

Master of Public Health

Nichole Quick, M.D., M.P.H., Director

<https://publichealth.uci.edu/degrees-programs/graduate-programs/master-of-public-health/>

The distinctive mission of the UCI M.P.H. program is to create a motivated cadre of public health professionals who are prepared to implement effective strategies for reducing the burden of disease and disability in culturally diverse communities, and who are primed to draw from their broad training in the global dimensions of public health principles to lead and work collaboratively on precise assessments of health-risk factors and on the management of evidence-based prevention strategies.

In addition to meeting all the training requirements in the core competency subjects recommended by the Association of Schools and Programs in Public Health (ASPPH), students enrolled in the UCI M.P.H. program will have the opportunity for in-depth pursuit of one of six concentrations: Biostatistics, Community Health and Health Equity, Environmental and Occupational Health, Epidemiology, Global Health, or Health Systems and Policy. The M.P.H. with concentrations in Community Health and Health Equity, Environmental and Occupational Health, Epidemiology, Global Health, and Health Systems and Policy are 64-unit programs. The M.P.H. with a concentration in Biostatistics is a 63-unit program. A full-time student must enroll in at least 12 units per quarter. Part-time enrollment is also allowed upon approval from the department and UCI Graduate Division. To maintain residency, part-time students must enroll in four to eight units per quarter. All students are required to complete 180 hours of fieldwork at an approved public health practicum site after advancing to candidacy with UCI Graduate Division. The Program is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (<http://ceph.org/>).

Further information may be obtained from the Public Health website (<http://publichealth.uci.edu/>), by calling 949-824-7124, or by sending an email to phgo@uci.edu.

The M.P.H. program accepts students for the fall quarter only. Students are encouraged to begin the application process early to facilitate the timely submission of the application. The deadline for receipt of all application materials for the M.P.H. program is December 15. There are no specific course prerequisites needed to enroll, and the program is open to students with bachelor's degrees in a variety of disciplines. Individuals from diverse cultural, geographic, and socioeconomic backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

To be eligible to apply for the M.P.H. program, applicants must meet certain minimum academic requirements. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited academic institution, have earned a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (B average) in undergraduate course work, and possess strong verbal and quantitative skills as reflected by their prior academic record. Evaluations of applicant files for admission to the M.P.H. program will consist of an assessment of transcripts of previous academic work, statement of purpose, letters of recommendation, and other relevant qualifications. Applicants must choose one of the concentrations at the time of application.

Applicants must submit both the UCI Application for Graduate Admission and the School of Public Health Application Service (SOPHAS) application to be considered for admission. For more information on admissions, visit the Public Health website (<http://publichealth.uci.edu/>) or contact phgo@uci.edu.

Program Requirements

The M.P.H. with concentrations in Biostatistics, Community Health and Health Equity, Environmental and Occupational Health, Epidemiology, Global Health, or Health Systems and Policy is a 63- or 64-unit degree program taken over five to six quarters. Seven courses must be taken by all students. In addition, students take at least six additional courses in their concentration and either 8 or 12 units if elective courses, depending on the concentration. All courses required for the M.P.H. must be taken for a letter grade (except for the capstone course). Only grades of B or better represent satisfactory scholarship.

Concentration Courses: Upon applying, students choose a concentration for their M.P.H. degree. At least six concentration courses are required for each concentration.

A. Complete the introductory course:	
PUBHLTH 200	Foundations of Public Health
B. Complete four required core competency courses:	
PUBHLTH 264	Introduction to Environmental Health Science
PUBHLTH 206A	Principles of Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 222A	Health Policy and Management
PUBHLTH 253	Introduction to Community Health and Health Equity
C. Complete capstone course PUBHLTH 295 (eight units)	
Biostatistics Concentration	
A. Complete:	
STATS 201	Statistical Methods for Data Analysis I
STATS 202	Statistical Methods for Data Analysis II

