

PhD in PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES

Academic Year 2014-2015

Behavioral & Community Health

Program Profile

PhD program in Public Health Sciences prepares professionals for research, teaching, and service with the overall objective of improving the health of populations. To meet this objective, all students in the program pursue excellence in conducting research and disseminating knowledge. The primary focus is on research that advances knowledge and facilitates discovery regarding etiology, interventions, and policies that promote health at the individual, population, societal, and/or global levels. The concentration in behavioral and community health provides a rigorous scientific approach to the study of the psychological, social and cultural factors that impact human health and health behavior. An understanding of these factors at multiple social-ecological levels including: individual, interpersonal, organizational, community, and population, will be expected. Students will be prepared to perform basic and applied research, to teach, and to serve communities with the goals of promoting healthy lifestyles, reducing risk behaviors, and eliminating health disparities related to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or gender. Upon completion of the PhD in Public Health Sciences degree with a concentration in Behavioral and Community Health, the student will have demonstrated proficiency in the following competencies:

PhD Core Competencies:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Theories: synthesize historical, contemporary, and emerging theories and paradigms of significance to public health. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critical Analysis: Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of existing research evidence and identify significant gaps in knowledge. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Methodology: Comprehend, design and apply relevant and advanced research methods based on rigorous standards of evidence. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scientific Communications: Develop professional skills in scientific and grant writing, oral communication, and teaching. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethics: Uphold the highest ethical standards in all professional endeavors, including the design and implementation of research and the participation of human subjects. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discovery and Translational Theory: Conduct investigative research, including areas that facilitate the translation and application of discovery to practice. |

Concentration Competencies:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the role and impact of the psychological, behavioral, social, and cultural factors that promote population health as well as those which contribute to increased morbidity and mortality. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effectively engage communities as partners in promoting health, reducing risk behavior, and changing social conditions that undermine public health and safety. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop, test, and implement interventions designed to achieve social and behavioral change. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct scientifically rigorous research on the social and/or behavioral determinants of health, and ways to reduce health disparities. |

The PhD program requires a minimum of 90 semester credit hours (SCH) post-baccalaureate degree and is offered on a full time or part-time basis. Any graduate credits post-baccalaureate, including master's degree courses may be applied to coursework outlined within the PhD degree plan. A student may apply up to 42 SCH of previously taken graduate level courses toward the completion of the Ph.D. coursework (Advanced Standing). All such courses are subject to approval by the Academic Advisor and the PhD Program Committee.

Coursework

Course	Credit Hours	Course was taken...
PhD Core		
BACH 5300 Theoretical Foundations of Individual and Community Health	3	
BIOS 5300 Principles of Biostatistics	3	
EPID 5300 Principles of Epidemiology	3	
HMAP 5300 Introduction to Health Management & Policy	3	
EOHS 5300 Environmental Determinants of Health	3	
BIOS 5310 Intermediate Biostatistics	3	
BIOS 6300 Advanced Methods in Biostatistics	3	
HMAP 6360 Ethical Issues in Public Health	3	
PHED 6118 Methods for Public Health Studies II	1	
PHED 6220 Scientific and Grant Writing	2	
PHED 6321 Pedagogy in Public Health	3	
PHED 6314 Methods for Public Health Studies I	3	
Required		
BACH 5313 Introduction to Data Management & Statistical Computing	3	
BACH 5314 Quantitative Research Methods	3	
BIOS 6312 Methods of Survey Sampling	3	
BIOS 6314 Categorical Data Analysis	3	
EPID 5310 Intermediate Epidemiology	3	
HMAP 6380 Health Services Research I	3	
BACH 6300 Advanced Theories of Individual and Community Health	3	
BACH 6310 Qualitative Research Methods	3	

Culminating Experience		
BACH 6000 PhD Comprehensive Examination	0	
BACH 6395 Doctoral Dissertation	12	
PhD Professional and Academic Development	0	
Electives*		
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		

*BACH Electives- 21 semester credit hours with no more than 9 semester credit hours at the 5000 level. Advisor approval must be provided for all electives.

