Environmental and Occupational Health

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Alok Deoraj, Instructor
Mehmet Dorak, Associate Professor
Janvier Gasana, Associate Professor
Quentin Felty, Associate Professor
Jai Parkash, Assistant Professor

Affiliated Faculty
Samir Elmir
William Brookman

The Department offers a Graduate Certificate, a Master's degree in Public Health with a specialization in Environmental and Occupational Health and a Ph.D. in Public Health with a specialization in Environmental and Occupational Health.

MPH in Environmental and Occupational Health

The graduate training programs in Environmental and Occupational Health are both interdisciplinary and interdepartmental. The Department of Environmental and Occupational Health is committed to the highest quality performance of mechanism-based and evidence-based research. The application of this research is to help detect, prevent, and control adverse influences of the environment on human health, based on the understanding of the complex interplay of genetic variations with environmental stressors. Our faculty are pursuing research on how the built environment and environmental stressors interact to influence human health and health-related behaviors that goes beyond the traditional focus on hazardous agents.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the University's general graduate admission requirements:
1. A Bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university or, in the case of foreign students, an institution recognized in its own country as preparing students for further study at the graduate level.
2. A minimum 3.0 GPA on the last 60 under-graduate hours. In addition, applicants are required to submit 1) a current resume; and 2) a written statement of purpose (career goals). Applicants are also encouraged to submit three letters of recommendation.
3. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required. Students with diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Curriculum and Course Requirements

For the Master's of Public Health with specialization in Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH), all students must complete the MPH General Core Courses (15 credits), EOH Specialization Courses (15 credits) and Elective Courses (9 credits), and the MPH Practicum (3 credits) and Integrative Seminar (3 credits), for a total minimum of 45 credits.

General Core Courses: (15 credits)
PHC 6000 Introduction to Public Health Epidemiology 3
PHC 6065 Health Statistics 3
PHC 6102 Introduction to Public Health Policy and Management 3
PHC 6315 Introduction to Environmental Health 3
PHC 6410 Health Behavior and Public Health 3

Specialization in Environmental and Occupational Health Courses: (15 credits)
PHC 6307 Environmental Health: Prevention & Occupational Epidemiology 3
PHC 6310 Introduction to Environmental & Occupational Toxicology 3
PHC 6311 Environmental Health Risk Assessment 3
PHC 6316 Environmental Health Management 3
PHC 6355 Environmental & Occupational Health 3

Elective Courses: (9 credits)
PHC 6001 Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology 3
PHC 6004 Injury Epidemiology and Violence Prevention 3
PHC 6312C Health Impacts of Air, Water, and Land Pollution 3
PHC 6356 Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene 3
PHC 6374 Environmental Disasters & Human Health 3
PHC 6422 Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Environmental Health 3
PHC 6520 Public Health Aspects of Food borne Disease 3
PHC 6538 Genetic Issues in Public Health 3
PHC 6763 Global Perspectives of Environmental Health in Caribbean & Latin America 3
PHC 6900 Environmental Public Health Genomics and Molecular Toxicology Journal Club 3
PHC 6907 Independent Study in Public Health 1-3
PHC 6914L Current Topics in Environmental and Occupational Health Research 3
PHC 6920 Special Topics in Environmental Health 3
PHC 7018C Advanced Environmental Health 3
PHC 7300 Biological Basis of Environmental Public Health 3
PHC 7372 Signal Transduction in Environmental Health &Toxicology 3
PHC 7374C Advances in Cellular & Environmental Toxicology 3

Practicum and Culminating Experience: (6 credits)
PHC 6945 Practicum in Public Health 3
PHC 6930C Integrative Seminar in Public Health 3

PHC 6945 (practicum) and PHC 6930C (culminating experience) are both required for all MPH students. PHC 6945 (Practicum) may be waived if the student has at least 3 years of practical experience working in a public health setting. The waiver request is submitted by the student, through the Faculty Advisor and Department Chair, for final approval/disapproval by the Public Health Academic
Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Specialization in Environmental and Occupational Health

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Health is available with a specialization in Environmental and Occupational Health. Students will be expected to demonstrate significant research capacity by completing 60 credits beyond the Master’s degree and through the writing of an original dissertation.

