consideration.
- c. giving a failing grade for the entire course.

The faculty member/course director must communicate their decision to the student in writing, with a copy to the Vice Dean, within 48 hours of having discussed the matter with their Chair and having obtained concurrence that a breach/infraction did indeed occur. The faculty member/course director must memorialize in writing all discussions pertaining to the matter and keep them in a confidential file.

Step 5. In the event that the student is given a failing grade for the course because of the infraction or a failing grade on the assignment that results in a failing grade for the course, the matter will be referred to the Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion and Honors. The Committee will carefully examine the matter within a week of being informed of it and come to a decision which they will immediately communicate to the Vice-Dean for Academic and Student Affairs who in turn will immediately inform the student in writing.

Step 6. The student will have the right to appeal the matter to Dean of the School of Public Health within forty-eight hours of being informed of the decision of the Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion and Honors. The Dean will appoint an Appeals Committee comprised of faculty of the School of Public Health not previously associated with the matter at hand. This Appeals Committee will be provided with all necessary information. The student will have an opportunity to address the committee and present their version of events. The Appeals Committee will come to a decision and refer it to the Dean who will make the final decision.

**Safe Assign Software**

Safe Assign is a software package that provides an “antiplagiarism/anti-cheating” service for checking documents, and a grading system for enhancing feedback to students on written assignments. Faculty members at SUNY Downstate may opt to utilize this software.

Furthermore, other sources must be considered in order to determine whether a violation of academic integrity has occurred. Violations of academic integrity policies by students are subject to academic integrity procedures and sanctions, and/or disciplinary procedures and sanctions.

## PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

All students are expected to exhibit a professional demeanor and behave in an appropriate manner while in class, in Applied Practice Experiences, and when interacting with SPH faculty, staff, and other students, and as individuals and groups within the respective communities. Students are expected to show respect for faculty, staff and fellow students during class and all program related interactions.

**Unprofessional/inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:**

- 1) Late arrival to class.
- 2) Late submission of papers or dated assignments.
- 3) Disruptive behavior in class, which includes the following:
  - a) Reading non-course related material in class.
  - b) Using cell phones/beepers/other electronic devices during class.
  - c) Having non-course related discussions with other students during class.

Please see the SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University Student Handbook (Appendix IV) for The Rules of Student Conduct.

## ABSENCES FROM EXAMS

Students are expected to appear for examinations at the appointed time, or the course instructor may award the student a grade equivalent of “F” or “zero” for the exam. Students must contact the course instructor or the SPH Office of Enrollment and Student Affairs no later than the day of the exam to explain the reason for his/her absence from the scheduled exam. Failure to notify the course instructor in a timely fashion regarding an absence from an exam may result in an “F” or “zero” for the exam. A student may be excused by the course instructor due to illness or other emergency. Personal physician notes (may not be from a relative) or a note from SUNY Downstate Office of Student Health Service must be presented to the course coordinator to document excused absences for illness. (Some courses coordinators may only accept notes from the Student Health Service. Students are advised to consult the course instructor for the policy in that course.) If the student provides appropriate documentation, a make-up exam may be authorized by the course instructor. **The date and time of the make-up is at the discretion of the course instructor and/or the departmental chair.**

## AUDITING

No course auditing will be permitted. Only SPH matriculated students, or those for whom a specific educational program (for example; medical residents/fellows) has been agreed upon by the departmental chair and/or Vice Dean, will be admitted to classes.

## COURSE WITHDRAWALS

A student may withdraw from a course upon his/her written request. The request requires approval by both the course director and the SPH Departmental Chair.

A “W” will be recorded on the student’s official transcript if the withdrawal is prior to the deadline (as specified on the academic calendar) to withdraw with a grade of a “W”.

A “Withdraw Pass” (WP) will be recorded, if a student withdraws at a passing grade level from a course prior to the deadline (as specified on the academic calendar) to withdraw with a “WP” or a WF”.

A “Withdraw Fail” (WF) will be recorded, if a student withdraws at a failing grade level from a course prior to the deadline (as specified on the academic calendar) to withdraw with a “WP” or a WF”.

A “Fail” (F) will be recorded on the student’s official transcript if a student voluntarily withdraws after the deadline (as specified on the academic calendar) to withdraw with a “WP” or a “WF”.

**To withdraw from a course, the student must:**

1. Obtain an Add/Drop form the SPH website or from the SPH Office of Enrollment and Student Affairs,
2. Discuss the intent to withdraw with the assigned faculty advisor,
3. Obtain a withdrawal grade with the signature of the course instructor and the departmental chair, and,
4. Return one copy to the SPH Office of Enrollment and Student Affairs and submit the form to the Registrar’s Office.

Students must speak to the course director and advisor(s) before withdrawing from a course.

Please note that withdrawal within the first week of classes entails no penalties – no “W” on the student’s record; no withdrawal fee. Withdrawal within the second week of classes entails no “W” on the student’s record but does incur a 30 percent of the tuition charge. Please see the academic calendar for specific dates.

## **COURSE/GRADE APPEALS PROCEDURES**

A student who is dissatisfied with a course grade or has been recommended for repeating a course by the SPH Committee of Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors (SEPH) will be granted the right to appeal the recommendation (in writing) to the Departmental Chair. The appeals process is as follows:

A student who is dissatisfied with a course grade or has been recommended for repeating a course by the SPH Committee of Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors (SEPH) has ten (10) business days after the official grade has been submitted to the Office of the Registrar to appeal a grade. After the ten (10) business day deadline, the grade is considered final and no changes can be made.

The appeal process is as follows:

1. Within the ten (10) business day period, a student wishing to appeal a grade must first discuss the matter with the course director.  
If the matter is not resolved at the course director level, the student may appeal to the Departmental Chair by submitting a written appeal to the Departmental Chair, with a copy also to the Vice Dean.
2. The Departmental Chair will review the written appeal and interview the course director. The student will also be provided with an opportunity to discuss his/her grade appeal with the Departmental Chair.
3. Upon completion of the review process, the student will be notified of the final decision of the Departmental Chair within ten (10) business days of his/her grade appeal meeting with the Chair. The Chair is required to employ only his/her best effort to notify the student of his/her status. (Notification will be made to the address on file in the Office of the Registrar and a copy will be sent to the student’s Downstate e-mail account.) A copy of the chair’s decision letter will also be given to the Vice Dean, SPH and the SPH Assistant Dean for Enrollment & Student Affairs.

## **EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE**

The faculty is charged with being objective and fair in the evaluation of student performance. Evaluation of student performance is conducted through multiple measures such as examinations (written and oral), class participation, and by observations in discussion groups.

Attendance in the SPH is a privilege and not a right. The SPH reserves the right to dismiss a student at any time for deficient academic performance or unprofessional behavior as determined by the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors or the disciplinary procedures of the College.

Course instructors are obligated to inform students of the course requirements and evaluation procedures at the beginning of each course. This information must be provided to students in writing. Each course instructor provides students with advice about their academic standing in the course, to detect academic difficulties prior to the final grade.

Course instructors are responsible for entering student grades on the Banner Self-Service system by the semester deadline as specified by the Office of the Registrar. Any grade change must be submitted by the course instructor through the Banner-Self-Service system as well as in writing to the SPH Office of Enrollment and Student Affairs.

Student questions regarding a grade in a course must first be directed to the course instructor. If questions still remain, the student must meet with the departmental chair. The departmental chair's decision is final. If a student believes that his/her final course evaluation has been affected by discriminatory behavior as defined by law, the student is urged to meet with the Vice Dean and/or the Chief Diversity Officer, in addition to the individuals listed above.

Institutional policy prohibits the posting of student grades by social security number or other personally identifiable mechanisms. Some instructors post final grades on the BlackBoard system. To ensure confidentiality, students may access their final grades electronically through the Banner self-service Portal using their student ID numbers and passwords. At the discretion of the departmental chair, students may receive verbal notification of their grades from SPH Assistant Dean for Enrollment & Student Affairs after final grades are submitted to the Registrar each semester.

## **ACADEMIC PROBATION**

A student whose cumulative GPA is below 3.0, based on a minimum of four (4) courses (12 credits), may be placed on academic probation. A student on probation may register for a maximum of six (6) credits per semester.

After completing twelve (12) credits on academic probation, a cumulative GPA of 3.0 must be achieved in order to be removed from academic probation. A student who fails to achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher at the end of taking these additional twelve (12 credits) or whose performance on a lesser number of credits makes it mathematically impossible for him/her to achieve the required GPA of 3.0, shall be referred to the Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors by the departmental chair, which will recommend one of the following options:

1. that the student be dismissed because of poor academic performance;
2. that the student be allowed to continue the next semester on a modified study program and be required to successfully repeat any failed course(s);
3. that the student take a leave of absence (for not more than one year) from the School of Public Health until readmitted to either repeat the course(s) or raise his/her GPA to 3.0;

The Committee may request that members of the faculty who are involved in the case be present to answer questions. They may also request additional information. A formal vote is taken and a recommendation is submitted in writing to the Dean. After considering the recommendations of the Committee, the Dean will make a determination. The Vice Dean will notify the student in writing of the action and of his/her right to appeal (See "Appeal and Notification").

Concurrent degree students who are placed on academic probation will have the other degree program notified of the change in status.

## **DEFICIENT GRADES**

A “Fail” (F) grade and a “Withdraw Fail” (WF) are both considered a deficient grade and can be remediated only by repeating the entire course. However, the “F” grade and the “WF” remain on the official transcript along with the grade achieved by removing the deficiency. A student has only one opportunity to remove a deficient grade in a course. If the student fails this make-up, the student will be given a “Fail” grade.

Deficient grades in two or more courses in a semester may subject the student to dismissal. However, since each student’s academic performance is reviewed on an individual basis; students are advised to meet with his/her student advisor and/or the departmental chair during the academic semester if they have questions about their particular situation.

## **SPH COMMITTEE ON STUDENT EVALUATION, PROMOTION, AND HONORS (SEPH)**

### **Responsibilities**

The SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors is responsible for:

1. Evaluating the academic performance of all students
2. Recommending students for promotion
3. Evaluating students in academic difficulty
4. Consequences to be applied for infractions of academic integrity
5. Recommending plans for remediation of those students with deficiencies or those who have failed to register for the semester without an approved leave of absence
6. Recommending students for graduation (see below for graduation requirements)
7. Recommending the conferring of honors on those students whose work is outstanding
8. Recommending students for marching in the annual May Commencement ceremony

1. Voting Members: The Committee will consist of a minimum of five voting faculty members inclusive of the Chair. All new voting faculty members will be appointed by the Dean.

Eligibility requirements for faculty appointment to the Committee include:

- a. The faculty member must be a member of the voting faculty.
- b. The faculty member may not be an officer of the administration.

2. Non-voting members:

- a. The SPH Vice Dean and the SPH Assistant Dean for Enrollment & Student Affairs.
- b. One representative from the office of Student Affairs.

The following may attend as ex-officio members: SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University Dean or Assistant Dean of Student Affairs.

Meetings of the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors are confidential and closed to all but the members of the Committee and ex-officio members and invited guests.

The Committee will meet a minimum of three times per year; ad hoc meetings will take place as needed. All matters discussed in the Committee are decided by vote in a meeting consisting of at least three voting members.

The Committee may make the following recommendations:

1. Graduation.
2. Graduation with Honors.
3. Promotion, unqualified.

4. Promotion with qualification:
  - a. Recommendation for probationary status (Academic Probation) because of poor academic record or unprofessional behavior.
  - b. Requirement for remedial work, such as a make-up examination or course paper, or repeat of a course/courses
5. Dismissal for academic failure or unprofessional behavior.

All recommendations of the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors, to repeat all or part of a course or courses, dismissal for academic failure, or unprofessional behavior shall require a majority vote. Such recommendations will be submitted to the SPH Dean.

Students will not be allowed more than three (3) years to complete the Advanced Certificate Curriculum, more than six (6) years to complete the MPH curriculum, or eight (8) years to complete the DrPH curriculum, except under special circumstances as determined and approved by the Committee and recommended to the Dean. The time limits pertain only to the MPH or DrPH portion of the concurrent degree program.

The SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors is responsible for recommending to the Dean the dismissal of a student that may occur for any of the following reasons:

1. Unprofessional behavior
2. Inadequate performance while on probation (i.e. receives a deficient grade or violates the conditions of probation).
3. Failure to make satisfactory progress towards graduation.

In the event that the Committee is considering recommending a student for dismissal, prior to the Committee making a final recommendation, the student will be notified in writing and will be given an opportunity to meet with the committee to discuss and clarify any issues regarding his or her academic performance (See Appeals Process described below). The student will have a minimum of 48 hours to prepare his/her statement. If the student opts not to appeal, the recommendation for dismissal will be forwarded to the SPH Dean. A majority vote is required for dismissal.

## **APPEAL AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES**

Students who have been recommended for dismissal for academic failure or unprofessional behavior by the SPH Committee of Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors (SEPH) shall be notified by the SPH Vice Dean (or designee) and may appeal the recommendation (in writing) to the Vice Dean.

Cases in which students are being recommended for academic probation may not be appealed.

The appeals process is as follows:

1. Written (and/or email) notification will be sent by the Vice Dean (or designee) to the student of a decision of the SEPH Committee of unsatisfactory academic progress within five (5) business days of the SEPH Committee's decision. The Vice Dean (or designee) is required to employ only his/her best effort to notify the student of his/her status. (Initial notification will be made to the student's current local address on file with the Office of the Registrar, a copy will be sent to the student's Downstate e-mail account.) Students are responsible for keeping their current mailing address and telephone number on file with the Office of the Registrar and the SPH. Students in academic difficulty are advised to contact the Vice Dean immediately following the SEPH meeting to ascertain their academic status.
2. A student wishing to appeal a dismissal determination affecting him/her, as provided above, must submit a written appeal notice to the Vice Dean no later than three (3) business days after the student has

been sent notification, by mail or email, of the SEPH Committee's action or determination. The written appeal letter should outline reasons for the appeal in detail. Appeals are intended to be expedited in the shortest reasonable time in order to provide the student with the opportunity to register for the ensuing term.

3. The written appeal will be considered by an Ad Hoc Appeals Committee appointed by the Dean. The voting members of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee may not be members of the SEPH Committee and will be selected among those faculty not directly involved with the student's case. There will be a minimum of three voting members on the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee. SUNY Downstate's Associate and SPH Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Student Affairs will serve as ex-officio, non-voting members.

4. The Chair of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee will notify the student in writing that he/she is being granted an opportunity to appear before the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee to discuss, in detail, the reasons for his/her appeal. The Chair shall provide written/email notice of such a meeting (including the date, time and place) to the student and all Ad Hoc Appeals Committee members. The student will have, a minimum of 2 (two) business days advance notice of the meeting day and time. The meeting with the Ad Hoc Committee will be scheduled within 10 (ten) business days the Committee's receipt of the student's written appeal.

5. During the meeting, the student will be given an opportunity to present his/her appeal before the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee. The student will not be allowed to record any of the proceedings. After completion of the student's presentation, members of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee may address questions to the student. Furthermore, the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee may seek information from the program chair, faculty, student's advisor, and/or other parties involved in the case. After the student has made any concluding remarks, the student will leave the meeting so that the Committee can discuss the appeal and make a recommendation to the Dean.

- a. The Ad Hoc Appeals Committee may recommend that the prior action of the SEPH Committee either be upheld, modified, or reversed. A decision requires a majority vote.
- b. The decision of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee will be sent in writing within seven (7) business days by the Chair of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee to the Dean, the Vice Dean, and the SPH Assistant Dean for Enrollment & Student Affairs.
- c. The Vice Dean will notify the student, in writing, of the decision of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee within fourteen (14) business days of his/her appeal meeting. The Vice Dean is required to employ only his/her best effort to notify the student of his/her status. (Notification will be made to the address on file in the Office of the Registrar and a copy will be sent to the student's Downstate e-mail account.)

