Public Health Major

Public Health is a school-wide liberal arts major, leading to a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science, which uses public health questions, concepts, and tools to teach critical thinking skills. Students learn to ask questions, challenge assumptions, and explore answers to promote the health and well-being of communities, locally, nationally, and globally. The major provides undergraduates with competencies in assessment & measurement, communication, environment, ethics & social justice, natural science, population health, policy & politics, and social science with particular emphasis on collaboration and critical thinking across these domains. Empowered with problem-solving skills, graduates use the degree as a foundation for a range of career and educational options in business, economics, education, health sciences, law, public health, and social and behavioral sciences.

Admission

Spend time in your first two years taking prerequisites as well as a breadth of general education requirements. Allow approximately two years to complete the major.

Admission to this major is competitive and offered twice a year for autumn and winter quarters. Applications are evaluated on overall academic record, grades in relevant coursework, selection of and preparation for BA or BS path, ability to make satisfactory progress towards degree, and understanding of and potential fit with the major.

Early Admission

Complete the following by the deadline to be considered:
1. Min. 30 college credits
2. Min. 3.0 cumulative GPA
3. 5 credits of English composition
4. Min. grade of 3.0 in one intro public health course from the following: ENV H 111, EPI 201, G H 101, HSERV 100, NUTR 200, PHG 200
5. Min. grade of 3.0 in one intro science. See D at right for options

Upper Division Admission

Complete the following by the deadline to be considered:
1. Min. 60 college credits
2. Min. 2.5 cumulative GPA
3. 5 credits of English composition
4. Min. grade of 2.5 in one intro public health course from the following: ENV H 111, EPI 201, G H 101, HSERV 100, NUTR 200, PHG 200 or one 5-credit course from ANTH, GEOG, POL S, PSYCH, SOC
5A. For BA path students, min. grade of 2.5 in one intro science. See D at right for options
5B. For BS path students, min. grades of 2.5 in at least two courses of a year-long sequence of intro science with labs or mathematics. See E2 at right for options

Contact Information
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Degree Requirements 180 credits

Complete General Education Requirements for the School of Public Health

A. Integrated Core Sequence 20 credits
SPH 380 History & Practice of Public Health (5)
SPH 381 Science & Public Health (5)
SPH 480 Research Methods in Public Health (5)
SPH 481 Ethics, Social Justice & Policy in Public Health (5)

B. Public Health Foundation 8 credits
BIOST 310 Biostatistics for the Health Sciences (4)
EPI 320 Introduction to Epidemiology (4)

C. Social & Behavioral Sciences Breadth 25 credits
One 5-credit course from EACH: Anthropology (ANTH), Geography (GEOG), Political Science (POL S), Psychology (PSYCH) and Sociology (SOC). At least 4 of the 5 must be 200-level and above.

D. Natural Science 10 credits
At least one introductory chemistry and biology course from among: BIOL 118, BIOL 180, CHEM 120, CHEM 142, CHEM 145, MICROM 301/302

E1. BA Selectives 20 credits
20 credits from courses identified to address competency areas in Health Economics, Health Promotion, and Social Justice

E2. BS Selectives 30-32 credits
Two year-long sequences of introductory science with labs or mathematics. Choose from biology (BIOL 180, 200, 220); chemistry (CHEM 142, 152, 162); organic chemistry (CHEM 237, 238, 239, 241, 242); physics (PHYS 114/117, 115/118, 116/119 or PHYS 121, 122, 123); or mathematics (MATH 124, 125, 126)

F. Public Health Electives 20 credits
20 credits of 300 and 400-level courses from approved list

G. Capstone 5 credits
SPH 491 + SPH 492 Public Health Capstone is a two-quarter integrative experience in which students engage in service learning with a community-based agency. Counts towards writing.