Doctoral Admissions

Applicants must meet the University’s general graduate admission requirements:

1. A four-year bachelor's degree or equivalent from a nationally accredited institution or, in the case of foreign students, from a well established institution of higher learning that is authorized to grant degrees by appropriate authorities in that country.
2. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA, "B" average, in the last 60 upper-division undergraduate coursework, or a graduate degree from a nationally accredited institution.
3. Official GRE scores (scores must be no more than five years old). Nationally-normed exam scores should be at or above the 60th percentile (e.g., 1120 combined verbal and quantitative scores on the GRE).
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or a 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required.

The College also requires:

1. A current resume.
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. A writing sample (master’s thesis or project, published manuscript, or other).

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact individual faculty to discuss common research interests since admission decisions may require identification of a potential faculty mentor.

Doctoral Requirements

A student may enroll for dissertation credits after completing all coursework, passing the candidacy examination, and being advanced to candidacy. Dissertation credits cannot be taken before advancement to candidacy.

The candidacy examination will be prepared and graded by a committee consisting of a minimum of three faculty members. Admission to candidacy requires that a majority of the committee members agree that the student passed the examination. A candidacy examination may not be passed conditionally. A “Pass” on the examination cannot be made contingent upon other factors such as the completion of additional coursework or the preparation of extra research projects. Students will be allowed only two attempts to pass the candidacy examination.

After a doctoral student is admitted to candidacy, continuous registration for at least 3 dissertation credit hours each semester (including the summer term) is required until the dissertation requirement is fulfilled.

Required Courses

The program requires a minimum of 75 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate which includes a minimum of 24 credit hours of dissertation credits. There are three components to the Ph.D. curriculum. The first is a core curriculum shared across all specializations (12 credit hours). The second component is specific to the specialization (27 credit hours) and secondary field courses (12 credit hours). The third component consists of the dissertation, including 24 dissertation credit hours.

Shared Core Courses: (12 credits)

- PHC 6601 Emerging Issues in Public Health 3
- PHC 6718 Quantitative Research Analysis in Health and Urban Affairs II 3
- PHC 7981 Research Concepts and Proposal Development 3
- PHC 7705 Methods in Evidence Based Public Health 3

Courses for Environmental and Occupational Health Specialization (A minimum of 27 hours which include a minimum of 9 hours in Methods Courses and 18 hours (with minimum of 9 at the 7000 level) in Content Courses.

Methods Courses: (18 credits)

- PHC 6914L Current Topics in Environmental and Occupational Health Laboratory Research I 3
- PHC 7713 Advanced Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology Research Methods 3
- PHC 6917 Pre Doctoral Research 3
- PHC 6914L Course may be take three times to equal 9 credit hours, OR PHC 6917 may be taken twice, to equal 6 credit hours, along with PHC 7713 totaling the 9 credit hours needed for method courses.

Content Courses: (18 credits)

- PHC 6001 Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology 3
- PHC 6004 Injury Epidemiology and Violence Prevention 3
- PHC 6310 Environmental & Occupational Toxicology 3
- PHC 6311 Environmental Health Risk Assessment 3
- PHC 6312C Health Impacts of Air, Water, and Land Pollution 3
- PHC 6316 Environmental Health Management 3
- PHC 6355 Occupational Health and Safety 3
- PHC 6356 Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene 3
- PHC 6374 Environmental Disasters & Human Health 3
- PHC 6422 Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Environmental Health 3
- PHC 6520 Public Health Aspects of Food Borne Diseases 3
- PHC 6538 Genetic Issues in Public Health 3
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<td>PHC 6900</td>
<td>Environmental Public Health Genomics and Molecular Toxicology Journal Club</td>
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<td>Advances in Cellular &amp; Environmental Toxicology</td>
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**Secondary Field Courses: (12 credits)**

At least 12 credit hours of approved secondary field courses. Secondary field courses selected from approved graduate school courses in consultation with academic advisor.

**Dissertation Requirements: (24 credits)**

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<td>PHC 7980</td>
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For additional and updated information about degrees offered, entrance requirements, and services, please visit our website:

[http://rscphsw.fiu.edu/students_affairs/index.html](http://rscphsw.fiu.edu/students_affairs/index.html)