6. The Dean, after due consideration, may either endorse the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee or make an independent determination. In either event, the Dean's decision is final and binding.

7. The student will be notified of the final decision of the Dean. The Dean is required to employ only his/her best effort to notify the student of his/her status. (Notification will be made to the address on file in the Office of the Registrar and a copy will be sent to the student's Downstate e-mail account.)

## GRADING SYSTEM

Instructors assign a letter grade reflecting the performance of each student in a course. Grade points are assigned to each letter grade based on a 4.0 system and the number of credits for each course. Cumulative grade point averages are calculated each semester.

Course Average	Letter Grade	Grade Points/Credit	
96-100	A	4.00	
90-95	A-	3.67	
85-89	B+	3.33	
80-84	B	3.00	
75-79	B-	2.67	
70-74	C+	2.33	
60-69	C	2.00	
	F	0	If a course in which the student has earned an “F” is successfully repeated, the “F” will appear on the transcript, but will not be counted in the GPA.
	Incomplete	None	
	P	None	Successful completion of course requirements
	W	None	
	WF	0	If a course in which the student has earned a “WF” is successfully repeated, the “WF” will appear on the transcript, but will not be counted in the GPA.
	WP	None	
	Z	None	Thesis in Progress

Fail: failure to successfully complete the requirements for a major portion of the course, failure to complete successfully requirements for the entire course, or withdrawal from a required course after the deadline as indicated on the academic calendar. If a course in which the student has earned an “F” or “WF” is successfully repeated, the “F” or “WF” will appear on the transcript, but will not be counted in the GPA.

Incomplete: a portion of the requirements of a course has not been attempted.

When the course requirements have been completed in a timely fashion (usually within two weeks), the course director submits the change of grade through the Banner-Self-Service system and reports the change of grade to the SPH Office of Enrollment and Student Affairs. If the course requirements have not been completed by the time mutually agreed to by the course director and the student, the “I” grade is changed to an “F”. Course directors must submit any extensions to deadline dates for Incompletes, in writing, to the SPH Office of Enrollment and Student Affairs, who will in turn forward the request to the Office of the Registrar. The maximum length of time for satisfying course requirements is the last day of classes in the subsequent semester, unless there are special circumstances approved by the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors.

To be eligible for graduation, a student must remove any “Incomplete” grade. An “Incomplete” grade is not considered a deficient grade. However, for awarding graduation honors, the outstanding work must be completed before such honors will be granted.

**Credit:** the transcript notation when a student has advanced standing (e.g. transfer credit) for a course previously completed.

A “WF” grade is an academic deficiency and subject to review in the Student Evaluation process.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Students must meet all SPH graduation requirements:

1. Register for, and satisfactorily complete all required course work in the curriculum.
2. Register for, satisfactorily complete the Culminating Experience. DrPH students must register for and satisfactorily complete the Dissertation.
3. Satisfactory remediation of any academic deficiencies.
4. Be in good standing (i.e. not on academic or clinical or disciplinary probation at the time of graduation).
5. A grade point average of B or 3.0 on a 4.0-point system is required for successful completion of the degree requirement. Advanced Certificate students must maintain a cumulative GPA of a 2.0 to be eligible for graduation.
6. Have no disciplinary charges in progress or pending.
7. Satisfy all financial obligations due the SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University.
8. Complete a mandatory financial aid exit interview if the student has received financial aid while at the SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University.

**Please note:** Students are permitted to march in the Commencement Ceremony and have their names listed in the program only once. Any student who meets the above criteria and marches in the Commencement Ceremony and subsequently does not complete the final requirements for graduation WILL NOT be permitted to march again or have his/her name in the program the following year

## **GRADUATION HONORS**

To graduate with honors, a student must meet the following criteria

- a. 3.60 GPA or above
- b. Outstanding (with honors) Successful completion of the Culminating Experience
- c. No “C” or lower grades
- d. No record of lack of professionalism or disciplinary issues while in the program

Students graduating in August or December of the previous year, or May of the current year and participating in the May Commencement Ceremony of the current academic year are eligible for the General Excellence Award for that academic year.

### **August and December Graduates**

SPH students who complete all degree requirements in August or December of a given year may participate in the Commencement Ceremony in May of the following year.

### **Awards for August and December Graduates**

Students, who graduate in August or December of the previous year, or May of the current year, are eligible for all Graduation Awards for that academic year.

## **HEALTH INFORMATION PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA)**

All students must be current in their Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) training prior to matriculation, upon return from any leave of absence, and following any change in the law which requires re-training. Failure to do so will result in not being permitted to register or to participate in any clinical educational activities or Applied Practice Experiences or events which involve

individuals in the field. For more information, contact the Office of the Registrar.

## **LEAVES OF ABSENCE**

All leaves of absence are granted by the departmental chair or the Vice Dean. A request for a leave of absence may be approved or disapproved by the departmental chair. Permission for the leave must be obtained in accordance with these procedures and prior approval to return must also be granted.

### Requesting a Leave:

Students are granted one (1) Leave of Absence while matriculated in the School of Public Health.

To request a Leave of Absence from the School of Public Health, a student must:

1. Obtain a Leave of Absence form from the SPH Office of Student Affairs.
2. Request a leave in writing as specified on the Leave of Absence form. The request must include:
  - a) the length of time desired for the leave (up to one year)
  - b) reasons for the request; and;
  - c) a description of the activities that will make the leave meaningful and useful (outline a plan).
3. This written request must be brought/sent to the SPH Office of Student Affairs, and the student must meet with the departmental chair or the Vice Dean.
4. The student must continue in coursework (barring an emergency situation as defined by the departmental chair), until the leave of absence is approved. The departmental chair (or designee) may request that the student meets with the Vice Dean prior to granting approval for the leave.

Advanced Certificate students have a maximum of three (3) years to complete the requirements.

Master of Public Health students have a maximum of six (6) years to complete the MPH degree.

Doctor of Public Health students have a maximum of eight (8) years to complete the DrPH degree.

If the leave will extend the student's academic time past the maximum number of years allowed to complete the degree, that extension will require approval by the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors

5. Clearances from the Bursar, Financial Aid and Housing, if appropriate, must be obtained. Although the departmental chair may grant a leave, the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors will review the student's academic status up until the time the leave was approved and may recommend action. All grades earned by the student prior to the approval of the leave remain on the student's transcript (permanent record). Leaves of absence may be granted for the following reasons:

- a. For Reasons of a Special Academic Program.
- b. Occasionally, leaves are granted for the purpose of special study. Written requests should be made to the departmental chair with documentation.
- c. For Reasons of Health or other Personal Emergency

If a health, family, social, or emotional situation necessitates time away from the program, a leave of absence may be recommended by the student's advisor or requested by the student. Depending on the nature of the student's request for leave, consultants from the Student Health Service and/or psychiatric consultants may be asked to provide information (with the student's consent) to the committee.

Leaves of absence are granted for a maximum of one year. An extension may occasionally be granted by the Dean, upon recommendation by the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors for unusual circumstances if the student requests an extension in writing at least two months prior to the expected reentry date.

### **Returning from a Leave**

A student may only return if the departmental chair determines that the student has met the goals and conditions for the leave. A request to reenter must be received by the departmental chair by the date specified in the letter from the SPH Committee on Student Evaluation, Promotion, and Honors. Such requests will be evaluated in terms of the student's success in resolving the problems that necessitated the leave and the student's ability to resume the responsibilities of continuing in their program. Every student returning from a leave of absence must be cleared by the Student Health Service and receive written approval to resume classes.

A student granted permission to return from a leave must meet with the departmental chair and/or the student's advisor to schedule courses for the academic year.

If, at the end of the approved absence, the student has not applied for reentry or is not permitted reentry, reentry, the student is withdrawn from the college. There is no appeal from this determination.

### **STUDENT RECORDS**

The SPH is in full compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Buckley Amendment), which gives students access to educational records. Students may arrange to review their program records by making an appointment with the SPH Assistant Dean for Enrollment & Student Affairs in the School of Public Office of Student Affairs.

### **EMAIL**

It is an institutional policy not to communicate with students through personal e-mail accounts. As such, in order to receive official information distributed by faculty and administration, students are responsible for checking their email frequently – at least once a day.

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### **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

This applies to all School of Public Health students. See Appendix IV

### **EMERGENCIES (WEATHER AND OTHER EVENTS)**

While Downstate Health Sciences University (school and hospital) has not been closed due to a snow emergency, if such a declaration were to be made, an announcement would be made on local radio or television stations, the same as the notification for other school closings. You may also telephone the University Operator at 718 270-1000.

Only the President of the Downstate Health Sciences University is authorized to cancel academic classes at Downstate Health Sciences University.

However, inclement weather or other events may cause the cancellation of specific classes by the course instructor or college dean. If a weather emergency or other emergency event should occur, you should check the SUNY Downstate and SPH websites for information. In addition, you may telephone the general campus telephone number which is 718 270-1000.

When you call 718 270-1000, you will hear, “Welcome to Downstate Health Sciences University and its University Hospital of Brooklyn. University Hospital and all Colleges remain OPEN today. However, college class instructors have the option of canceling individual classes. Students should Press “2” to hear the status of classes in your individual program. All others, Press “1” to continue to the main menu.”

When you press “2,” you will hear

For FOUNDATIONS press 1

For MS2, press 2

For College of Nursing, press 3

For School of Health Professions, press 4

For the School of Graduate Studies, press 5

For the School of Public Health, press 6

OR, you may call the School of Public Health Office of Student Affairs at (718) 270-1065 for any information regarding cancellation or delayed starting time.

## MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Public Health (MPH) program is designed to be completed in one year of full-time academic work, or up to six years of part-time academic work, including the Culminating Experience.

A master's degree candidate must complete the proposed MPH program core requirements as well as the requirements of a track specialty within a department. Electives, which provide a further in-depth examination of selected issues, will complete the program requirements. Please note that all students are **strongly** advised to take the MPH core courses, followed by their respective track courses before taking elective courses.

For all students, the number of credits required for successful completion of the program is 42.

All students must complete a Culminating Experience that integrates theory and practice. The SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University School of Public Health is well situated to work with students to arrange a Culminating Experience through collaborative arrangements with an array of public and private hospitals, community-based organizations, and local, state, and federal agencies. Students are also encouraged to identify opportunities for a Culminating Experience.

### MPH CORE REQUIREMENTS (18 CREDITS) – For students enrolling in or after Fall 2019

All students enrolling in the MPH degree in or after Fall 2019, regardless of specialty, must complete 18 credits of MPH core requirements, 12 credits of the track specialty requirements, 9 credits of electives, one (1) credit of the Applied Practice Experience, and two (2) credits of the Culminating Experience. The MPH core requirements are listed below.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
BIOS 5200	Principles of Biostatistics	3	None
CHSC 5206	Program Design and Evaluation (Formerly: Program Planning and Evaluation)	3	None
EOHS 5200	Issues in Environmental Health	3	None
EPID 5200	Principles of Epidemiology	3	None
HPMG 5206	Introduction to Health Policy and Management	3	None
PUBH 5201	Public Health Leadership in Interprofessional Practice	3	None

### MPH CORE REQUIREMENTS (15 CREDITS) – For students enrolling prior to Fall 2019

All students enrolling in the MPH degree prior to Fall 2019, regardless of specialty, must complete 15 credits of MPH core requirements, 12 credits of the track specialty requirements, 12 credits of electives, one (1) credit of the Applied Practice Experience, and two (2) credits of the Culminating Experience. The MPH core requirements are listed below.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
BIOS 5200	Principles of Biostatistics	3	None
CHSC 5200	Health Behavior and Risk Reduction	3	None
EOHS 5200	Issues in Environmental Health	3	None
EPID 5200	Principles of Epidemiology	3	None
HPMG 5206	Introduction to Health Policy and Management	3	None

## MPH TRACK REQUIREMENTS BY DEPARTMENT

### BIOSTATISTICS (BIOS) CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)

In addition to the MPH core requirements, all students for an MPH with a specialization in Biostatistics must complete the core requirements for the BIOS track.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
BIOS 5201	Categorical Data Analysis	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200, BIOS 5202
BIOS 5202	Applied Regression Analysis	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200
BIOS 5203	Survival Analysis	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200, BIOS 5202
BIOS 5204	Statistical Computing	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200

### ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a BIOS MPH. Please note that some electives require a prerequisite course. Electives are based on student interest with advisor approval.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
BIOS 5304	Design And Analysis of Clinical Trials	3	BIOS 5200

### COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES (CHSC) CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)

In addition to completing the MPH core requirements, all students for an MPH with a specialization in Urban and Immigrant Health must complete the core requirements for the CHSC Urban and Immigrant Health track. Electives are based on student interest with advisor approval.

#### For students enrolling in the MPH-CHSC Program in or after to Fall 2019

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
CHSC 5200	Health Behavior and Risk Reduction	3	None
CHSC 5202	Issues in the Health of Immigrant Populations	3	None
CHSC 5205	Urban Health Issues	3	None
CHSC 5300	Introduction to Research Methods	3	None

#### For students enrolling in the MPH-CHSC Program prior to Fall 2019

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
CHSC 5202	Issues in the Health of Immigrant Populations	3	None
CHSC 5203	Sex, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity (Students who enroll prior to Fall 2019, may elect to complete CHSC 5300: Introduction to Research instead of CHSC 5203)	3	None
CHSC 5205	Urban Health Issues	3	None
CHSC 5206	Planning Design and Evaluation (Formerly: Program Planning and Evaluation)	3	None

## **ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a CHSC MPH. Please note that some electives may require a prerequisite course. Electives are based on student interest with advisor approval.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
CHSC 5203	Sex, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity	3	None
CHSC 5312	Reading Seminar on the Social Determinants of Health	3	None
CHSC 5313	Public Health and Well-Being	3	CHSC 5200

## **ENVIRONMENT AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES (EOHS) CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)**

In addition to the MPH core requirements, all students for an MPH with a specialization in Environment and Occupational Health Sciences must complete the following core requirements for the EOHS track.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
EOHS 5201	Introduction to Management, Policy and Law	3	EOHS 5200
EOHS 5202	Occupational Health	3	None
EOHS 5203	Built Environment & Public Health	3	None
EOHS 5205	Public Health Aspects of Physical Trauma	3	None

## **ENVIRONMENT AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES (EOHS) ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS)**

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a BIOS MPH. All students must complete twelve (12) elective credits. Please note that some electives require a prerequisite course. Electives are based on student interest with advisor approval.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
EOHS 5302	Women's Health Policy: Epidemiology and the Environment	3	EOHS 5200
EOHS 5304	Case Studies in Environmental Health	3	EOHS 5200
EOHS 5306	Risk Assessment and Communication	3	EOHS 5200
EOHS 5307	Occupational & Environmental Epidemiology	3	EOHS 5200, BIOS 5200, EPID 5200
EOHS 5308	Environmental and Occupational Toxicology	3	None
EOHS 5309	Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis	3	None
EOHS 5311	Geographic Information Systems for Global Health	3	None

## **EPIDEMIOLOGY (EPID) CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)**

In addition to the MPH core requirements, all students for an MPH with a specialization in Epidemiology must complete the following core requirements for the EPID track.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
EPID 5201	Epidemiologic Research Methods	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200
EPID 5202	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	3	EPID 5200
EPID 5203	Chronic Disease Epidemiology	3	EPID 5200
EPID 5205	Epidemiologic Research Methods II	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200, EPID 5201

**ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a EPID MPH. Please note that some electives require a prerequisite course. Electives are based on student interest with advisor approval.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
EPID 5301	Reproductive Epidemiology	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200
EPID 5303	Nutritional Epidemiology	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200
EPID 5305	Epidemiology of Aging	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200
EPID 5308	Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology	3	BIOS 5200, EPID 5200
EPID 5311	The Epidemiology of Emerging Infectious Diseases	3	EPID 5200, EPID 5202

**HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT (HPMG) CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)**

In addition to the MPH core requirements, all students for an MPH with a specialization in Health Policy and Management must complete the following core requirements for the HPMG track.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
HPMG 5202	Health Care Advocacy and Politics	3	HPMG 5206
HPMG 5203	Health Management Concepts	3	HPMG 5206
HPMG 5204	Access, Cost and Quality of Care	3	HPMG 5206
HPMG 5207	Principles in Hospital Management	3	HPMG 5206

**ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a HPMG MPH. Please note that some electives require a prerequisite course. Electives are based on student interest with advisor approval.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
HPMG 5306	Policy Studies in Urban and Immigrant Health	3	None
HPMG 5307	Global Issues in Maternal and Child Health Policy	3	HPMG 5206
HPMG 5308	Public Health Law and Bioethics	3	None
HPMG 5309	Policy Issues in Mental Illness	3	None
HPMG 5311	International Healthcare Systems	3	None
HPMG 5313	Healthcare Disparities and Disabilities in United States	3	None

**APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE AND THE CULMINATING EXPERIENCE:**

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Pre-requisite Courses
PUBH 6500	MPH Applied Practice Experience	1	All CORE courses must be completed.
BIOS 6001	MPH Culminating Experience in Biostatistics	2	All CORE and TRACK courses must be completed.
CHSC 6001	MPH Culminating Experience in Community Health Sciences	2	All CORE and TRACK courses must be completed.
EOHS 6001	MPH Culminating Experience in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences	2	All CORE and TRACK courses must be completed.
EPID 6001	MPH Culminating Experience in Epidemiology	2	All CORE and TRACK courses must be completed.
HPMG 6001	MPH Culminating Experience in Health Policy and Management	2	All CORE and TRACK courses must be completed.

