

Public Health, M.S.

The distinctive mission of the Master of Science in Public Health is to prepare the next generation of public health researchers in order to reduce the burden of disease, especially in the world's most vulnerable and risk-associated populations. Graduates of the M.S. program will be prepared to contribute to the improvement of public health.

Only students in our existing Public Health Ph.D. program who determine that the Ph.D. track is not fit for them, or due to extenuating circumstances are not able to continue toward the Ph.D. would be able to earn the M.S. Public Health. Students cannot apply to the M.S. program.

Thesis

M.S. students will engage in thesis research with their faculty advisor. The students' final thesis will be submitted to a M.S. thesis committee. Students must submit thesis committee members and thesis topic to their faculty mentor for approval, before advancement to candidacy will be approved. The thesis should reflect an original research investigation and must be approved by a thesis committee of at least three full-time faculty members, all of which must be public health faculty. The final examination is an oral presentation of the thesis to the committee.

Program Requirements

All M.S. students are required to complete 56 quarter-units according to the following modules:

A. Complete the Preparatory Module: ¹	
PUBHLTH 206B	Intermediate Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 204A	Biostatistics I: Introduction to Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 204B	Biostatistics II: Intermediate Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 294	Research Communication in Public Health
PUBHLTH 298	Directed Studies in Public Health
PUBHLTH 246	Social Research Methods
B. Students must complete one of the following Concentration modules:	
Concentration Module: Disease Prevention	
Select four courses from the following:	
PUBHLTH 208	Advances in Social Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 244	Health Behavior Theory
PUBHLTH 245	Health Promotion Planning
PUBHLTH 242	Theories of Health Communication
PUBHLTH 223	Risk Communication
EPIDEM 232	Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology and Prevention
PUBHLTH 290	Special Topics in Public Health ²
or	
Concentration Module: Global Health	
Select four courses from the following:	
PUBHLTH 213	Epidemiology in Global Health
PUBHLTH 280	Global Burden of Disease
PUBHLTH 286	Advanced Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 289	Special Topics in Global Health and Disease Prevention ²
PUBHLTH 282	Climate Change and Global Health
PUBHLTH 290	Special Topics in Public Health ²
EARTHSS 200	Global Physical Climatology
or	
Concentration Module: Biobehavioral Mechanisms of Health	
Select four courses from the following:	
PUBHLTH 272	Health Psychology
PUBHLTH 244	Health Behavior Theory
PUBHLTH 248	Fundamentals of Maternal and Child Health - Programs, Problems, and Policy
PUBHLTH 290	Special Topics in Public Health ²

EPIDEM 202	Genetic Epidemiology
EPIDEM 201	Cancer Epidemiology
PSCI P283H	Psychoneuroimmunology
PSCI P273	Biobehavioral Aspects of Health and Illness
C. Complete the Methods Module	
Select four courses from the following:	
PUBHLTH 283	Geographic Information Systems for Public Health ³
PUBHLTH 286	Advanced Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 287	Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health
PUBHLTH 247	Program Evaluation
PUBHLTH 209	Methods of Demographic Analysis
PUBHLTH 206C	Advanced Epidemiologic Methods
PUBHLTH 210	Theory-Driven Secondary Data Analysis
PUBHLTH 204C	Biostatistics III: Advanced Statistical Methods
PUBHLTH 251	Models of Practice and Intervention at the Community Level
PUBHLTH 293	Foundations of Clinical and Translational Science
EDUC 234	Measurement and Psychometrics
EDUC 265	Applied Regression Analysis for Education and Social Scientific Research
EDUC 266T	Design-Based Implementation Research
EDUC 280	Research Methods: Hierarchical Linear Modeling
EPIDEM 275	Special Topics in Epidemiology
PUBHLTH 290	Special Topics in Public Health

¹ Students who entered the program without a Master's level degree from a Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited program must complete PUBHLTH 200 as part of their preparatory module.

² Special topics courses must be approved by the program director(s) as satisfying concentration requirements.

³ Required for students in the Global Health Concentration.

The M.S. in Public Health prepares graduates to pursue careers in policy analysis, monitoring and evaluation of public health programs, and academic and programmatic research. They will engage and develop global health research at national and international government agencies, NGOs, the private sector and academic institutions.