PUBLIC HEALTH (PHP)

Degrees Offered: Master of Public Health, (MPH) and Public Health Certificate, (PHC)

The Department of Health Management and Policy offers a Master of Public Health (MPH) and a certificate of Public Health (PHC). The programs are designed to provide students with an integrated generalist certificate or MPH degree. The MPH program is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

The Mission
Through instruction, research and service, the mission of the Master of Public Health (MPH) Program at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) develops public health professionals prepared to enter a collaborative public health workforce, while focusing on improving societal health and health equity.

The Vision
The Vision of the Public Health programs are guided by the overall values of the College of Health and Human Services:

- Cooperation in the planning, management, and work of the College.
- Curiosity as a core strategic concept.
- Excellence both in our individual and collective actions.
- Integrity to have ethical behavior in our working relationships, practices and decisions.
- Leadership for improving the health of individuals, families, and communities.
- Openness in communications and decision-making.
- Respect for individuals’ roles, diversity, contributions, and viewpoints.
- Service to UNH, the public, and others to improve health and health care.
- Sustainability of our College as an educational leader.

In addition, the MPH program promotes the development of our students into forward-thinking public health professionals by including curriculum and experience in:

- Advocacy: Promoting the health of populations
- Evidence-based practicing: Valuing best practices and maximizing faculty expertise through research, shared learning, and practical learning experiences
- Integration: Encouraging collaborative and critical thinking of strategies to better incorporate Public Health with health and health care systems.
- Social Justice: Health equity, and integrity

The Public Health Certificate Program provides a vehicle for individuals working in public or community health positions with the opportunity to earn a graduate certificate in public health. To enter the certificate program, an applicant must have a baccalaureate degree. Upon completion of the certificate program, students can apply to the MPH program. If admitted into the MPH program, the certificate credits will be applied to the MPH degree program.

The Master of Public Health (MPH) and Public Health Certificate (PHC) seek to enhance the capacity of public health professionals to perform the 10 Essential Services of Public Health. The program is a part-time program offered only on the University of New Hampshire Manchester Campus. Academic. Courses are typically offered for four hours once weekly for seven weeks. Working professionals can complete the MPH program in as little as five semesters, but have up to three years to complete the degree requirements.

For the purposes of determining academic standing, grades below the “B-” level in graded courses are considered failing grades. The MPH program director will recommend dismissal of a student to the Graduate School when a failing grade occurs in six or more credits, either in two courses or in one course taken twice. Repeating a course does not remove the original failing grade from the record. Students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (B), or higher, in order to graduate. Students admitted on a conditional or provisional basis must meet the conditions or provisions as stated in the letter of admission in order to remain in the Graduate School.

Admission Requirements
(Please note that this part-time program does not meet the full-time study requirements for international applicants requiring an F-1 or J-1 visas.)

Applications are accepted for fall, spring, and summer semesters. The program encourages applications from persons who hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. The admission committee uses previous academic records, current public health experience, responses to five essay questions regarding your interest in pursuing graduate education in public health, and recommendations from three individuals as indicators of success. Interviews with the program director are encouraged.

For more information on admission requirements please see the Graduate School website.

https://chhs.unh.edu/health-management-policy/program/mph/public-health

Programs

- Public Health (M.P.H.)
- Public Health (Graduate Certificate)

Courses

Public Health (PHP)
PHP 900 - Public Health Care Systems
Credits: 3
The focus of this course is on the pattern of services in the United States and on the structure and function of their component parts. It examines the impact on the system of a wide range of external factors including social, political, economic, professional, legal, and technological forces. Equivalent(s): HMP 960A
PHP 901 - Epidemiology  
Credits: 3  
Exploration of factors underlying the distribution and determinants of states of health in various human populations. Emphasis is placed on investigative techniques, epidemiologic methodology, and disease prevention. Unlike other core courses in the MPH Program which are 8 weeks in length, this course is 16 weeks in length.  
Equivalent(s): HMP 960B

PHP 902 - Environmental Health  
Credits: 3  
This course offers a general introduction to the ecological basis of health and disease. It applies the principles and framework of ecosystems to human health problems associated with environmental hazards, including toxic and infectious agents that contaminate our air, water, food, the work place and other special environments. Links between environmental and occupational health effects will be explored within the public health model. Policy required for regulation and alternative strategies for prevention will be discussed.  
Equivalent(s): HMP 960C

PHP 903 - Biostatistics  
Credits: 3  
This course introduces students to the principles of biostatistics. Students learn through classroom instruction, lab instruction and exercises, a variety of statistical methods in public health. Students review measures of central tendency, rates, and standardized probability, sampling, hypothesis testing, comparisons, and simple, multiple and logistic regression techniques. Unlike other core courses in the MPH Program which are 8 weeks in length, this course is 16 weeks in length.  
Equivalent(s): HMP 960D

PHP 904 - Social and Behavioral Health  
Credits: 3  
A graduate level course which provides fundamental concepts of the behavioral sciences as they illuminate public health. Since public health practice is the application of physical, biological and behavioral knowledge to living societies, a firm understanding of human social organization and behavior is essential. Individual and community responses to prevention, identification of symptoms, diagnoses, treatments, chronic ailments and rehabilitation are discussed. In each of these areas, the course explores the interaction between community, family, patient, and health care provider.  
Equivalent(s): HMP 960F