## **MPH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **REQUIRED MPH CORE COURSES (18 credits - For students enrolling in or after Fall 2019)**

#### **BIOS 5200: Principles of Biostatistics (3)**

Introduction to statistical methods in public health. The course will cover descriptive statistics, probability concepts, and estimation of parameters, hypothesis testing, simple linear regression, correlation, and analysis of attribute data.

#### **CHSC 5206: Program Design and Evaluation (3) (Formerly: Program Planning and Evaluation)**

This course provides students with a foundation in program design and evaluation of health promotion strategies in urban, hard to reach populations. Students will work on an existing NYC public health intervention as a case study of how program design and evaluation is approached in the real-world. The course begins with a strong emphasis on the development of a logic model which serves as a unifying language for evaluators, program managers and stakeholders alike. Then, students will learn how to identify and critically apply behavioral/social scientific theory and evidence-based approaches to all phases of program design and evaluation. At conclusion, students will be able to articulate the importance of and a framework for examining program sustainability and translation. Students will acquire key public health foundational competencies that they can build upon to effectively address the urban health challenges of today.

#### **EOHS 5200: Issues in Environmental Health (3)**

Major environmental health issues. The course addresses public health issues in the management of water quality, wastewater, occupational health, trace elements, municipal and hazardous waste, vector control and air quality.

#### **EPID 5200: Principles of Epidemiology (3)**

This course offers an introduction to the principles, concepts, and methods of epidemiologic research. Topics include the calculation, interpretation and application of measures of disease frequency, association and public health impact; epidemiologic study design and analysis (including the role of chance, bias and confounding); direct standardization of rates, statistical inference and principles of screening. This course also teaches students how to apply epidemiologic methods to critically analyze and interpret public health literature.

#### **HPMG 5206: Introduction to Health Policy and Management (3)**

This course uses a multi-disciplinary approach to policy and management in both the healthcare and the public health systems. Students will learn the organization, financing, and delivery of services within these systems as well as their legal and ethical bases. Students will also develop skills in program planning, development, budgeting, and evaluation; in strategic planning; in ensuring community health safety and preparedness; and in quality improvement initiatives. A central theme of the course is the accessibility and outcomes of care for urban and immigrant populations.

#### **PUBH 5201: Public Health Leadership in Interprofessional Practice (3)**

The course will provide students with the tools needed to be successful public health practitioners in a variety of settings: departments of health, academic research, non-profit and community-based organizations.

Students will gain the ability to discuss and clarify each profession's scope of practice and roles of each interprofessional team member. Leadership skills will be taught and reinforced through group interaction exercises and presentations.

## **REQUIRED MPH CORE COURSES (15 credits - For students enrolling prior to Fall 2019)**

### **BIOS 5200: Principles of Biostatistics (3)**

Introduction to statistical methods in public health. The course will cover descriptive statistics, probability concepts, and estimation of parameters, hypothesis testing, simple linear regression, correlation, and analysis of attribute data.

### **CHSC 5200: Health Behavior and Risk Reduction (3)**

An introduction to the concepts, theories, and status of research in health promotion and disease prevention, with an emphasis on methods employed to modify group and individual health-related behaviors. This course examines methods of ascertaining health behaviors, the design and interpretation of behavioral intervention programs to modify behaviors, and current trends in the study of how lifestyle and preventive health practices impact on public health.

### **EOHS 5200: Issues in Environmental Health (3)**

Major environmental health issues. The course addresses public health issues in the management of water quality, wastewater, occupational health, trace elements, municipal and hazardous waste, vector control and air quality.

### **EPID 5200: Principles of Epidemiology (3)**

This course offers an introduction to the principles, concepts, and methods of epidemiologic research. Topics include the calculation, interpretation and application of measures of disease frequency, association and public health impact; epidemiologic study design and analysis (including the role of chance, bias and confounding); direct standardization of rates, statistical inference and principles of screening. This course also teaches students how to apply epidemiologic methods to critically analyze and interpret public health literature.

### **HPMG 5206: Introduction to Health Policy and Management (3)**

This course uses a multi-disciplinary approach to policy and management in both the healthcare and the public health systems. Students will learn the organization, financing, and delivery of services within these systems as well as their legal and ethical bases. Students will also develop skills in program planning, development, budgeting, and evaluation; in strategic planning; in ensuring community health safety and preparedness; and in quality improvement initiatives. A central theme of the course is the accessibility and outcomes of care for urban and immigrant populations.

## **REQUIRED MPH TRACK CORE COURSES (12 credits)**

### **BIostatistics Core Requirements**

#### **BIOS 5201: Categorical Data Analysis (3)**

This course covers analytical techniques involved in the analysis of studies where subjects have been cross-classified by two or more categorical variables. Special emphasis will be on problems related to epidemiology, public health and medicine. Topics will include: significance versus magnitude of association; estimation of relative risk; matching cases and controls; effects, measurement, and control of misclassification errors; combining evidence from many studies; and logistic regression. Students will be introduced to the SPSS statistical package for the topics covered in the course.

*Prerequisite: BIOS 5200, EPID 5200, BIOS 5202*

#### **BIOS 5202: Applied Regression Analysis (3)**

This course emphasizes the concepts and applications of building and evaluating regression models for public health studies. It covers simple and multiple linear regression models, including polynomial regression and analysis of variance (ANOVA) and co-variance (ANCOVA) for design of experiments as special cases. Binary regression including logistic regression and application to case-control studies will be discussed. In addition, loglinear models for count data will be covered.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 5200, EPID 5200*

**BIOS 5203: Survival Analysis (3)**

This course covers the basic theoretical aspects and applications of various models to analyze "time to event" data. Basic concepts such as the survival function, hazard function, left and right hand censoring, and common parametric models for analyzing survival data will be covered. The proportional hazards (PH) model with fixed and time dependent covariates, the stratified PH model, regression diagnostics for survival models, additive hazards regression models and multivariate survival models will also be covered.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 5200, EPID 5200, BIOS 5202*

**BIOS 5204: Statistical Computing (3)**

This course will give students a working knowledge of two statistical analysis software packages, SAS and SPSS. Emphasis will be placed on the basics of data management of files, data manipulation, basic data display, graphical display of data and statistical analysis. Although the Windows environment will be discussed, emphasis will be placed on the writing of program code.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 5200, EPID 5200.*

**BIOSTATISTICS ELECTIVES**

**(12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students can choose elective courses from the list below. Students may also opt to choose courses from other departments to satisfy the elective requirements.

**BIOS 5304: Design and Analysis of Clinical Trials (3)**

This course covers fundamental concepts in the design and conduct of modern clinical trials. Topics include: sample size and power, reliability of measurement, the parallel-groups design, factorial designs, blocking, stratification, analysis of covariance, the crossover study, latin squares.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 5200.*

**COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES (URBAN & IMMIGRANT HEALTH)**

**TRACK CORE COURSES (12 credits) - For students enrolling in or after Fall 2019**

**CHSC 5200: Health Behavior and Risk Reduction (3)**

An introduction to the concepts, theories, and status of research in health promotion and disease prevention, with an emphasis on methods employed to modify group and individual health-related behaviors. This course examines methods of ascertaining health behaviors, the design and interpretation of behavioral intervention programs to modify behaviors, and current trends in the study of how lifestyle and preventive health practices impact on public health.

**CHSC 5202: Issues in the Health of Immigrant Populations (3)**

Emigration from another country can have important effects on the health of the émigré. The demographic, scientific, clinical, economic, social, political, ethical, and legal factors of the country of origin interact with those of the new country.

They are manifest in different ways in the health of immigrants – new and old. This course will consider these and other related public health issues across the lifespan.

**CHSC 5205: Urban Health Issues (3)**

The goal of this course is to prepare public health professionals to analyze and intervene in urban health issues. The course explores the health of urban populations around the world, with a special focus on New York City, from historical, economic, social, spatial, and medical perspectives. Key concepts include social capital, social cohesion, social hierarchies, social networks, public health infrastructure, healthy neighborhoods, health disparities, globalization, and micro-geographic analysis. Each semester the class will explore three health topics in depth and will organize a neighborhood mini-conference on one of these topics in collaboration with local stakeholders. In addition, each student will perform weekly

analyses of his/her neighborhood of residence and periodic analyses of the neighborhood surrounding SUNY-Downstate.

### **CHSC 5300: Introduction to Research Methods (3)**

This course is an introduction to the philosophy, goals and methods of research, particularly in community health sciences. Whether your task is to describe a problem, inform the develop of an intervention, or conduct an evaluation, the principles of research are the same. The course is intended for students who plan to design a proposal or research project. Students will be able to select the best method and design for their research project, develop a plan for data collection and analysis, and prepare and develop a strategy for presenting their research proposal to different audiences.

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES (URBAN & IMMIGRANT HEALTH)**

### **TRACK CORE COURSES (12 credits) – For students enrolling prior to Fall 2019**

### **CHSC 5202: Issues in the Health of Immigrant Populations (3)**

Emigration from another country can have important effects on the health of the émigré. The demographic, scientific, clinical, economic, social, political, ethical, and legal factors of the country of origin interact with those of the new country.

They are manifest in different ways in the health of immigrants – new and old. This course will consider these and other related public health issues across the lifespan.

### **CHSC 5203: Sex, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity in Health (3)**

(Students who enroll prior to Fall 2019, may elect to complete CHSC 5300: Introduction to Research instead of CHSC 5203)

The health and well being of human beings have been under intense scrutiny and involved important changes during the 20th century. Gender and racial/ethnic inequities are being addressed and gaps in knowledge narrowing. These changes involve multiple factors. This course considers many of those factors as they interact with demographic, scientific, clinical, economic, social, political, ethical, and legal issues.

### **CHSC 5205: Urban Health Issues (3)**

The goal of this course is to prepare public health professionals to analyze and intervene in urban health issues. The course explores the health of urban populations around the world, with a special focus on New York City, from historical, economic, social, spatial, and medical perspectives. Key concepts include social capital, social cohesion, social hierarchies, social networks, public health infrastructure, healthy neighborhoods, health disparities, globalization, and micro-geographic analysis. Each semester the class will explore three health topics in depth and will organize a neighborhood mini-conference on one of these topics in collaboration with local stakeholders. In addition, each student will perform weekly analyses of his/her neighborhood of residence and periodic analyses of the neighborhood surrounding SUNY-Downstate.

### **CHSC 5206: Program Design and Evaluation (3)** (Formerly: Program Planning and Evaluation)

Community-based programs that are designed to change health-related behaviors comprise the vast majority of the public health efforts to reduce the morbidity and mortality in populations. This course covers the life stage of community-based programs from inception, implementation, and sustainability. The course applies the theoretical concepts from the social and behavioral sciences, health education, and health communication to the planning, design, and evaluation of community-based interventions. A program-planning framework provides the methodology to examine social and behavioral determinants of health and to identify appropriate intervention and evaluation design. Characteristics of theory-based interventions are discussed, critiqued, and assessed for relevance to the needs of the students who will have the opportunity to apply these ideas to their own work.

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES (URBAN & IMMIGRANT HEALTH) ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students can choose elective courses from the list below. Students may also opt to choose courses from other departments to satisfy the elective requirements.

### **CHSC 5203: Sex, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity in Health (3)**

The health and well-being of human beings have been under intense scrutiny and involved important changes during the 20th century. Gender and racial/ethnic inequities are being addressed and gaps in knowledge narrowing. These changes involve multiple factors. This course considers many of those factors as they interact with demographic, scientific, clinical, economic, social, political, ethical, and legal issues.

### **CHSC 5312: Reading Seminar on the Social Determinants of Health (3)**

The social, economic, political, and physical conditions in which we live have an enormous impact on public health. These conditions, which are called the social determinants of health, include distribution of power and resources within and across populations, and account for enormous health disparities domestically and globally. In this course, we will engage in an in-depth exploration of the social determinants of health through the critical reading and analysis of books that focus on one or more of these determinants, and will discuss how public health efforts can be leveraged to improve those social conditions that impact health and quality of life.

### **CHSC 5313: Public Health and Well-Being (3)**

The World Health Organization defines health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being. Policy makers, behavioral economists, public health professionals, health care experts, and others have begun to expand their focus on approaches to reducing illness and suffering to include how best to promote and support thriving and resilient communities, characterized by high levels of subjective well-being. In this course, we will explore how factors such as resilience, positive affect, optimism, coping style, and social functioning are linked to individual and public health, how features of the social environment and culture impact these characteristics, and how public health professionals can contribute to the design and implementation of interventions at the individual, interpersonal, community, and policy levels in support of health promotion and overall well-being.

*Prerequisite: CHSC 5200*

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES REQUIRED TRACK CORE COURSES (12 credits)**

### **EOHS 5201: Introduction to Management, Policy and Law (3)**

An overview of the history and current application of laws and rules used to protect the environment. This course is oriented towards United States federal legislation, as well as examples from New York State law. The evolution of specific acts including Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Clean Air Act (CAA) and Clean Water Act (CWA), the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) will be covered. International environmental health laws, including Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), the European toxic substances control initiative, will be included. Emphasis will be placed on viewing environmental and occupational health law from an environmental justice perspective and examining the role of equity in environmental planning, policy-making, decision-making and in the distribution of environmental burdens and benefits.

*Prerequisite: EOHS 5200*

### **EOHS 5202: Occupational Health (3)**

Surveys the history of occupational health, the continuum from exposure to disease, the hierarchy of controls in the workplace, occupational health hazards, legal and regulatory issues, provision of occupational health services, and methods in comprehensive workplace health improvement.

