

MPH Professional Option

Academic Year 2012-2013

The Masters of Public Health degree program prepares students to address the following core competencies while advancing their knowledge of public health:

1. **Public Health Knowledge and Skills**-The MPH student will apply basic knowledge and skills of the core public health sciences that include: biostatistics, epidemiology, health management and policy, behavioral and community health, and environmental and occupational health, to the prevention of illness and injury and the promotion of population health.
2. **Integration of Theory and Practice**-The MPH student will demonstrate the effective integration of theory and practice related to public health issues that affect diverse populations, through a thesis or comprehensive examination and a practice experience.
3. **Communication and Informatics**-The MPH student will gather, organize, and manage data and information effectively to address public health issues through oral and written communications to diverse professionals and lay audiences.
4. **Diversity and Culture**-The MPH student will demonstrate the ability to interact with both diverse individuals and communities to produce or impact an intended public health outcome.
5. **Professionalism**-The MPH student will apply ethical principles to the practice of public health in a variety of settings, demonstrating personal integrity while embracing diverse communities.

The Master of Public Health (MPH)-Professional Option is an interdisciplinary degree that provides education and training for professionals in any field who want to strengthen their general knowledge and skills in public health. Ultimately, graduates of this program will contribute to the expansion and enhancement of a competent public health workforce that is advancing the well-being of Texas' citizens and beyond. Students in the Professional Option will specifically strengthen their knowledge and skills in public health through the following areas:

1. Health Policy and Management
 - a. The MPH student will discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.
 - b. The MPH student will apply the principles of program planning, development, budgeting, management and evaluation in organizational and community initiatives.
 - c. The MPH student will apply quality and performance improvement concepts to address organizational performance issues.
2. Professionalism
 - a. The MPH student will apply basic principles of ethical analysis (e.g., the Public Health Code of Ethics, human rights framework, other moral theories) to issues of public health practice and policy.
 - b. The MPH student will distinguish between population and individual ethical considerations in relation to the benefits, costs, and burdens of public health programs.
3. Leadership
 - a. The MPH student will describe the attributes of leadership in public health.
 - b. The MPH student will describe the alternative strategies for collaboration and partnership among organizations, focused on public health goals.

Applicants must meet one of the following eligibility requirements:

- Applicants with an advanced degree e.g., PhD, DO, MD, JD, MSN, MBA, PA; or
- Applicants currently enrolled in a master's degree program other than an MPH; or
- Applicants currently enrolled in a doctoral degree program; or
- Three years of work experience in the health professions

Professional Option Curriculum (42 Semester Credit Hours)

REQUIRED COURSES: 24 SCH

BACH	5300	Theoretical Foundations of Individual & Community Health	3 SCH
BIOS	5300	Biostatistics for Public Health 1	3 SCH
EOHS	5300	Environmental Health	3 SCH
EPID	5300	Principles of Epidemiology	3 SCH
HMAP	5300	Introduction to Health Management and Policy	3 SCH
HMAP	5320	Health Services Management	3 SCH
HMAP	6320	Leadership for Public Health	3 SCH
HMAP	6360	Ethical Issues in Public Health	3 SCH

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE: 3 SCH

PHED	5397	Public Health Practice Experience*	3 SCH
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**Carefully designed experience at the student's current place of employment or a traditional experience in a health-related organization*

ELECTIVE COURSES: 12 SCH

CULMINATING EXPERIENCE: 3 SCH

PHED	5000	Certified in Public Health Examination	0 SCH
PHED	53xx	MPH Professional Option Capstone	3 SCH

The UNTHSC School of Public Health reserves the right to make changes at any time to reflect current program and curriculum updates and does not constitute a contract between the Health Science Center and a student or applicant for admission.