STATS 203	Statistical Methods for Data Analysis III
STATS 280	Seminar in Statistics (at least two quarters)
STATS 281A	Introduction to Probability and Statistics I
STATS 281B	Introduction to Probability and Statistics II
B. Complete at least one quarter of the PUBHLTH 291 series.	
C. Complete 12 units of approved electives from the list below.	
Community Health and Health Equity Concentration	
A. Complete:	
PUBHLTH 207A	Probability and Statistics in Public Health
or PUBHLTH 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 207B	Analysis of Public Health Data Using Statistical Software
or PUBHLTH 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 245	Health Promotion Planning
PUBHLTH 246	Social Research Methods
PUBHLTH 247	Program Evaluation
PUBHLTH 244	Health Behavior Theory
B. Complete at least two quarters of the PUBHLTH 291 series (2 units each)	
C. Complete 8 units of approved electives from the list below	
Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration	
A. Complete:	
PUBHLTH 207A	Probability and Statistics in Public Health
or PUBHLTH 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 207B	Analysis of Public Health Data Using Statistical Software
or PUBHLTH 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
B. Complete:	
EHS 298	Seminar in Environmental Health Sciences (taken once in spring of first year and again in fall of second year)
C. Complete:	
EPIDEM 205	Environmental Epidemiology
D. Select one from the following:	
EHS 202	Principles of Environmental Toxicology
EHS 204	Neurotoxicology
EHS 206A	Target Organ Toxicology I
EHS 206B	Target Organ Toxicology II
EHS 212	Inhalation Toxicology
EHS 294	Health Psychology
BIO SCI 285	Topics in Allied Health Microbiology
PHYSIO 206A	Introduction to Medical Physiology
E. Select one from the following:	
Any course from section D not used to satisfy the D requirement.	
EHS 201	Case Studies in Environmental Toxicology
EHS 220	Industrial Toxicology
EHS 269	Air Pollution, Climate, and Health
EHS 275	Environmental Modeling and Risk Management
EHS 290	Independent Study in Environmental Toxicology
EHS 299	Research Problems

PUBHLTH 204C	Biostatistics III: Advanced Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 206B	Intermediate Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 279	Special Topics in Environmental & Occupational Health
PUBHLTH 283	Geographic Information Systems for Public Health
PUBHLTH 286	Advanced Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 290	Special Topics in Public Health
F. Complete at least two quarters of the PUBHLTH 291 series (2 units each)	
G. Complete 8 units of approved electives from the list below	
Epidemiology Concentration	
A. Complete:	
PUBHLTH 206B	Intermediate Epidemiology
EPIDEM 200C	Advanced Epidemiologic Methods
EPIDEM 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
EPIDEM 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
EPIDEM 204C	Biostatistics III: Advanced Statistical Methods
EPIDEM 220A	Data Management I
EPIDEM 220B	Data Management II
B. Complete at least two quarters of the PUBHLTH 291 series (2 units each)	
C. Complete 8 units of approved electives from the list below	
Global Health Concentration	
A. Complete:	
PUBHLTH 207A	Probability and Statistics in Public Health
or PUBHLTH 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 207B	Analysis of Public Health Data Using Statistical Software
or PUBHLTH 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 213	Epidemiology in Global Health
PUBHLTH 280	Global Burden of Disease
PUBHLTH 281	Infectious Disease Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 282	Climate Change and Global Health
B. Complete at least two quarters of the PUBHLTH 291 series (2 units each)	
C. Complete 8 units of approved electives from the list below	
Health Systems and Policy Concentration	
A. Complete:	
PUBHLTH 207A	Probability and Statistics in Public Health
or PUBHLTH 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 207B	Analysis of Public Health Data Using Statistical Software
or PUBHLTH 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
or EPIDEM 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 222B	Health Care Delivery and Financing
PUBHLTH 225	Health Politics and Policy
PUBHLTH 247	Program Evaluation
PUBHLTH 228	Health Economics
B. Complete at least two quarters of the PUBHLTH 291 series (2 units each)	
C. Complete 8 units of approved electives from the list below	

Elective List

PUBHLTH 206B	Intermediate Epidemiology
EPIDEM 200C	Advanced Epidemiologic Methods
EPIDEM 201	Cancer Epidemiology
EPIDEM 204C	Biostatistics III: Advanced Statistical Methods
EPIDEM 205	Environmental Epidemiology
EPIDEM 212	Methods for Design and Implementation of Epidemiologic Research
EPIDEM 215	Introduction to Statistical Genetics
EPIDEM 232	Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology and Prevention
EPIDEM 244	Toxic Chemicals in Environment
EPIDEM 275	Special Topics in Epidemiology
EPIDEM 298	Directed Study in Epidemiology
EPIDEM 299	Independent Study in Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 208	Advances in Social Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 209	Methods of Demographic Analysis
PUBHLTH 210	Theory-Driven Secondary Data Analysis
PUBHLTH 213	Epidemiology in Global Health
PUBHLTH 223	Risk Communication
PUBHLTH 242	Theories of Health Communication
PUBHLTH 244	Health Behavior Theory
PUBHLTH 245	Health Promotion Planning
PUBHLTH 246	Social Research Methods
PUBHLTH 247	Program Evaluation
PUBHLTH 248	Fundamentals of Maternal and Child Health - Programs, Problems, and Policy
PUBHLTH 251	Models of Practice and Intervention at the Community Level
PUBHLTH 269	Air Pollution, Climate, and Health
PUBHLTH 275	Environmental Modeling and Risk Management
PUBHLTH 277A	Target Organ Toxicology I
PUBHLTH 277B	Target Organ Toxicology II
PUBHLTH 278	Industrial Toxicology
PUBHLTH 279	Special Topics in Environmental & Occupational Health
PUBHLTH 280	Global Burden of Disease
PUBHLTH 281	Infectious Disease Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 282	Climate Change and Global Health
PUBHLTH 283	Geographic Information Systems for Public Health
PUBHLTH 286	Advanced Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 287	Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health
PUBHLTH 289	Special Topics in Global Health and Disease Prevention
PUBHLTH 290	Special Topics in Public Health
PUBHLTH 291A	Seminar: Advances and Challenges in Public Health
PUBHLTH 291B	Seminar: Advances and Challenges in Public Health
PUBHLTH 291C	Seminar: Advances and Challenges in Public Health
PUBHLTH 292	Ethics and Responsible Conduct of Research in Public Health
PUBHLTH 293	Foundations of Clinical and Translational Science
PUBHLTH 294	Research Communication in Public Health
PUBHLTH 297	Research Design and Proposal Writing
PUBHLTH 298	Directed Studies in Public Health
PUBHLTH 299	Independent Study in Public Health
EHS 201	Case Studies in Environmental Toxicology