**EOHS 5203: Built Environment & Public Health (3)**

Explores basic concepts of toxicology as applied to environmental toxicants including the distribution, metabolism, and elimination of environmental chemicals in the body. Examines the application of these concepts to the understanding of disease processes resulting from adverse environmental exposures.

**EOHS 5205: Public Health Aspects of Physical Trauma (3)**

Examination of injury and violence as seen in urban settings. The course is designed to incorporate models into practical application in communities using case examples.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES ELECTIVES****ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students can choose elective courses from the list below. Students may also opt to choose courses from other departments to satisfy the elective requirements.

**EOHS 5302: Women's Health Policy: Epidemiology and the Environment (3)**

This course will identify key indicators of women's health and women's health needs utilizing both environmental health sciences and health policy perspectives. Current and historical examples will highlight how health. Needs, medical practice and policies have evolved over time.

*Prerequisites: EOHS 5200.*

**EOHS 5307: Occupational & Environmental Epidemiology (3)**

This course provides an overview of current topics and controversies in occupational and environmental epidemiology. It will provide the student with familiarity with research techniques in this area, and capacity to evaluate current research relevant to public health practice and policy. The course is structured as a seminar, with discussion of research topics and techniques based upon analysis of published papers in the field, both historical and current. Guidance will be provided and students will be expected to produce increasingly sophisticated critiques of research as the course progresses.

*Prerequisites: EOHS 5200, BIOS 5200, EPID 5200.*

**EPIDEMIOLOGY REQUIRED TRACK CORE COURSES (12 credits)****EPID 5201: Epidemiologic Research Methods (3)**

This course introduces concepts of study design, data management and data analysis that are suitable for epidemiologic research. This course will enable students to design studies and write competitive proposals on contemporary issues in epidemiology and public health affecting immigrant and urban populations. Students will be provided with the practical skills necessary to plan and carry out research projects. Specifically, learners will explore principles and concepts associated with the design of sample surveys that are representative of populations and the analysis of data from such surveys. Throughout the course, students will be asked to prepare comprehensive, concise written reports for a variety of audiences.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 5200, EPID 5200.*

**EPID 5202: Infectious Disease Epidemiology (3)**

This course provides students with a multidisciplinary framework for understanding the principles of interventions against infectious diseases. The course also provides knowledge and understanding of disease agents in the context of their routes of transmission and examines the reasons for successes, partial successes and failures of interventions, taking into account the social, political and economic contexts in which health systems operate. Specific topics related to the epidemiology of communicable diseases include: basic concepts and methods; epidemiologic aspects of vaccination; surveillance and outbreak investigation and the control of communicable disease in countries with a developed public health infrastructure.

*Prerequisites: EPID 5200.*

### **EPID 5203: Chronic Disease Epidemiology (3)**

This course explores the burden of chronic non-communicable diseases (CNCDs) in NY. Using a variety of sources of data (e.g. US Census data, NYS Cancer Registry and Community Health Survey) relevant to immigrant and urban populations in NY, this course will review the epidemiology of obesity, cardiovascular diseases (hypertension, stroke, coronary artery disease) and diabetes and cancer. This course also reviews the methodological issues in different types of study designs aimed at identifying the determinants of major CNCDs, and teaches students how plan successful preventive strategies.

*Prerequisites: EPID 5200.*

### **EPID 5205: Epidemiologic Research Methods II (3)**

This course is the culmination of the principles of epidemiology methodology. It follows the introduction to epidemiologic concepts in EPID 5200 and the intermediate methods covered in EPID 5201. This course is comprised of two distinct sections. The first half focuses on concepts of causality, by examining both the philosophical underpinnings and the statistical and logical applications of associative inference. Major concepts given in-depth coverage include the following: the comparison of and contrast between measures of effect and measures of association; confounding, effect modification and bias, with an emphasis on the tools applied in their measurement and assessment; the purpose of randomization. The second half of the course focuses on the practical implementation of various modeling strategies to measure the association between an exposure and outcome while simultaneously addressing confounding, effect modification and biases. Outcomes commonly encountered in epidemiology will be explored, and therefore will demonstrate the application of linear, logistic and Poisson regression techniques. The use of propensity score models for unmeasured confounding will also be considered. The modeling mechanics of each technique will be taught, but always with an emphasis on each technique's strengths and limitations and its overall relevance to causality and inference. Moreover, these specific regression techniques are located in a broader general approach to the analysis of an exposure-outcome association, which applies formal univariate and bivariate association techniques prior to the application of multivariable methods. As such, the student will obtain a thorough understanding of causal interpretation of exposure-outcome associations by developing a strict step-by-step approach to epidemiologic analyses.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 5200, EPID 5200, EPID 5201.*

## **EPIDEMIOLOGY ELECTIVE COURSES**

**ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students can choose elective courses from the list below. Students may also opt to choose courses from other departments to satisfy the elective requirements.

### **EPID 5301: Reproductive Epidemiology (3)**

This course explores the nature and determinants of ill-health in pregnant women and babies, and to demonstrate the contribution of epidemiologic methods to problem identification and to the design and evaluation of strategies to improve maternal and child health. Topics of discussion include disparities between various population groups, contraception, menstruation, fertility, abortion, menopause, and maternal morbidity and mortality. Discussion of contemporary issues in safe motherhood and perinatal health in developing countries will also be provided throughout the course.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 5200, EPID 5200.*

### **EPID 5303: Nutritional Epidemiology (3)**

This course applies epidemiologic methods and principles to current studies of diet, nutrition and chronic disease. Students will gain expertise in understanding the current state of knowledge on the relationship between nutrition and disease including the role of co-factors. Strengths and weaknesses of the methods available to assess exposure in nutritional epidemiologic studies will be presented as students will be asked to critically evaluate epidemiologic evidence on diet-disease relationships. Other topics to be covered include: evaluation of methods to prevent nutrition-related diseases through strategies aimed at promoting population based dietary change, identification, summarization and interpretation of a range of materials relevant to the specification of priority nutrition problems in a given population; discussion of

the constraints involved in program implementation; presentation of a proposal for a nutrition intervention orally and in summary written form.

**Prerequisites:** BIOS 5200, EPID 5200.

### **EPID 5305: Epidemiology of Aging (3)**

This course will prepare students to effectively study health characteristics of the rapidly increasing population of older adults in the United States. Some of the topics covered will include changes in national and international age and lifespan demographics; theories of aging; the limits of the human lifespan and life-extension efforts; the interrelation of aging, health, and the environment; measurement of survival, mortality, and cause of death; measurement of physical functioning and activities of daily living; age- and disease-related changes in cognitive functioning; depression in older adults; injury (falls, driving accidents); the influence of age on disease and how to account for the age effects in the study of disease; health, frailty, and “successful” aging. Students will examine methods for conducting epidemiological studies in older populations and the implications of an aging society on public health practice.

**Prerequisites:** BIOS 5200, EPID 5200.

### **EPID 5308: Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology**

Reproductive and perinatal epidemiology is a profoundly important aspect of public health. Both the reproductive and perinatal time periods set the pace not only for immediate birth outcomes, but also health over the life span. This reproductive and perinatal epidemiology course covers broad reproductive and perinatal health issues from the pre-conception, prenatal, delivery and post-natal periods and emphasizes health issues affecting both women and infants. Topics of discussion included disparities between various population groups, male and female fertility, fetal growth, maternal and infant morbidity and mortality, study designs and causal inference.

**Prerequisites:** BIOS 5200, EPID 5200

### **EPID 5311: The Epidemiology of Emerging Infectious Diseases (3)**

This course explores the landscapes of emerging infectious diseases in several varied geographies and ecologies. We first explore the biologic, ecologic, physical, and social concepts of emerging and re-emerging infections. We then identify and apply methodology relevant to the surveillance and investigation of such infections. Several case studies of emerging/re-emerging infectious diseases will be used to develop techniques for applied infectious disease epidemiology specific to the unique context of these emergent infections. Some examples may include dengue fever, Lyme disease, West Nile virus, pandemic influenza, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB), methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), hemorrhagic fevers, Henipavirus infections, and measles. All techniques are grounded in a landscape epidemiology approach to infectious disease, which recognizes spatial and ecologic parameters as critical to the etiologic understanding of these important diseases. The relationships between humans and the environment, humans and animals (both wild and domestic), and humans and humans, will be explored in both urban and rural contexts to identify critical epidemiologic features that can be exploited by pathogens to cause disease.

**Prerequisites:** EPID 5200, EPID 5202

## HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT REQUIRED TRACK CORE COURSES (12 credits)

### **HPMG 5202: Health Care Advocacy and Politics (3)**

This course will review basic legal and legislative processes at both state and federal levels. Students will learn how changes are made in the health system and ways of abetting change.

*Prerequisite: HPMG 5206.*

### **HPMG 5203: Health Management Concepts (3)**

Basic concepts of management and organization behavior will be explored in this course. The role of management in complex organizations and the ways in which organizations change will be discussed. Students will learn how to relate to supervisors and staff and how to encourage optimal working conditions.

*Prerequisite: HPMG 5206.*

### **HPMG 5204: Access, Cost and Quality of Care (3)**

This course will look in detail at the U.S. Health care system in terms of its major components, their interactions, and how to best effect positive change that will improve health and health care services for the population.

*Prerequisite: HPMG 5206.*

### **HPMG 5207: Principles in Hospital Management (3)**

This course helps prepare a student for potential leadership positions in hospitals and other healthcare settings. It explores in depth a range of practical topics including governance, legal and ethical issues, risk management, quality management, accreditation, licensing, marketing, financial management, regulatory compliance, strategic planning, departmental roles and the migration of services to ambulatory settings. Case studies, team exercises, and interviews with organizational leaders form the framework of the course.

*Prerequisite: HPMG 5206.*

## **HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ELECTIVES (12 CREDITS for Students who entered prior to Fall 2019. All others complete 9 CREDITS)**

Students can choose elective courses from the list below. Students may also opt to choose courses from other departments to satisfy the elective requirements.

### **HPMG 5306: Policy Studies in Urban and Immigrant Health (3)**

This course will explore from a public health perspective the range of policies that affect specific vulnerable groups. This approach exemplifies a core aspect of Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health:

*Public health should advocate and work for the empowerment of disenfranchised community members, aiming to ensure that the basic resources and conditions necessary for health are accessible to all.*

Part of this hybrid course will take place asynchronously on-line. Each semester it will focus on three or four groups, which may vary over time. Examples may include injured veterans, undocumented immigrants, youth gangs, refugees, sex workers, or persons with chronic mental illness. A multidisciplinary faculty will explore with students the relevant policy issues and the potential public health responses. Students will complete a service-learning project in collaboration with members of one of the groups studied.

*No prerequisite. Open to non-matriculated students with instructor's approval.*

### **HPMG 5307 Global Issues in Maternal and Child Health Policy**

This course helps prepare the student for a public health career to improve maternal and child health globally or locally. Part of this hybrid course will take place asynchronously on-line. Case studies from around the world will be the basis for critical analysis of current policies and of the evidence base for successful interventions. Typical issues for study include maternal mortality, contraception, safe abortion, female genital cutting, child survival, stillbirths, refugee populations, birth outcomes among

immigrants to the US, sex trafficking, and toxic environmental exposures to women and children. All students will participate in a service-learning project related to the course content.

*Prerequisite: HPMG 5206.*

### **HPMG 5308: Public Health Law and Bioethics (3)**

This course explores the basic tenets of bioethics along with basic principles of laws pertaining to public health. Practical applications of these foundational principles will be explored and demonstrated using actual cases, real-life scenarios requiring critical thinking and other assignments which call upon a student's ability to balance established rules and accepted practices with their personal opinions. Throughout the course distinctions will be made between health law and public health law and the relevance to various professional practices will be delineated. Contemporary challenges in health care and public health delivery, especially in urban settings that address immigrant issues, will be emphasized. The students will emerge from the course with a better understanding of the legal milieu in which we must function. Students also will be better prepared to enter public health-related practice with a basic understanding of bioethical principles relevant to contemporary challenges in public health and health care practice.

*No prerequisite. Open to non-matriculated students with instructor's approval.*

### **HPMG 5309: Policy Issues in Mental Illness (3)**

This entirely on-line and asynchronous course over a semester prepares the student to participate as a public health professional in analysis and advocacy for effective public health policies on the major mental illnesses globally: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major depression. The course emphasizes current scientific understanding of these disorders within a social-ecological framework. The class analyzes past and current federal and state laws on treatment, income support, and criminal justice involving the mentally ill in terms of effectiveness and social justice. A special focus of the class is policy implications for urban and immigrant populations. The class also compares U.S. practices with emerging global health models of best practices.

### **HPMG 5311: International Healthcare Systems (3)**

The goal of this course is to compare and consider the different aspects of international health care systems. The course will examine health care, financing, organization, governance, coordination, disparities, and practice.

At the conclusion of the course, you should be able to:

- Identify the main components and issues of each organization, financing, and delivery of health services in the particular country
- Discuss the policy process for each system and compare it with selected others
- Identify key factors and their impact on the different health care systems
- Evaluate and compare the key aspects of each system

### **HPMG 5313: Healthcare Disparities and Disabilities in the United States (3)**

The goal of this course is to broaden and deepen students' understanding of the range, causes, and consequences of specific health disparities in the United States, specifically persons with disabilities. This knowledge is a foundation for working to minimize the inherent injustices these individuals face. The course includes study of public health ethics, current economic and health data, case scenarios, and policy proposals. The course emphasizes empowerment of members of affected communities, for example, through collaboration in a campus-community conference developed by students and faculty of this course.

**HPMG 5314: Risk Management and Quality Improvement (3)**

The goal of this asynchronous online course is to develop the student's ability to participate to managing risk and improving quality of care in the healthcare environment. Students will work both individually and in teams to analyze case studies and to propose effective responses.

## **APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE:**

**All MPH students must complete an Applied Practice Experience and should plan to register for this course in the semester in which they plan to complete its requirements.**

### **PUBH 6500: Applied Practice Experience 1 credit**

This course is an opportunity for students to apply the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom directly in a fieldwork experience. After completion of an online module on professionalism, the student will work at an approved external site, typically a local or state health agency or a local organization under the supervision of a public health professional. If a student is able to do a placement only in his or her regular place of employment, the assignment must extend beyond or be something other than his or her regular work duties and allow application of knowledge and skills learned in the classroom.

*Prerequisite: All CORE Courses.*

## **CULMINATING EXPERIENCE:**

**All MPH students must complete a Culminating Experience within their chosen program of study.**

**MPH students must maintain continuous registration every semester from the start of the program until completion of the CE. Students must continue to register for the CE (and pay) each semester until successful completion of the CE.**

### **BIOS 6001: Culminating Experience in Biostatistics 2 credits**

The Culminating Experience in Biostatistics allows the student to demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and skills in a Final Project similar to some aspect of practice as a public health professional. The faculty uses the Culminating Experience to judge whether the student demonstrates proficiency in the competencies required for public health practice.

*Prerequisite: All CORE and TRACK Courses.*

### **CHSC 6001: Culminating Experience in Community Health Sciences 2 credits**

The Culminating Experience in Community Health Sciences allows the student to demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and skills in a Final Project similar to some aspect of practice as a public health professional. The faculty uses the Culminating Experience to judge whether the student demonstrates proficiency in the competencies required for public health practice.

*Prerequisite: All CORE and TRACK Courses.*

### **EOHS 6001: Culminating Experience in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences 2 credits**

The Culminating Experience in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences allows the student to demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and skills in a Final Project similar to some aspect of practice as a public health professional. The faculty uses the Culminating Experience to judge whether the student demonstrates proficiency in the competencies required for public health practice.

