

PhD in PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES
Academic Year 2015-2016
Health Services & Policy
Program Profile

The 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 of health services and policy prepares students for careers in research, teaching, and service in the broad field of health care services and policy. The program’s aim is to strengthen students’ knowledge and skills with respect to theories, research methodologies, and analytical skills. By developing these tools, students will be able to address a variety of issues including health care access, cost-effectiveness, and process quality and outcomes evaluation. Upon completion of the PhD in Public Health Sciences degree with a concentration in Health Services and Policy, 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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| • Apply knowledge of the structures, performance, quality, policy, and environmental context of health and health care to formulate solutions for health policy problems. |
| • Identify and compare survey, qualitative and mixed methods of collecting primary health and health care data, and assemble secondary data from existing public and private sources. |
| • Develop a conceptual model to specify study constructs for a health services and policy research question and develop variables that reliably and validly measure these constructs. |
| • Ensure the ethical and responsible conduct of research in the design, implementation, and dissemination of health services research. |

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 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		
HMAP 5326 Public Health Planning and Evaluation	3	
HMAP 5350 Health Economics	3	
HMAP 6300 Health Care Systems	3	
HMAP 6310 Advanced Health Policy	3	
HMAP 6330 Health Insurance and Managed Care	3	
HMAP 6340 Health Care Law	3	
HMAP 6350 Advanced Health Economics	3	
HMAP 6380 Health Services Research I	3	
HMAP 6382 Health Services Research II	3	

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

*HSR Electives- 18 semester credit hours with no more than 9 at the 5000 level. Advisor approval must be provided for all electives.