EHS 202	Principles of Environmental Toxicology
EHS 204	Neurotoxicology
EHS 212	Inhalation Toxicology
EHS 290	Independent Study in Environmental Toxicology
EHS 297	Advanced Topics in Occupational Toxicology
EHS 298	Seminar in Environmental Health Sciences
EHS 299	Research Problems

Students in all M.P.H. Concentrations

Comprehensive Examination - All M.P.H. students are required to pass the comprehensive exam in order to advance to candidacy. The comprehensive exam is the "Certified in Public Health" (CPH) examination which covers the core areas of knowledge offered in CEPH-accredited schools and programs, as well as cross-cutting areas relevant to contemporary public health. Students who complete all of their core courses are required to take the CPH examination at the beginning of the fall quarter of their second year. Students who do not complete all of their core courses during their first year will be allowed an alternative testing date. In addition, by special petition, students may be approved to take the CPH examination during the spring quarter of their first year. Students must pass the CPH examination before they can be advanced to candidacy for the M.P.H. degree.

Practicum and Culminating Experience. Students are required to complete a supervised internship of 180 hours while registered in the Graduate Practicum and Culminating Experience in Public Health (PUBHLTH 295 (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/search/?P=PUBHLTH%20295>)). The practicum experience follows the completion of all core competency courses, the comprehensive exam, and advancement to candidacy. A compendium of approved practicum sites is available online to enrolled M.P.H. students. The student's work at the practicum site culminates in a comprehensive written report, with a presentation at the departmental poster seminar at the end of the academic year.

For students enrolled full-time, the normative time for completion of the M.P.H. degree is six quarters, and the maximum time permitted is nine quarters. For students enrolled part-time, the normative time is nine quarters, and the maximum is 15 quarters. Upon special petition, students admitted with advanced standing due to prior graduate-level training may receive credit for up to one-fifth of the total units required toward the M.P.H. degree. Students must be able to demonstrate competency associated with those courses. Such credits are not applicable to the graduate practicum and graduate seminar.

Program in Law and Graduate Studies (J.D./Ph.D./M.P.H.)

Highly-qualified students interested in combining the study of law with graduate qualifications in Public Health are invited to undertake concurrent degree study under the auspices of UC Irvine's Program in Law and Graduate Studies (PLGS). Students in this program pursue a coordinated curriculum leading to a J.D. from the School of Law in conjunction with a Master's or Ph.D. in Public Health.

Additional information is available from the PLGS Program Director's Office at 949-824-9217, or by email at plgs@law.uci.edu (%20plgs@law.uci.edu). A full description of the program, with links to all relevant application information, can be found in the Law School section of the (<http://catalogue.uci.edu/schooloflaw/#lawandgraduatestudies>) *Catalogue*.

Graduates of the UCI M.P.H. program will find employment in both public and private agencies committed to preventing disease and promoting health and wellness in all aspects of society. Earning a graduate degree gives new professionals a competitive edge over students who complete their education at the bachelor's degree level. In particular, the curriculum of the M.P.H. degree at UCI is designed to create students who can combine knowledge of the core disciplines in public health with leadership, communication, and problem-solving inter-professional skills to meet the needs of culturally-diverse communities locally and globally. Earning an M.P.H. will allow graduates to pursue supervisory positions and career advancement opportunities that may be unattainable without an advanced degree. Students may also wish to combine an M.P.H. with a medical or law degree to increase opportunities for employment.

Coursework and practicum experiences in the M.P.H. program can also prepare a student to pursue doctoral programs in public health. The Ph.D. is a research-based degree that prepares the candidate for research and teaching positions in institutions of higher education. The Dr.P.H. is a professional degree that prepares candidates for careers as practitioners in high-level administration or teaching. The UCI Program in Public Health offers a Ph.D. in Public Health, a Ph.D. in Epidemiology, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Health Sciences. More information about careers and graduate school in public health can be obtained through the ASPPH (<http://www.aspph.org/discover/>) and the Council on Education for Public Health (<http://ceph.org/>).