*Prerequisite: All CORE and TRACK Courses.*

### **EPID 6001: Culminating Experience in Epidemiology 2 credits**

The Culminating Experience in Epidemiology allows the student to demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and skills in a Final Project similar to some aspect of practice as a public health professional. The faculty uses the Culminating Experience to judge whether the student demonstrates proficiency in the competencies required for public health practice.

*Prerequisite: All CORE and TRACK Courses.*

### **HPMG 6001: Culminating Experience in Health Policy and Management 2 credits**

The Culminating Experience in Health Policy and Management allows the student to demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and skills in a Final Project similar to some aspect of practice as a public health professional. The faculty uses the Culminating Experience to judge whether the student demonstrates proficiency in the competencies required for public health practice.

**Prerequisite: All CORE and TRACK Courses.**

**Examples of Applied Practice Experiences completed by MPH students are:**

A Free Nicotine Patch Distribution to Korean-American Smokers	NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
A Logistics Manual for a Community Glaucoma Screening Program	Dept. of Ophthalmology
A Qualitative Study of the Attitudes of Guyanese-American Men Towards Prostate Cancer Screening	Shri Suryanarayan Mandir
A Qualitative Study of the Effectiveness of a Heart Health Educational Program for Chinese Americans in Manhattan's Chinatown	Charles B. Wang Community Health Center
A Report to the Community on the Health Status of Young Women of Color in NYC	Young Women of Color Coalition
Building Public Health Capacity at a Church Through a Parish Blood Drive	Church of St. Savior
Creating a Health Resource Guide for Brooklyn Youth	University Hospital of Brooklyn
Disaster Preparedness for the Pediatric Population: Planning an In-Hospital Triage System for New York City Hospitals	Center for Biological Preparedness
Effect of a Brief Educational Intervention on Inner-city Patients with Hepatitis C	Kings County Hospital Center, University Hospital of Brooklyn
Establishing a Mobile Needle-Exchange Program: Logistics and Client Education	Positive Health Project
Health Education Seminars for Yemeni Immigrants	Arab-American Family Support Center
Identifying Predictors of Serostatus Disclosure in an HIV-Treatment Population	STAR Program
Nursing Factors Associated with Influenza Immunization of Inpatients	University Hospital of Brooklyn
Pilot program for Integration of HIV Treatment at HIV Testing Sites in Addis Ababa.	African Services Committee
Promotion of Hepatitis C Screening in the Polish Community of Greenpoint, Brooklyn	NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Raising Awareness of Heart Disease in Orthodox Jewish Women	Bikur Cholim (Guardians of the Sick)/N'shei Women's Groups
Relationship Between Folic Acid Levels and Depressive Symptomatology in NHANES (National Health And Nutrition Examination Survey)	-----
Screening and Education for Hypertension at a Senior Health Fair in Crown Heights	Christopher Blenman Senior Center
Trends in Cancer Screening in Asian-Pacific Islander Women: An Analysis of NHIS (National Health Interview Survey) Data	-----

## DrPH REQUIREMENTS

### DrPH PROGRAM

The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) program is designed to be completed in four (4) to eight (8) years of academic work, including the doctoral dissertation.

A doctoral degree candidate must complete the proposed DrPH program core requirements as well as the requirements of the track specialty. Electives, which provide a further in-depth examination of selected issues, will complete the program requirements. For all students, the number of credits required for successful completion of the program is 45.

All students must complete at least one Applied Practice Experience and a dissertation, an original research study that integrates theory and practice. In addition, each student is required to complete an oral examination as well as a defense of the doctoral original research study.

### DRPH CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)

Course #	Course Title	Credits
BIOS 7200	Quantitative Research Methods For Public Health Practice	3
PUBH 7201	Study Design in Public Health in Public Health Practice	3
HPMG 7200	Public Health Management And Ethics	3
PUBH 7200	Public Health Policy and Politics Seminar	3

### COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)

In addition to the DrPH core requirements, all students for a DrPH with a specialization in Community Health Sciences must complete the following core requirements for the CHSC track.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisites
CHSC 7201	Qualitative Research Methods for Public Health Practice	3	None
CHSC 7202	Methods of Community Intervention and Research	3	None
CHSC 7203	Program Evaluation: Theory, Practice, and Research	3	None
CHSC 7204	Health Promotion Seminar	3	None

### COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES ELECTIVES (6 CREDITS)

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a DrPH. All students must complete six (6) elective credits.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisites
CHSC 7300	Theories of Health Behavior	3	None
CHSC 7301	Psychosocial and Behavioral Epidemiology	3	BIOS 7200
CHSC 7302	Health Communication Theory and Practice	3	None
CHSC 7303	Survey Research Methods	3	None
CHSC 7304	Culture, Class, and Ethnicity in Health Promotion	3	None
CHSC 7307	Advanced Research Methods in Community Health Sciences	3	None
CHSC 7320	Independent Study	1-3	None

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)**

In addition to the DrPH core requirements, all students for a DrPH with a specialization in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences must complete the following core requirements for the EOHS track.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisites
EOHS 7202	Advanced Topics in Risk Assessment and Management (Available to DrPH-EOHS students only)	3	None
EOHS 7203	Environmental Health Policy and Management Systems	3	None
EOHS 7205	Safety of the Food Supply	3	None
EOHS 7300	Advanced Topics in Occupational Health	3	EOHS 5202, BIOS 7200, PUBH 7201

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES ELECTIVES (6 CREDITS)**

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a DrPH. All students must complete six (6) elective credits.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisites
EOHS 7204	Organization of Work, Occupational Stress, and Health	3	EOHS 7300, BIOS 7200, PUBH 7201
EOHS 7301	Emerging Issues in Local, National, and Global Environmental Health	3	None

**EPIDEMIOLOGY CORE REQUIREMENTS (12 CREDITS)**

In addition to the DrPH core requirements, all students for a DrPH with a specialization in Epidemiology must complete the following core requirements for the EPID track.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisites
EPID 7201	Advanced Epidemiological Research Methods I	3	BIOS 7200
EPID 7202	Advanced Epidemiological Research Methods II	3	BIOS 7200
BIOS 7203	Advanced Applied Regression Analysis	3	None
CHSC 7303	Survey Research Methods	3	None

**EPIDEMIOLOGY ELECTIVES (6 CREDITS)**

Students have a range of elective choices to complete the requirements for a DrPH. All students must complete six (6) elective credits.

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisites
BIOS 7301	Applied Statistics and Data Mining	3	None
BIOS 7302	Advanced Categorical Data Analysis	3	None
BIOS 7303	Advanced Survival Analysis	3	None
EIPD 7300	Epidemiology of Communicable Diseases	3	None
EPID 7301	Molecular Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Toxicology	3	None
EPID 7302	Cancer Epidemiology	3	None
EPID 7303	Chronic Disease Epidemiology	3	None

All students must complete at least one Applied Practice Experience and a dissertation, an original research study that integrates theory and practice. In addition, each student is required to complete an oral examination as well as a defense of the doctoral original research study.

## **APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE**

**All DrPH students must complete a Applied Practice Experience within their chosen program of study.**

<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
CHSC 7000	Applied Practice Experience in Community Health Sciences	3
EOHS 7000	Applied Practice Experience in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences	3
EPID 7000	Applied Practice Experience in Epidemiology	3

## **DrPH DISSERTATION**

<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
PUBH 8001	DrPH Dissertation	12

## **DrPH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **DrPH CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

Each course represents 3 credits for a total of 12.

#### **BIOS 7200: Quantitative Research Methods for Public Health Practice (3)**

This course uses an epidemiologic approach to analyze population-based studies drawn from secondary data to assist in public health decision-making. Students will work with national public datasets to address issues surrounding the analysis of epidemiologic research questions. Scientific and policy implications of the research will be addressed and the translation of results into programs and policies will be examined.

#### **PUBH 7201: Study Design in Public Health in Public Health Practice (3)**

Study Design in Public Health Practice provides a review of methodology for conducting research in public health. We will cover both quantitative and qualitative research approaches. At the end of the course, students will demonstrate understanding of all major types of study designs used in public health research, and will have a working knowledge of how to identify and address potential biasing and confounding factors. We will also cover methodology important for the implementation of studies, including questionnaire design and measurement.

#### **HPMG 7200: Public Health Management and Ethics (3)**

The Institute of Medicine has called for a public health leadership that “defines vision, focuses effort, optimizes resources, builds and sustains systems, facilitates communication and learning, fosters productive relationships and attends to success, planning, and knowledge transfer.” This seminar seeks to equip students with these public health management and ethical skills across a wide range of practice settings. Emphasis will be given to cross-disciplinary approaches to addressing and resolving public health problems through the development of key management and leadership skills. Special attention is given to ethical considerations in strategic planning, decision-making and problem solving, and the requirements governing the conduct of human research. Course content will be a mix of case studies and in-class presentations from students and invited guests.

#### **PUBH 7200: Public Health Policy and Politics Seminar (3)**

This course will go beyond the basics of health policy (actors, processes, etc.), and require students to apply their knowledge of the framework of the American health care system toward the end of evaluating contemporary developments. Students will analyze different models of reform, and discover how the health care system comes to reflect the values prioritized by a given nation. The course will explore in systematic fashion how local, state, and federal bodies work in concert to collectively comprise what we call the American health care system, as well as the ways in which actors fail to work together--uncovering the 'asystematic' aspects of our country's arrangements in the arena of health care. Students will also learn how health care providers, specifically, relate to the broader system, and some of the ways in which they can hope to effect change.

### **COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES CORE COURSES (12 credits)**

#### **CHSC 7201: Qualitative Research Methods for Public Health Practice (3)**

This course offers advanced training in qualitative methods and analysis. Students will explore a range of qualitative research methods, including participant observation, unobtrusive methods, in-depth interviewing, and focus groups. They will carry out hands-on observation and interviewing during the course and will receive feedback from the instructor and other class participants. Research design issues will be discussed along with the use of qualitative data for health education theory building and program planning. Readings draw on different methodological guidelines, including Grounded Theory approaches.

**CHSC 7202: Methods of Community Intervention and Research: (3)**

Active academic and community partnerships are vital for improvements in community health and for reducing health-related disparities. This course will review key methods for engaging in community-based research, will involve students in active discussion and debate regarding current issues in the conduct of community-based research, and will provide an interdisciplinary perspective on how these approaches are applied across public health disciplines.

**CHSC 7203: Program Evaluation: Theory, Practice, and Research (3)**

This course focuses on the application of program evaluation models and approaches. Addresses formative and summative evaluation strategies for health promotion programs, and incorporates decision-making surrounding the use of quantitative and qualitative methods of assessment. Examines the planning of evaluation, construction of instruments and strategies of measurement, and methods of effective data collection, management, and analysis.

**CHSC 7204: Seminar in Health Promotion (3)**

This course is an in-depth exploration of topics and issues related to the design and conduct of health promotion programs and accompanying evaluations, with a focus on programs that seek to address disparities in health outcomes and public resource allocation. Students will develop expertise on a specified topic of interest, will develop a detailed multi-level analysis of a specific risk factor, and will critically analyze the evidence-base for programs designed to reduce identified risk factors.

**APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES****CHSC 7000: Applied Practice Experience in Community Health Sciences (3)**

Students will gain in-depth work experience through supervised internships relevant to the student's career plans. The field practice is selected jointly by the student and the faculty advisor, and will involve opportunities to apply skills related to program planning, implementation, and/or evaluation as applied to behavior change efforts.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES ELECTIVE COURSES (6 credits)****CHSC 7300: Models and Theories of Health Behavior (3)**

The course will involve an examination and critique of current and evolving models of health promotion and behavior change. An emphasis on this course will be the selection and utilization of health behavior theories to the design, measurement, and evaluation of public health interventions. Students will gain skills in the application of major individual, social, and community-level approaches to behavior change.

**CHSC 7301: Psychosocial Behavioral Epidemiology (3 credits)**

This course provides an in-depth exploration into the social, psychological, and behavioral issues that influence patterns of health and health care delivery. The focus is on the integration of the biomedical, social, psychological, and behavioral factors that must be taken into consideration when public health initiatives are developed and implemented. The course will also include the application of epidemiologic methods to the study of social, psychological, and behavioral influences on health, disease, and recovery/mortality. Students will explore in depth both micro and macro level determinants of a public health issue and explore themes of social justice as it pertains to public health disparities.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 7200*

**CHSC 7302: Health Communication Theory and Practice (3 credits)**

This course will examine how health communication theory, marketing, and theories of behavior can be utilized to construct health communications that have the greatest impact on

public health. Students will gain exposure to the practice and theory involved in communication design through critiques of health promotion interventions and campaigns and through development of communications to address public health issues.

### **CHSC 7303: Survey Research Methods (3 credits)**

This course is intended to provide doctoral students with a sound basis in the design and conduct of public health surveys, particularly those that include measurement of behaviors and social and psychological constructs. Doctoral students will be engaged in an in-depth analysis of theory and research as it relates to survey design, and will apply lecture content and reading in the course to the development of a survey proposal and survey instrument.

### **CHSC 7304: Culture, Class, and Ethnicity in Health Promotion (3 credits)**

This course is a series of experiential training exercises to develop skills for practitioners who will conduct interventions or research with target populations of various cultures, social classes, and ethnicities. Emphasis is on critical awareness of the practitioner's own values and presumptions, historical experiences of abuse in public health programs, in-depth understanding of the values and perspective of target populations, and the development of leaders from within the target population.

### **CHSC 7307: Advanced Research Methods in Community Health Sciences (3 credits)**

This course is an overview of the philosophy, goals and methods of research, particularly in community health sciences. Whether your task is to describe a community health problem, inform the develop of a community level intervention, or conduct an evaluation of a community health program, the principles of research are the same. The course is intended for doctoral students to design their dissertation proposal. Students will select the best method and design for their dissertation research, develop a plan for data collection and analysis, and develop a strategy for presenting their dissertation proposal.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES CORE COURSES (12 credits)**

### **EOHS 7202: Advanced Topics in Risk Assessment and Management (3)**

This course reviews the core foundations of risk assessment including hazard identification, dose response, exposure assessment, and risk characterization and provides practical experience in the study of risk management. Students will have the opportunity to explore in-depth how risk assessment and management serve as an interface between science and policy, and how risk communication can present ethical challenges to public health practitioners. Specific case studies will focus on risk management and communication issues in urban and immigrant populations.

**Available to DrPH-EOHS students only**

### **EOHS 7203: Environmental Health Policy and Management Systems (3)**

This course examines the social, political, and legal foundations of the policy and management of current environmental health issues. This course focuses on environmental and occupational health laws, regulations, and guidance concerning air and water pollution, pesticide and toxic chemical manufacture and use, worker protection, disposal of solid and hazardous wastes, and worker and community right-to-know issues. Students will gain a thorough understanding of existing occupational and environmental health management systems and regulatory requirements and through structured assignments and presentations will understand local and international environmental and occupational health issues, environmental justice, workers compensation, and state/federal agencies in a systems framework.

### **EOHS 7205 (Formerly: EOHS 7305: Food Safety Issues): Safety of the Food Supply (3)**

Substantial public health resources are devoted to assure that the food chain from American and imported venues are free from pathogens and toxic chemicals. There are strict governmental standards and mandates and delegated responsibility for enforcement. Food borne illness has severe economic costs and

consequences for those affected and for those responsible. Epidemiologic investigations and root cause analysis provide evidence for corrective actions and deterrence to continue to provide a safe table.

