PUBLIC HEALTH MAJOR (B.S.)

Description

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) program provides students with a multi-disciplinary understanding of public health and its determinants. It does this through both core and elective courses examining epidemiology, statistics and data visualization, environmental health, health policy, health communication, and social and behavioral health. The program is designed to prepare students to address public health challenges by examining health equity, disease monitoring and prevention, environmental/planetary health, health policy and promotion and integrative health systems broadly defined.

Throughout the program, students will gain both theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary to analyze health data, understand the social determinants of health, develop health interventions, and influence health policy and practice. They will engage in coursework that integrates scientific principles with real-world applications in areas such as public health ethics, infectious disease control, and health communication. Coursework will support the core functions of public health: assessment, policy development, and assurance.

Graduates of the BSPH program will be equipped for diverse career opportunities in government agencies, non-profit organizations, healthcare systems, and private industry, or for advanced studies in public health, medicine, or related fields. The program emphasizes experiential learning through the capstone project and fosters a hands-on approach to solving multi-sectoral public health issues at local, national, and global levels.

Students have the opportunity to become student members in the American Public Health Association (APHA), and the New Hampshire Public Health Association (NHPHA) to establish a professional network and be informed on current issues within the field.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: No

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.
Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

Students begin the curriculum with preprofessional courses, which include courses in health care systems, public health, health communication epidemiology and statistics. In addition to meeting the University Discovery and Writing Program requirements, students must complete both the core and courses and select electives from each of the

interdisciplinary foci in Health Assessment, Policy Development, Health Assurance and Spatial Mapping.

- Majors must obtain a minimum grade of C in all required courses and prerequisite courses.
- Majors must maintain an overall grade-point average of 2.0 to remain in the major.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core Courses		
HMP 401	United States Health Care Systems	4
HMP 403	Introduction to Public Health	4
HMP 501	Epidemiology and Community Medicine	4
HMP 512	Using Data to Improve Human Health	4
HMP 540	Statistics for Health and Human Service Professionals	4
HMP 642	Health Economics	4
HMP 669	Human Behavior and the Public Health	4
HMP 703	Translation of Health Data	4
HMP 715	Environmental Health	4
HMP 744	Law and Ethics in Healthcare	4
HMP 746	Health Policy	4
Policy Development		
Select two courses from the following:		8
CEP 415	Community Development Perspectives	
HDFS 760	Family Programs and Policies	
NR 602	Natural Resources and Environmental Policy	
RMP 668	Youth Culture and Programs	
SOC 645	Class, Status and Power	
SW 440A	Honors/Healthy Communities: Environmental Justice and Social Change	
SW 525	Social Welfare Policy: History of Social and Economic Justice	
SW 625	Social Welfare Policy: Analysis, Activism, and Advocacy	
SW 702	Aging and Society	
SW 705	Child and Adolescent Risks and Resiliency: Program, Policy and Practice	
MARI 805	Introduction to Coastal and Marine Policy: Understanding US Ocean, Coastal, and Great Lakes Policy	
Assurance		
Select two courses from the following:		8
CEE 520	Environmental Pollution and Protection: A Global Context	
GEOG 500	Making Change: Social and Environmental Justice in Practice	
GEOG 670	Climate and Society	
GEOG 701	Environmental Justice	
HDFS 757	Race, Class, Gender, and Families	
SUST 401	Exploring Sustainability	
SUST 501	Sustainability in Action	
SW 500	I'm Old, So What! An introduction to aging in the United States	
SW 630	Race Equity in Health and Human Services	
SW 660	Exploring Issues in Housing and Homelessness	
SW 712	Understanding Developmental Disabilities	
HPE 648	Current Issues in Teaching Health	
RMP 501	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice for Recreation Services	
GIS		
Select one course from the following:		4
GEOG 591	Making Maps: GIS Fundamentals	
NR 658	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	
Methods		
Select one course from the following:		4
BIOL 633	Data Analysis for Life Science	
SOC 601	Methods of Social Research	
SOC 725	Social Demography	
Communication		
Select two courses from the following:		8
CMN 540	Special Topics in Communication	
CMN 662	Public Dialogue and Deliberation	
CMN 675 & CMN 676	Civil Discourse Lab: Public Dialogue, Equity, & Authenticity and Civil Discourse Lab: Public Deliberation and Issue Framing	
HMP 635	Healthcare Marketing	
Capstone		

HMP 749	Public Health Capstone: Integrative Experience	4
Total Credits		**80**

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.

First Year

Fall

		Credits
HMP 401 or HMP 403	United States Health Care Systems or Introduction to Public Health	4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**

Spring

HMP 401 or HMP 403	United States Health Care Systems or Introduction to Public Health	4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**

Second Year

Fall

HMP 512	Using Data to Improve Human Health	4
HMP 540	Statistics for Health and Human Service Professionals	4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**

Spring

HMP 501	Epidemiology and Community Medicine	4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**

Third Year

Fall

HMP 642	Health Economics	4
HMP 703	Translation of Health Data	4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**

Spring

HMP 669	Human Behavior and the Public Health	4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**

Fourth Year

Fall

HMP 744	Law and Ethics in Healthcare	4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**

Spring

HMP 746	Health Policy	4
HMP 715	Environmental Health	4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
Elective/Discovery Course		4
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**128**

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

- Apply Core Public Health Principles: Demonstrate a foundational understanding of public health concepts such as epidemiology, biostatistics, health promotion, environmental health, and disease prevention to address population health challenges. Knowledge and skills will support the core functions of public health: assessment, policy development, and assurance.
- Analyze Public Health Data: Use quantitative and qualitative research methods to analyze public health data, identify health trends, and assess the effectiveness of public health interventions.
- Understand Social Determinants and Vital Conditions of Health: Analyze how social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors impact health outcomes and contribute to health disparities within populations.
- Develop and Implement Public Health Interventions: Design and apply evidence-based strategies and interventions that promote health, prevent disease, and improve the well-being of communities.
- Communicate Public Health Information: Effectively communicate public health concepts, research findings, and health policies to diverse audiences, including policymakers, healthcare professionals, and the general public.
- Evaluate Public Health Policies: Critically assess existing public health policies, programs, and laws, and advocate for policy changes that improve population health and health equity.
- Practice Ethical Public Health Leadership: Demonstrate ethical decision-making, both fiduciary and practical, and overall leadership, in public health practice, considering the diverse needs of populations while advocating for justice, equity, and inclusion.
- Collaborate in Multidisciplinary Teams: Work effectively within interdisciplinary teams to address complex public health issues through collaborative problem-solving and community engagement.