

Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

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The Department offers Graduate Certificates, a Master's degree in Public Health (MPH) with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention with a Concentration in Maternal and Child Health, and a Ph.D. in Public Health with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

Application Deadline

The application deadline for PhD and priority deadline for both MPH with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention is February 15th. MPH applications submitted prior to this deadline will be considered for admission first. Applications submitted after February 15th will be considered for slots that have not been filled until the University's deadline of June 1st.

MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention courses prepare students to develop and implement health promotion/health education programs in various sites. This program of study is concerned with personal and public health lifestyles, identification of risk factors and behavioral change strategies that promote positive health behaviors of individuals, groups, and community. See also Graduate Certificates in Health Promotion and Maternal and Child Health, which do not require enrollment in the MPH degree program.

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 undergraduate hours. In addition, applicants are required to submit 1) a current resume; 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.
4. Submission of official GRE scores. Scores must be less than 5 years old.

MPH Core Curriculum: (15 credits)

PHC 6000	Epidemiology I: Introduction to Public Health Epidemiology	3
PHC 6065	Public 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

Major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention: (12 credits)

PHC 6146	Health Promotion Program Planning and Intervention Design	3
PHC 6602	Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion	3
PHC 6706	Research Methods in Public Health	3
PHC 6750	Program Development and Evaluation in Health Promotion	3

Elective Courses: (12 credits)

Electives may be selected from the following list of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention courses. Students must consult with a faculty advisor for approval prior to selecting elective courses not on this list.

PHC 5009	AIDS: Contemporary Issues	3
PHC 5113	Communities and Public Health	3
PHC 5409	Public Health Behavior Change Theory and Practice	3
PHC 5412	Cultural Competency for Public Health	3
PHC 5415	Public Health in Minority Urban Populations	3
PHC 6443	Ethical Issues in Public Health	3
PHC 6504	Introduction to Health Education and Wellness	3
PHC 6530	Principles of Maternal and Child Health	3
PHC 6580	Contemporary Issues in Health Promotion	3
PHC 6589	Health Promotion in Institutional Settings	3
PHC 6600	Health Promotion Communication Theory and Design	3
PHC 6710	Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health	3
PHC 6715	Survey Research in Public Health	3
PHC 6751	Community Organization for Health Promotion	3
PHC 6762	International Public Health	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. The Practicum may be taken after completing a minimum of 30 hours, including all core courses. The Practicum may be waived if the student has at least 3 years of relevant practice experience working in a public health practice setting. The waiver request is prepared and submitted by the student, through their Faculty Advisor and Department Chair, for final approval/disapproval by the Academic Public Health Director. If the Practicum requirement is waived, the student will need to substitute 3 additional approved hours so that the total curriculum hour requirement of 45 is met. MPH students are expected to complete PHC 6930c Integrative Seminar in Public Health during their last semester in the program.

MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention with a Concentration in Maternal and Child Health

The total credit requirement for the MPH is 45 credits. The MCH Concentration is organizationally housed in the MPH Health Promotion and Disease Prevention major which includes five courses (15 credits) in the MPH Core Curriculum, four courses (12 credits) in the HPDP Major and 2 courses (6 credits) in the Practicum and Culminating Experience. The other 12 credits, as noted above will include the MCH required and MCH elective coursework.

MPH Core Curriculum: (15 credits)

PHC 6000	Epidemiology I: Introduction to Public Health Epidemiology	3
PHC 6065	Public 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

Major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention: (12 credits)

PHC 6146	Health Promotion Program Planning and Intervention Design	3
PHC 6602	Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion	3
PHC 6706	Research Methods in Public Health	3
PHC 6750	Program Development and Evaluation in Health Promotion	3

Maternal and Child Health Required Courses: (6 credits)

PHC 6530	Principles of Maternal and Child Health	3
PHC 6537	Case Studies in Maternal and Child Health Programs, Policies and Research	3

Elective Courses: (6 credits)

Electives may be selected from the following list of Maternal and Child Health courses. Students must consult with a faculty advisor for approval prior to selecting elective courses not on this list.

PHC 5412	Cultural Competency for Public Health	3
SOW 5240	Advanced Interventions in Child Maltreatment	3
PHC 5415	Public Health in Minority Urban Populations	3
PHC 6063C	Health Policy Database Applications	3
PHC 6591	Reproductive Health Epidemiology	3
PHC 6504	Introduction to Health Education and Wellness	3
PHC 6762	International Public Health	3
PHC 6xxx	Analytic Methods in MCH	3
HUN 6415	Pediatric Nutrition	3

Practicum and Culminating Experience: (6 credits)

PHC 6945	Practicum in Public Health	3
PHC 6930C	Integrative Seminar in Public Health	3

The practicum may be waived if the student has at least 3 years of relevant public health practice experience, and substituted for 3 additional MCH elective credit hours.

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Health is available with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. 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).
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 College Ph.D. curriculum. The first is a core curriculum shared across all majors (12 credit hours). The second component is specific to the major (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 6091	Biostatistics 2 (or other approved Quantitative Methods course)	3
PHC 7981	Research Concepts and Proposal Development	3
PHC 7705	Methods in Evidence Based Public Health	3

Courses for Health Promotion and Disease

Prevention Major 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*: (12 credits)

Major advisor and the program committee for the student will identify appropriate methods courses from an approved list.

PHC 6055	Data Management and Applied Epidemiologic Analysis	3
PHC 7198	Advanced Qualitative Methods in Public Health	3
PHC 7723	Survey Research in Public Health	3
PHC 7702	Advanced Measurement in Public Health	3

*or other advisor-approved methods course

Content Courses: (18 credits)

PHC 6443	Ethical Issues in Public Health	3
PHC 7162	Grant Writing in Public Health	3
PHC 7583	Policy and Practice in Health Promotion	3
PHC 7584	Advanced Research Designs	3
PHC 7587	Theory Development in Health Promotion	3
PHC 7588	History and Foundations of Public Health	3

Secondary field courses or Additional Concentration

Outside of Major: (9 credits) 9

Courses to be selected in consultation with advisor from University offerings in a focused area appropriate to public health.

Dissertation Requirements: (24 credits)

PHC 7980	Dissertation	24
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<http://stempel.fiu.edu/students/advising/index.html>