### **EOHS 7300: Advanced Topics in Occupational Health (3)**

Surveys the history of occupational health, the continuum from exposure to disease, the hierarchy of controls in the workplace, occupational health hazards, legal and regulatory issues, provision of occupational health services, and methods in comprehensive workplace health improvement. A series of case studies will examine local, national, and global issues and will provide practical up-to-date knowledge in assessing and solving occupational health problems.

*Prerequisites: EOHS 5202, BIOS 7200, PUBH 7201, or by instructor permission*

## **APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES**

### **CHSC 7000: Applied Practice Experience in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (3)**

The Applied Practice Experience provides depth to the core DrPH by reinforcing the didactic core coursework through structured field practice. It acts as a bridge to the dissertation research through application of research methods learned in the core courses to environmental health situations that address urban and immigrant health issues in the local community. Under the guidance of the instructor and in collaboration with community environmental health project leaders, students will have a structure hands-on experience that will call upon core skills in survey/evaluation research, monitoring and health analysis. Students will be expected to produce an environmental assessment and to communicate the findings to community participants.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES ELECTIVE COURSES (6 credits)**

### **EOHS 7204: Organization of Work, Occupational Stress, and Health (3)**

This course provides an in-depth evaluation of current topics related to psychosocial occupational and environmental health. The application of public health principles and decision-making processes will be discussed in relation to the prevention of injury and disease, health promotion and protection of worker populations from psychosocial occupational and environmental hazards.

*Prerequisites: EOHS 7300, BIOS 7200, PUBH 7201, or by instructor permission*

### **EOHS 7301: Emerging Issues in Local, National and Global Environmental Health (3)**

Examines current and emerging environmental health issues such as water pollution, sanitation, urban poverty, war, pollution, food security, pesticides, hazardous waste, economic globalization, global warming, and energy usage. This course will explore the connections between these issues and public policies in developing and developed countries alike as well as the implications for the health of urban and immigrant groups.

## **EPIDEMIOLOGY CORE COURSES (12 credits)**

### **EPID 7201: Advanced Epidemiological Research Methods I (3)**

This course explores the nature of causal inferences in epidemiology, and the methods by which they may be determined. Most sessions involve student presentations of relevant examples from the epidemiologic literature to illustrate concepts and methods, followed by general discussion. Topics to be covered include assessing bias, confounding and interaction, dealing with threats to validity and issues of reporting and application of epidemiologic results.

*Prerequisites: BIOS 7200*

**EPID 7202: Advanced Epidemiological Research Methods II (3)**

This course uses the SAS statistical software package to perform advanced quantitative methods used in the analysis of case-control studies and cohort studies. Students will acquire experience with the following types of data analysis: stratification, Mantel-Haenszel methods, survival and life tables, Kaplan-Meier methods, logistic regression, Poisson regression, Cox regression (proportional hazards), and generalized estimating equations (GEE).

*Prerequisites: BIOS 7200*

**BIOS 7203: Advanced Applied Regression Analysis (3)**

This course will teach how to apply regression methods, ranging from simple linear to Poisson, to public health, epidemiologic, and clinical datasets using SAS and STATA statistical software. Topics covered will include simple linear regression (continuous, categorical), confidence intervals for slope and predicted mean response, regression diagnostics, data transformations; testing for deviations from linearity, polynomial regression, weighted regression, use of the matrix method for estimating regression parameters, the calculus behind the least squares method; multiple linear regression (2 continuous predictors, 1 continuous and 1 categorical predictor, multiple predictors, evaluation of interactions, comparison of regression line slopes); analysis of variance (ANOVA) vs regression (1-way ANOVA, 2-way ANOVA, randomized block ANOVA, dealing with missing data), analysis of covariance (ANCOVA) with independent covariate, baseline covariate, 2 and covariates; unconditional and conditional logistic regression; proportional hazards regression (cohort studied and clinical trials), Poisson regression, and nonparametric regression. Students will apply regression analysis techniques to real-world data in structured exercises.

**CHSC 7303: Survey Research Methods (3 credits)**

This course is intended to provide doctoral students with a sound basis in the design and conduct of public health surveys, particularly those that include measurement of behaviors and social and psychological constructs. Doctoral students will be engaged in an in-depth analysis of theory and research as it relates to survey design, and will apply lecture content and reading in the course to the development of a survey proposal and survey instrument.

**APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE IN EPIDEMIOLOGY****EPID 7000: Applied Practice Experience in Epidemiology (3)**

Provides depth to the core DrPH by reinforcing the didactic core coursework through structure field practice and acts as a bridge to the dissertation research through application of research methods learned in the core courses to actual public health epidemiological practice.

Under the guidance of the instructor and in collaboration with governmental or community resources, students will have a structured hands-on experience. Examples of potential sites are: hospital departments of infection control or tumor registries; the New York State Department of Health Zoonoses Program; the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene HIV Epidemiology Program. Students will be expected to write a written report on the experience and to make a professional presentation of their experience at the interdisciplinary Doctoral Departmental seminar.

**EPIDEMIOLOGY ELECTIVE COURSES (6 credits)****BIOS 7301: Applied Statistics and Data Mining**

This course covers a variety of topics in applied statistics and data mining methods including principles, applications, and computational tools. The focus of the course is on understanding the theory behind these methods and applying them to topics in epidemiology and biostatistics. Students enrolled in the

course will use R, a free computer program that allow for implementation of the methods covered during the course.

### **BIOS 7302: Advanced Categorical Data Analysis (3)**

This course covers analytical techniques involved in the analysis of studies where subjects have been cross-classified by two or more categorical variables. Special emphasis will be on advanced problems related to epidemiology, public health and medicine. Advanced topics will include: significance versus magnitude of association; estimation of relative risk; matching cases and controls; effects, measurement, and control of misclassification errors; combining evidence from many studies; and logistic regression. Students will be introduced to the SAS statistical package for the advanced topics covered in the course.

### **BIOS 7303: Advanced Survival Analysis (3)**

This course covers the basic theoretical aspects and advanced applications of various models to analyze "time to event" data. Basic advanced concepts such as the survival function, hazard function, right and interval censoring, and common nonparametric and parametric methods and models for analyzing survival data will be covered. The proportional hazards (PH) model with fixed and time dependent covariates, the stratified PH model, sample size calculations, and regression diagnostics for survival models will also be covered. Students will be introduced to the SAS statistical package for the advanced topics covered in the course.

### **EPID 7203: Principles of Surveillance and Disease Control (3)**

Public health surveillance is the continuous systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of data essential to the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice. Success depends upon the timely dissemination of these data to practitioners trained in interventions that prevent and control disease. This course reviews the major epidemiological surveillance programs, such as the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, and newer approaches like syndromic surveillance. Students will have hands-on experience in utilizing selected datasets and will be expected to demonstrate competence in the accessing and management database systems.

### **EPID 7300: Epidemiology of Communicable Disease (3)**

This course reviews the use of epidemiologic methods in the assessment of selected communicable diseases of national and international importance. Students focus on methods of transmission, the role of surveillance, and methods of control and prevention. Specific disease examples to be covered will include: tuberculosis, HIV, legionellosis, SARS, influenza, measles, Lyme disease, syphilis, as well as nosocomial, food-borne, and enteric infections. The principles of controlling antibiotic-resistant organisms will receive special attention. Students use case studies to practice the skills necessary for an outbreak investigation and other common procedures in this field.

### **EPID 7301: Molecular Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Toxicology (3)**

This course presents the techniques used in genetic and molecular epidemiology. Emphasizes the scientific basis of molecular epidemiology and provides examples of the application of molecular biology, analytical chemistry, and toxicology to the study of chronic disease etiology and its public health application. Topics to be covered include fundamental concepts of genetics; study designs and methods of statistical analysis used to evaluate the role of genetic inheritance in the occurrence of human disease; techniques to determine the location of the gene(s) and allele responsible for a disease; ethical implications of genetic research and databanks; common genetic diseases and their control; and use of genetic and molecular techniques in human exposure assessment.

### **EPID 7302: Cancer Epidemiology (3)**

This course reviews the concepts and methodological issues in epidemiologic studies of cancer etiology and control. Students learn the molecular and cellular basis of cancer, the role of experimental studies in assessing human risk, the classification and nomenclature of human cancer and the morphology, as well as the natural history and etiologic importance of precursor lesions. Students will examine in depth a

variety of types of cancer of public health significance and discuss the role of public health practitioners in cancer control and cancer screening.

### **EPID 7303: Chronic Disease Epidemiology (3)**

This course focuses on the epidemiologic concepts and methods appropriate to the study of chronic (mostly non-infectious) diseases and diseases of unknown etiology. Students will compare the approaches in descriptive, analytic, and experimental epidemiology for chronic disease with those for acute infectious diseases. Students will develop an extensive understanding of the epidemiologic, etiologic, pathophysiologic, and clinical features of important prevalent and emerging chronic diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, arthritis, chronic obstructive lung disease, neurologic disorders, and mental illness. The class will examine risk assessment and applied epidemiologic methods to prevent or limit specific chronic diseases.

### **QUALIFYING EXAMINATION (QE)**

#### **Qualifying Exam Format:**

A student is eligible to sit for the Qualifying Exam only after successful completion of all core and concentration courses as well as the Applied Practice Experience.

Two (2) day exam (the two days are separated by 1 week)

- **Day 1:**
  - Student will choose to answer 4 out of 6 short essay questions that originate from the core courses within her/his department; in each question the student is asked to apply core content to a specific real-world situation. The student will have approximately 6 hours to complete the exam questions; Laptops with no internet access will be provided to the students; Students will not be allowed to refer to notes/texts from coursework.
- **Day 2:**
  - **Part 1:** Student will choose to answer 2 out of 4 short essay questions that cover breadth topics stemming from the 4 DrPH core courses; by answering these questions the student is expected to demonstrate the ability to work with a range of issues as public health leaders. The student will have approximately 3 hours to complete those questions; Laptops with no internet access will be provided to the students; Students will not be allowed to refer to notes/texts from coursework.
  - **Part 2:** Student will be given an empirical research article to critique; The student will need to respond to approximately 10 questions regarding the article; The questions will focus on core DrPH competencies and will not be specific to a content area; in answering this set of questions the student can demonstrate the ability to use professional literature in a meaningful and practical way to address public health problems. The student will have approximately 3 hours to complete this; Laptops with no internet access will be provided to the students; Students will not be allowed to refer to notes/texts from coursework.

#### **Sitting for exam:**

To maintain matriculation, all doctoral students who are scheduled to sit for the DrPH Qualifying Exam must register for 1 dissertation credit in that specific semester.

If a student fails one or both sections of the exam, s/he will be expected to register for another dissertation credit the following semester.

The exam will be scheduled for two days (separated by 1 week) at the end of the Fall and Spring semesters. For a student to be eligible to take the exam, s/he needs to have completed all course work. The Program of Study Form needs to be completed with all the courses, the semesters in which they were taken and the corresponding grades filled in. The student can get an updated copy of the form from the SPH Director of Student Affairs. The student needs to have his/her department chair and advisor sign off

on the form and then the form needs to be submitted to the Assistant Dean for Enrollment and Student Affairs. The student needs to present the form and give the chairperson (and the resulting qualifying exam committee) at least 8 weeks notice (prior to the end of the semester), so that there is time for the exam questions to be generated. If the student does not feel that s/he is ready, then the student will need to wait until the two dates at the end of the following semester to take the exam.

#### **Qualifying Exam Committee:**

The committee will consist of three members: 2 from the student's home department and 1 from an outside department; The chairperson of the home department will choose the two faculty from her/his department and will designate 1 as the chair of that student's QE committee. The department chair will also contact a chair from another department to choose 1 faculty member as the outside department QE committee member.

The two members from the home department will generate the six exam questions from the home department with input from the faculty in their department who taught the departmental core courses for the particular student/s. These two members will also generate a set of bullet points of content that needs to be covered in the student's responses to the questions. They will ultimately be responsible for deciding whether the answers to each of the home department questions warrants a pass or a fail. The QE committee member from the outside department will be responsible for generating the four questions derived from the core DrPH courses and their answers with the assistance of others in their department as well as the instructors of the student's core courses. This person (with oversight from the rest of the QE committee) will decide whether the answers to the two (out of four) questions warrant a pass or a fail. If there is more than one student from the same cohort taking the exam (i.e., students who took the same courses at the same time with the same professors), then the "outside" faculty members from all the QE committees can work together to generate the four exam questions so that the students receive the same questions.

The article critique will be given to all students as it will likely be an article from AJPH or a similar journal that is not specific to any one department. The chair of the QE committee/s (depending on how many students are taking the exam), will meet to generate the questions and criteria for passing the article critique portion of the exam.

If a student fails only one part of the exam (Day 1 or Day 2), s/he is only required to retake that part of the exam. The student should retake the exam the next time the exam is given (either the following Dec or May). If a student fails both parts of the exam, s/he is required to take the entire exam over. A student is only allowed one opportunity to retake the exam.

#### **DrPH DISSERTATION (12 credits)**

**Students should refer to the DrPH Dissertation Handbook for complete details.**

#### **PUBH 8001: DrPH Dissertation (12)**

The DrPH dissertation is a twelve-credit experience extending, on average, over a three-year period. The topic of the dissertation must address a significant public health problem in the student's specialty area.

#### **Dissertation Credits:**

PUBH 8001: DrPH Dissertation consists of 12 credits. Dissertation Credits: A student may enroll for Dissertation credits after completion of all core and, concentration courses, as well as the Applied Practice Experience. The student must also pass his/her Qualifying Examination. Twelve (12) credits are required to complete the dissertation. The 12 credits can be allocated in several ways but must be done with the approval of the student's advisor.

DrPH students must maintain continuous registration every semester from the start of the program until completion of the doctoral dissertation. After completion of all coursework, students must register each semester for at least one (1) credit of the Doctoral Dissertation while preparing for the Qualifying Exam (QE) and working on their Oral Defense (OD). Upon successful completion of both, the QE and the OD, students must continue to 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 sign up for 1 dissertation credit per semester until the dissertation study has been successfully completed.*

**Steps required to complete the Doctor of Public Health degree:**

- Passing the Qualifying Examination (QE), which may be taken only after a student completes all DrPH core and concentration courses, as well as the Applied Practice Experience.
- Completion of the Dissertation Proposal and Oral Defense of Dissertation Proposal,
- Completion of the written Dissertation, and
- Completion of the Dissertation Defense.

**DrPH 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.

For further details, students are strongly encouraged to consult the DrPH Applied Practice Experience and DrPH Dissertation Handbooks, all located on the SPH website.

***Dissertation Development***

The student, having advanced to candidacy, has two (2) years to develop his/her dissertation proposal and defend it before his/her dissertation committee and the public. The proposal must contain the following elements:

- Study Aims and Hypothesis
- Relevant Review of the Literature
- Design and Methods complete with statistical analysis
- Protection of Participants
- Proposed Timeline

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 candidate is capable of independent scientific analysis at an advanced professional level.

***Oral Presentation of Proposed Dissertation Topic: No credit***

There will also be an oral presentation of the dissertation topic - no more than 30 minutes -- by the student to his/her dissertation committee and the public. The presentation will be followed by questioning from the student's dissertation committee and the public. The purpose is to ascertain that the proposed work is appropriate and that the student has the adequate knowledge of the topic and the skills to complete the work successfully.

***The Dissertation:***

Throughout the development, implementation, and evaluation of the dissertation project, the student should meet regularly with his/her dissertation chair (student's advisor). As necessary, the student should also meet with other members of his/her committee to review specific portions of the proposal as

appropriate to their expertise. Periodic revisions should be circulated to all members of the committee upon approval of the committee chair. Revisions should be noted in a cover memo to the committee members such that they will be kept up to date.