PHP 905 - Public Health Administration  
Credits: 3  
This course focuses on public health managers, organizational culture, management process, management functions and roles, leadership, motivation, communication, and human resource management.  
Equivalent(s): HMP 960E

PHP 907 - Public Health Policy  
Credits: 3  
An analysis of the public policy process, the development of public health policy in the United States, and a discussion of specific public health policy issues with international comparisons. This course begins with an analytical framework for analyzing the American political system and process. It is followed by a general introduction to health policy in the United States with examples of specific policies and programs. Students will be asked to examine specific public health policy in-depth.  
Equivalent(s): HMP 960H

PHP 908 - Public Health Ethics  
Credits: 3  
This course examines selected ethical issues arising in public health policy and practice and ethical dilemmas faced by public health professionals, practitioners, and researchers. Students analyze competing personal, organizational, professional, and societal interests, values, and responsibilities. Case studies apply different models of ethical decision making and provide MPH students with an added opportunity to explore and clarify their values and those of their colleagues.

PHP 912 - Public Health Law  
Credits: 3  
This course seeks to provide the legal basis for public health that is needed to effectively practice public health, especially with respect to understanding and enforcing compliance with public health regulations, and managing public health programs and organizations. The course introduces the core elements of law, legal practice and reasoning, and illustrates their application and use in public health.

PHP 922 - Public Health Economics  
Credits: 3  
This course gives each student a hands-on opportunity to become familiar with a broad range of health economics issues and analyses. The objective is to help its graduates successfully compete for advancement in careers requiring knowledge of health policy analysis.

PHP 924 - Policy and Practice of Community Health Assessment  
Credits: 3  
This course explores the process of community health assessment as a tool for bridging the gap between public health and the personal health care system. It provides an historical perspective of using population based measurements as a framework for health improvement initiatives. It examines several community health assessment methodologies and explores the complexity of developing a community-based health assessment.

PHP 926 - Evaluation in Public Health  
Credits: 3  
An introduction to program evaluation as it relates to public health practice and research, primarily in the United States. Public health-specific examples are presented throughout the course. Includes discussion of striking a balance between scientific rigor and the practicalities often faced by program evaluators.

PHP 934 - Work Environment Policy and the Health of Workers  
Credits: 3  
Overview of occupational safety and health policy in the U.S. Focus on the legal context, especially on OSHA, and provides an analytical framework for examining the role of social, economic, and political factors in the recognition and control of occupational hazards. Some attention to the more technical aspects of this field (e.g., industrial hygiene, ergonomics, general health and safety); emphasis on understanding current occupational health and safety policies and controversies.

PHP #936 - Global Public Health  
Credits: 3  
Course is designed to provide students with an introduction to and overview of the key areas of global health by addressing the major determinants of health and how health status is measured to determine the burden of disease in the developing world.
PHP #940 - Health and the Built Environment  
Credits: 3  
Overview of relationships between where people live, work, learn and play (built environment) and their health. Promotes an interdisciplinary approach to address chronic public health problems such as heart disease, obesity and depression, as well as tackling environmental issues.

PHP #964 - Applied Epidemiology  
Credits: 3  
Course provides a thorough understanding of essential statistical and epidemiological concepts and their effective application in everyday public health practice. Students are given numerous real-life examples to demonstrate the theory in practice. Prereq: PHP 901 and instructor permission. Public Health majors only.

PHP 985A - Special Topics in Policy and Management  
Credits: 1-3  
Study of a special topic in Public Health Policy and Management. Prereq: permission.  
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 3 credits.

PHP 990 - Field Study  
Credits: 3  
This course provides a 16-week long opportunity for students to synthesize, integrate, and apply the skills and competencies they have acquired during enrollment in the MPH Program and apply them to a public health problem or project in a professional public health practice setting. Students are expected to spend a minimum of 40 hours in the organization (not including preparation time) exploring how that organization deals with a particular public health issue and working on a project for that organization. In addition, students present the findings of their work in a poster session following the conclusion of the course. This public health experience is conducted under the direction of a faculty member and a community public health mentor. This class meets one hour prior to the regularly scheduled core and elective courses in the MPH Program. Prereq: Completion of core courses and permission of course instructor and MPH Program Director.

PHP 995 - Independent Study  
Credits: 1-3  
Directed readings and other activities to explore a specific topic related to public health. Prereq: Permission of faculty member and MPH Program Director.  
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 3 credits.

PHP 998 - Integrating Seminar  
Credits: 3  
This final course in the MPH curriculum serves as the capstone to the MPH degree and provides the opportunity for students to work in teams, bringing both their individual and joint perspectives and expertise, to address a particular public health problem for a New Hampshire-based public health entity. This course incorporates substantive, analytical, administrative, and policy perspectives. Students make a formal presentation of recommendations at the conclusion of the course. This class meets one hour prior to the regularly scheduled core and elective courses in the MPH Program. Prereq: Completion of core courses and permission of course instructor and MPH Program Director.

Faculty  
See https://chhs.unh.edu/health-management-policy/faculty-staff-directory for faculty.