When the study is deemed completed and ready, final approval must be received, in writing, from the chair of the dissertation committee (student's advisor) 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 study defense. With the designated approval, the defense date will then be scheduled.

### ***The Defense***

There are two (2) portions to the defense:

- Public presentation of the student's research, 30 minutes, with questions and comments from attendees, followed by
- Closed session with dissertation committee, and any members of the DrPH Program faculty, to discuss any particular details of the dissertation and/or defense.

Note that the committee may either accept without change the student's study or, alternately, require additional clarification regarding key points of the study. The dissertation (study) achieves final approval when all members of the committee agree that the written dissertation and presentation have been satisfactorily completed. The student is strongly encouraged to prepare the study for submission to a peer-reviewed journal for publication.

## **FACULTY**

All participating faculty hold appointments at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, School of Public Health. For more details about an individual faculty member, or to view a list of part-time faculty, please consult the website: [www.downstate.edu/publichealth](http://www.downstate.edu/publichealth)

**Kitaw Demissie**, SPH Dean and Professor  
MD: Addis Ababa University  
PhD: McGill University

**Michael A. Joseph**, Vice Dean and Associate Professor of Epidemiology  
PhD: University of Michigan School of Public Health  
MPH: Yale University School of Medicine

**Aimee Afable**, Associate Professor, Community Health Sciences and Associate Dean for Community Engagement  
PhD: Tulane University School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine  
Post-Doctoral Fellowship: University of California, San Francisco  
MPH: Tulane University School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine

**Denise Bruno**, Associate Dean for Global Engagement and Director of the Center for Global Health  
Associate Professor, Community Health Sciences  
MD: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey  
MPH: Harvard University School of Public Health

**Marlene Camacho-Rivera**, Assistant Professor, Community Health Sciences  
ScD: Harvard University School of Public Health  
MPH: Tufts University

**Barbara Delano**, Chair and Distinguished Service Professor, Community Health Sciences  
MD: SUNY Downstate Medical Center  
MPH: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Daniel Ehlke**, Associate Professor and Interim Chair, Health Policy and Management  
PhD: University of Toronto  
MA: Queens University

**Laura Geer**, Chair and Associate Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences  
PhD: Johns Hopkins University  
MHS: Johns Hopkins University

**Megan Hall**, Assistant Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences  
ScD: Harvard University  
MS: University of Connecticut

**Elizabeth Helzner**, Associate Professor and Interim Chair, Epidemiology  
PhD: University of Pittsburgh  
Post Doctoral Fellowship: University of Pittsburgh  
Post Doctoral Fellowship: Columbia University  
MS: Boston University

**Lori Hoepner**, Assistant Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences  
DrPH: Columbia University School of Public Health  
MPH: Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

**Pascal James Imperato**, SPH Founding Dean, Dean Emeritus and Distinguished Service Professor  
MD: SUNY Downstate Medical Center  
MPH&TM: Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

**Sergios-Orestis Kolokotronis**, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology  
PhD: Columbia University  
MPhil & MA: Columbia University  
Adv. Certif. in Environmental Policy: Columbia University

**Paul Landsbergis**, Associate Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences  
PhD: Columbia University  
EdD: Rutgers University

**Judith H. LaRosa**, Distinguished Service Professor, Health Policy and Management  
PhD: University of Maryland  
MNEd: University of Pittsburgh

**Simone Reynolds**, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
PhD: University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health  
MPH: New York Medical College School of Public Health

**Janet Rosenbaum**, Assistant Professor, Epidemiology  
and Biostatistics  
PhD: Harvard University  
MA: Harvard University

**Carl Rosenberg**, Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
PhD: CUNY/Mt. Sinai School of Medicine  
MS: Pennsylvania State University

**Azure Thompson**, Assistant Professor, Community  
Health Sciences and Health Policy and Management  
DrPH: Columbia University Mailman School of  
Public Health  
MPH: Columbia University Mailman School of  
Public Health

**Michael Szarek**, Professor, Biostatistics and  
Epidemiology  
PhD: New York University

**LaToya Trowers**, Assistant Professor, Health Policy  
and Management  
EdD: Capella University  
MBA: New York Institute of Technology

**Tracey Wilson**, Distinguished Service Professor,  
Community Health Sciences  
Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development  
PhD: State University of New York at Albany

# Overarching MPH Degree Competencies

1. Describe basic concepts of probability, random variation and commonly used statistical probability distributions.
2. Apply common statistical methods for inference.
3. Describe how the allocation of social and community factors impacts the understanding of public health problems in urban and immigrant populations and guides community engaged research and practice.
4. Identify basic theories, concepts, and models from a range of social and behavioral disciplines that are used in public health research and practice at multiple levels.
5. Integrate and synthesize theory, evidence and local knowledge to inform the conceptualization, design and evaluation of health promotion programs in urban and immigrant settings.
6. Describe the direct and indirect human, ecological and safety effects of major environmental and occupational agents.
7. Specify approaches for assessing, preventing and controlling environmental hazards that pose risks to human health and safety.
8. Describe a public health problem in terms of magnitude, person, time, and place, contextualized in urban and immigrant landscapes.
9. Evaluate the strengths and limitations of epidemiologic studies and reports, and draw appropriate inferences from epidemiologic data.
10. Identify the main components and issues of the organization, financing, policy formation, and delivery of healthcare and public health services in the US.
11. Describe the legal and ethical bases for public health and health services for improving the health of populations.

# Overarching MPH Competencies by Core Course

Divided Among 5 Core MPH Courses

## **BIOS 5200: Principles of Biostatistics**

1. Describe basic concepts of probability, random variation and commonly used statistical probability distributions.
2. Apply common statistical methods for inference.

## **CHSC 5200: Health Behavior and Risk Reduction**

1. Describe how the allocation of social and community factors impacts the understanding of public health problems in urban and immigrant populations and guides community engaged research and practice.
2. Identify basic theories, concepts, and models from a range of social and behavioral disciplines that are used in public health research and practice at multiple levels.
3. Integrate and synthesize theory, evidence and local knowledge to inform the conceptualization, design and evaluation of health promotion programs in urban and immigrant settings.

## **EOHS 5200: Issues in Environmental Health**

1. Describe the direct and indirect human, ecological and safety effects of major environmental and occupational agents.
2. Specify approaches for assessing, preventing and controlling environmental hazards that pose risks to human health and safety.

## **EPID 5200: Principles of Epidemiology**

1. Describe a public health problem in terms of magnitude, person, time, and place, contextualized in urban and immigrant landscapes.
2. Evaluate the strengths and limitations of epidemiologic studies and reports, and draw appropriate inferences from epidemiologic data.

## **HPMG 5206: Introduction to Health Policy and Management**

1. Identify the main components and issues of the organization, financing, policy formation, and delivery of healthcare and public health services in the US.
2. Describe the legal and ethical bases for public health and health services for improving the health of populations.

# MPH Biostatistics Concentration Competencies

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical basis of statistical methods for inference.
2. Apply appropriate statistical methods for inference based on stated research hypotheses.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in using standard statistical software packages to perform data analyses.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in constructing and managing databases from epidemiological studies using statistical software.
5. Apply knowledge of study design and statistical methods to critically appraise research literature.
6. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills when describing biostatistical methods, results, and interpretation to different audiences of public health professionals.

# MPH Biostatistics Concentration Competencies

## BIOS 5201: Categorical Data Analysis

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical basis of statistical methods for inference.
2. Apply appropriate statistical methods for inference based on stated research hypotheses.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in using standard statistical software packages to perform data analyses.
4. Apply knowledge of study design and statistical methods to critically appraise research literature.
5. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills when describing biostatistical methods, results, and interpretation to different audiences of public health professionals.

## BIOS 5202: Applied Regression Analysis

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical basis of statistical methods for inference.
2. Apply appropriate statistical methods for inference based on stated research hypotheses.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in using standard statistical software packages to perform data analyses.
4. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills when describing biostatistical methods, results, and interpretation to different audiences of public health professionals.

Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# MPH Biostatistics Concentration Competencies (continued)

## BIOS 5203: Survival Analysis

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical basis of statistical methods for inference.
2. Apply appropriate statistical methods for inference based on stated research hypotheses.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in using standard statistical software packages to perform data analyses.
4. Apply knowledge of study design and statistical methods to critically appraise research literature.
5. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills when describing biostatistical methods, results, and interpretation to different audiences of public health professionals.

## BIOS 5204: Statistical Computing

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical basis of statistical methods for inference.
2. Apply appropriate statistical methods for inference based on stated research hypotheses.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in using standard statistical software packages to perform data analyses.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in constructing and managing databases from epidemiological studies using statistical software.
5. Apply knowledge of study design and statistical methods to critically appraise research literature.
6. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills when describing biostatistical methods, results, and interpretation to different audiences of public health professionals.

Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# MPH Community Health Sciences Concentration Competencies

1. Recognize the importance of one's own standpoint and positions while working collaboratively with diverse communities and constituencies (e.g., organizations, agencies, practitioners, policymakers, and researchers).
2. Describe the roles of history, power, privileged, and structural inequality in driving health inequities in urban communities.
3. Critically apply traditional and contemporary methods and frameworks to evaluate the process, efficacy and sustainability of health promotion programs designed for urban and immigrant populations.
4. Effectively communicate (in oral and written formats) logic models and evaluation frameworks central to health promotion programs to lay and professional audiences.
5. Differentiate between linguistic competence, cultural competence, and health literacy and explain how increased education and awareness of each of these factors can influence the health of a population.
6. Cite examples of situations where consideration of culture-specific needs resulted in a more effective modification or adaptation of a health intervention for a specific community or population.
7. Identify critical stakeholders for the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, policies and interventions in urban and immigrant populations.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the interaction of race/ethnicity/gender, and health and disease.
9. Delineate how an individual/community can affect the development of health policy at a local, state, and federal level particularly in regards to gender, race, and sexual orientation.

# MPH Community Health Sciences Concentration Competencies

## CHSC 5202: Issues in the Health of Immigrant Populations

1. Differentiate between linguistic competence, cultural competence, and health literacy and explain how increased education and awareness of each of these factors can influence the health of a population
2. Cite examples of situations where consideration of culture-specific needs resulted in a more effective modification or adaptation of a health intervention for a specific community or population.

## CHSC 5203: Sex, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity in Health

1. Identify critical stakeholders for the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, policies and interventions in urban and immigrant populations.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the interaction of race/ethnicity/gender, and health and disease.
3. Delineate how an individual/community can affect the development of health policy at a local, state, and federal level particularly in regards to gender, race, and sexual orientation.

## CHSC 5205: Urban Health Issues

1. Recognize the importance of one's own standpoint and positions while working collaboratively with diverse communities and constituencies (e.g., organizations, agencies, practitioners, policymakers, and researchers).
2. Describe the roles of history, power, privileged, and structural inequality in driving health inequities in urban communities.

## CHSC 5206: Program, Planning, and Evaluation

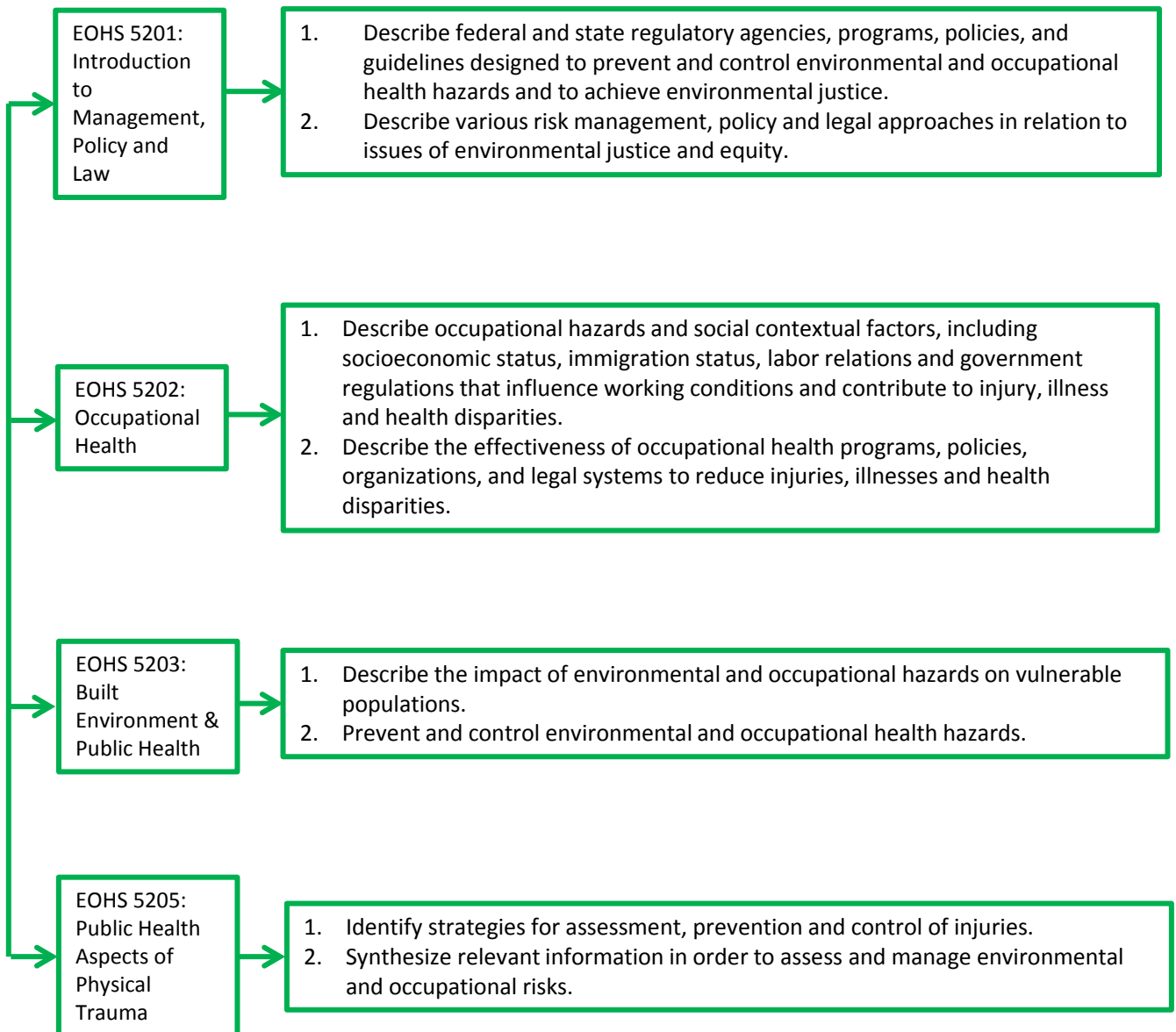
1. Critically apply traditional and contemporary methods and frameworks to evaluate the process, efficacy and sustainability of health promotion programs designed for urban and immigrant populations.
2. Effectively communicate (in oral and written formats) logic models and evaluation frameworks central to health promotion programs to lay and professional audiences.

Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# MPH Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Concentration Competencies

1. Describe federal and state regulatory agencies, programs, policies, and guidelines designed to prevent and control environmental and occupational health hazards and to achieve environmental justice.
2. Describe various risk management, policy and legal approaches in relation to issues of environmental justice and equity.
3. Describe occupational hazards and social contextual factors, including socioeconomic status, immigration status, labor relations and government regulations that influence working conditions and contribute to injury, illness and health disparities.
4. Describe the effectiveness of occupational health programs, policies, organizations, and legal systems to reduce injuries, illnesses and health disparities.
5. Describe the impact of environmental and occupational hazards on vulnerable populations.
6. Prevent and control environmental and occupational health hazards.
7. Identify strategies for assessment, prevention and control of injuries.
8. Synthesize relevant information in order to assess and manage environmental and occupational risks.

# MPH Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Concentration Competencies



Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# MPH Epidemiology Concentration Competencies

1. Identify types and sources of data used in epidemiologic research, emphasizing urban and immigrant health.
2. Develop a scientific hypothesis and design an appropriate epidemiologic study to assess the research question.
3. Calculate epidemiologic measures of occurrence and association.
4. Describe trends and patterns of incidence and prevalence for major diseases and factors affecting health status of immigrant and urban populations, and indicate major etiologic and prognostic factors.
5. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of major descriptive and analytic design strategies used in epidemiologic research.
6. Explain the policy implications of epidemiologic research findings.
7. Use statistical software packages for data processing, management, and descriptive and inferential analyses.
8. Effectively communicate epidemiologic research findings orally and in writing, to lay and professional audiences.
9. Comprehend and apply basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use and dissemination of epidemiologic data.

# MPH Epidemiology Concentration Competencies

## EPID 5201: Epidemiologic Research Methods

1. Identify types and sources of data used in epidemiologic research, emphasizing urban and immigrant health.
2. Develop a scientific hypothesis and design an appropriate epidemiologic study to assess the research question.
3. Calculate epidemiologic measures of occurrence and association.
4. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of major descriptive and analytic design strategies used in epidemiologic research.
5. Use statistical software packages for data processing, management, and descriptive and inferential analyses.
6. Effectively communicate epidemiologic research findings orally and in writing, to lay and professional audiences.
7. Comprehend and apply basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use and dissemination of epidemiologic data.

## EPID 5202: Infectious Disease Epidemiology

1. Identify types and sources of data used in epidemiologic research, emphasizing urban and immigrant health.
2. Calculate epidemiologic measures of occurrence and association.
3. Describe trends and patterns of incidence and prevalence for major diseases and factors affecting health status of immigrant and urban populations, and indicate major etiologic and prognostic factors.
4. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of major descriptive and analytic design strategies used in epidemiologic research.
5. Explain the policy implications of epidemiologic research findings.
6. Comprehend and apply basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use and dissemination of epidemiologic data.

Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# MPH Epidemiology Concentration Competencies (continued)

EPID 5203:  
Chronic  
Disease  
Epidemiology

1. Identify types and sources of data used in epidemiologic research, emphasizing urban and immigrant health.
2. Calculate epidemiologic measures of occurrence and association.
3. Describe trends and patterns of incidence and prevalence for major diseases and factors affecting health status of immigrant and urban populations, and indicate major etiologic and prognostic factors.
4. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of major descriptive and analytic design strategies used in epidemiologic research.
5. Explain the policy implications of epidemiologic research findings.

EPID 5205:  
Epidemiologic  
Research  
Methods II

1. Identify types and sources of data used in epidemiologic research, emphasizing urban and immigrant health.
2. Develop a scientific hypothesis and design an appropriate epidemiologic study to assess the research question.
3. Calculate epidemiologic measures of occurrence and association.
4. Use statistical software packages for data processing, management, and descriptive and inferential analyses.
5. Effectively communicate epidemiologic research findings orally and in writing, to lay and professional audiences.

Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# MPH Health Policy and Management Concentration Competencies

1. Effectively manage health programs and projects .
2. Apply principles and methods of health policy development and analysis to the examination of key public health issues.
3. Advocate effectively for the needs of urban, immigrant, and other vulnerable populations in health policy and health services.
4. Communicate orally and in writing health policy and management issues using appropriate channels and technologies.
5. In collaboration with priority populations, identify, analyze, and respond to factors impacting the health of diverse communities.
6. Analyze the political context and the stakeholders that collectively serve to influence, shape, and implement policies.

# MPH Health Policy and Management Concentration Competencies

## HPMG 5202: Health Care Advocacy and Politics

1. Apply principles and methods of health policy development and analysis to the examination of key public health issues.
2. Advocate effectively for the needs of urban, immigrant, and other vulnerable populations in health policy and health services.
3. Communicate orally and in writing health policy and management issues using appropriate channels and technologies.
4. Analyze the political context and the stakeholders that collectively serve to influence, shape, and implement policies.

## HPMG 5203: Health Management Concepts

1. Effectively manage health programs and projects.
2. Advocate effectively for the needs of urban, immigrant, and other vulnerable populations in health policy and health services.
3. Communicate orally and in writing health policy and management issues using appropriate channels and technologies.
4. In collaboration with priority populations, identify, analyze, and respond to factors impacting the health of diverse communities.

## HPMG 5204: Access, Cost and Quality of Care

1. Apply principles and methods of health policy development and analysis to the examination of key public health issues.
2. Advocate effectively for the needs of urban, immigrant, and other vulnerable populations in health policy and health services.
3. Communicate orally and in writing health policy and management issues using appropriate channels and technologies.
4. Analyze the political context and the stakeholders that collectively serve to influence, shape, and implement policies.

## HPMG 5207: Principles in Hospital Management

1. Effectively manage health programs and projects.
2. Advocate effectively for the needs of urban, immigrant, and other vulnerable populations in health policy and health services.
3. Communicate orally and in writing health policy and management issues using appropriate channels and technologies.

Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# Overarching DrPH Degree Competencies

1. Apply the theories and principles of biostatistics and epidemiology to the identification, classification and analysis of a public health issue.
2. Describe key characteristics of observational and experimental studies regarding subject selection, data collection, and analysis.
3. Synthesize and critically appraise published, public health research literature, specifically in urban and immigrant health.
4. Develop goals, timelines, funding alternatives, and other strategies for influencing policy initiatives.
5. Assess the impact of policy, including legislation, judicial opinions, and regulations, on population health.
6. Apply theoretical and evidence-based perspectives from multiple disciplines in the design and implementation of programs, policies, and systems.
7. Manage potential conflicts of interest encountered by practitioners, researchers, and organizations.
8. Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in conducting ethical data collection and analysis.
9. Analyze research design using qualitative data for program planning.

# Overarching DrPH Degree Competencies

Divided Among 4 Core DrPH Courses

## **BIOS 7200: Quantitative Research Methods for Public Health Practice**

1. Apply the theories and principles of biostatistics and epidemiology to the identification, classification and analysis of a public health issue.
2. Describe key characteristics of observational and experimental studies regarding subject selection, data collection, and analysis.
3. Synthesize and critically appraise published, public health research literature, specifically in urban and immigrant health.

## **PUBH 7200: Public Health Policy and Politics Seminar**

1. Develop goals, timelines, funding alternatives, and other strategies for influencing policy initiatives.
2. Assess the impact of policy, including legislation, judicial opinions, and regulations, on population health.

## **HPMG 7200: Public Health Management and Ethics**

1. Apply theoretical and evidence-based perspectives from multiple disciplines in the design and implementation of programs, policies, and systems.
2. Manage potential conflicts of interest encountered by practitioners, researchers, and organizations.

## **PUBH 7201: Study Design in Public Health**

1. Apply the theories and principles of biostatistics and epidemiology to the identification, classification and analysis of a public health issue.
2. Describe key characteristics of observational and experimental studies regarding subject selection, data collection, and analysis.
3. Synthesize and critically appraise published, public health research literature, specifically in urban and immigrant health.
4. Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in conducting ethical data collection and analysis.
5. Analyze research design using qualitative data for program planning.

# DrPH Community Health Sciences Competencies

1. Assess cultural, environmental, and social justice influences on the health of communities.
2. Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in ethical discourse and analysis.
3. Conduct community-engaged participatory intervention and research projects.
4. Effectively collaborate with communities, policy makers, and other relevant groups to design applied public health intervention and research projects.
5. Utilize planning models to apply theory and evidence to the planning of community-engaged public health intervention and research projects.
6. Using contemporary evaluation frameworks, articulate the strengths and limitations of experimental designs used to evaluate health promotion programs designed for urban and immigrant populations.
7. Identify diverse stakeholders (from private and public sectors) critical to the sustainability and institutionalization of health promotion programs in urban and immigrant settings.
8. Develop measurable evaluation goals and timelines required for the successful evaluation of health promotion programs in urban and immigrant settings.
9. Demonstrate leadership when communicating (in oral and written formats) logic models and evaluation frameworks central to health promotion programs to lay and professional audiences.
10. Using major concepts, methods and theories in the social and behavioral sciences, develop an in-depth understanding of a key public health issue within a community and design a program or intervention that will ameliorate this public health problem.
11. Effectively communicate efforts to design, implement, and manage an intervention aimed at an identified public health problem issue to diverse audiences.

# DrPH Community Health Sciences Competencies

## CHSC 7201: Qualitative Research Methods for Public Health Practice

1. Assess cultural, environmental, and social justice influences on the health of communities.
2. Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in ethical discourse and analysis.
3. Conduct community-engaged participatory intervention and research projects.

## CHSC 7202: Methods of Community Intervention and Research

1. Effectively collaborate with communities, policy makers, and other relevant groups to design applied public health intervention and research projects.
2. Utilize planning models to apply theory and evidence to the planning of community-engaged public health intervention and research projects.

## CHSC 7203: Program Evaluation: Theory, Practice, and Research

1. Using contemporary evaluation frameworks, articulate the strengths and limitations of experimental designs used to evaluate health promotion programs designed for urban and immigrant populations.
2. Identify diverse stakeholders (from private and public sectors) critical to the sustainability and institutionalization of health promotion programs in urban and immigrant settings.
3. Develop measurable evaluation goals and timelines required for the successful evaluation of health promotion programs in urban and immigrant settings.
4. Demonstrate leadership when communicating (in oral and written formats) logic models and evaluation frameworks central to health promotion programs to lay and professional audiences.

## CHSC 7204: Health Promotion Seminar

1. Using major concepts, methods and theories in the social and behavioral sciences, develop an in-depth understanding of a key public health issue within a community and design a program or intervention that will ameliorate this public health problem.
2. Effectively communicate efforts to design, implement, and manage an intervention aimed at an identified public health problem issue to diverse audiences.

Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# DrPH Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Competencies

1. Consider and evaluate current environmental health risk assessment methods.
2. Investigate the general mechanisms of toxicity in eliciting a toxic response to various environmental exposures.
3. Assess various risk management, policy and legal approaches in relation to issues of environmental justice and equity.
4. Evaluate the performance and impact of federal and state regulatory agencies and programs, legal systems, health surveillance systems and organizations designed to prevent and control occupational hazards and reduce injuries, illnesses and health disparities.
5. Assess the effectiveness of federal and state regulatory programs, guidelines and authorities that control environmental health issues.
6. Delineate and investigate various risk management and risk communication approaches in relation to issues of environmental justice and equity.
7. Evaluate the performance and impact of federal and state regulatory agencies, programs, policies, and guidelines designed to prevent and control environmental and occupational health hazards and to achieve environmental justice.
8. Assess and prioritize occupational hazards and social contextual factors, including socioeconomic status, immigration status, labor relations and government regulations that influence working conditions and contribute to injury, illness and health disparities.

# DrPH Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Competencies

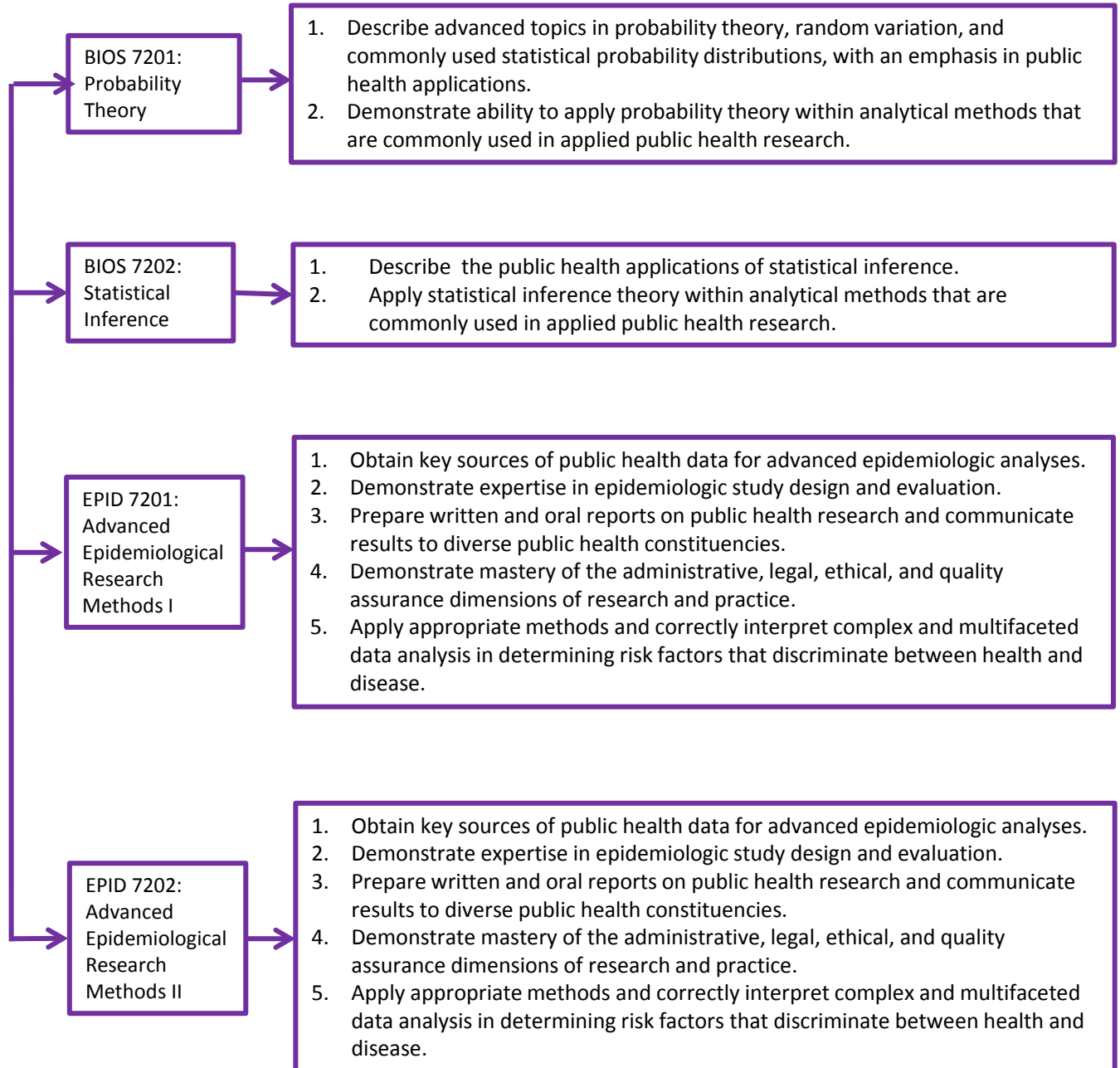


Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.

# DrPH Epidemiology Competencies

1. Describe advanced topics in probability theory, random variation, and commonly used statistical probability distributions, with an emphasis in public health applications.
2. Demonstrate ability to apply probability theory within analytical methods that are commonly used in applied public health research.
3. Describe the public health applications of statistical inference.
4. Apply statistical inference theory within analytical methods that are commonly used in applied public health research.
5. Obtain key sources of public health data for advanced epidemiologic analyses.
6. Demonstrate expertise in epidemiologic study design and evaluation.
7. Prepare written and oral reports on public health research and communicate results to diverse public health constituencies.
8. Demonstrate mastery of the administrative, legal, ethical, and quality assurance dimensions of research and practice.
9. Apply appropriate methods and correctly interpret complex and multifaceted data analysis in determining risk factors that discriminate between health and disease.

# DrPH Epidemiology Competencies



Syllabus for each concentration core course lists competencies covered. Breaks down each competency into learning objectives.