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The School of Public Health

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The School of Public Health

About the School

The mission of the School of Public Health is to promote health and quality of life through graduate education, applied research, and community service in the prevention and control of disease, injury, and disability. The curriculum combines knowledge of the disciplines of public health and practical applications of that knowledge. By working collaboratively with community groups, agencies, and populations, professionals are prepared to effectively address today's most pressing public health problems.

Preparation and Partnership

The School believes that professionals can best meet the needs of today and tomorrow with expertise in the integration and practical application of all disciplines of public health. The School of Public Health's educational and research programs are built upon partnerships with communities and the organizations that serve them.

The School prepares professionals to assess population health; to ensure appropriate services through programmatic, economic, and organizational interventions; and to develop and evaluate policy interventions.

About the MS in Biostatistics

Biostatistics applies statistical, mathematical and computational techniques to scientific research in health-related fields, including medicine, epidemiology, and public health. Biostatistics has been an integral and indispensable tool in improving health and reducing illness. Biostatisticians play essential roles in designing studies and analyzing research data. Graduates with degrees in biostatistics are employed in public health research and service organizations, university research groups, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, health-related industries and government. The demand for biostatisticians in the job market has been consistently strong. New high throughput technologies such as gene microarray are generating an unprecedented amount of data and present exciting new opportunities for biostatisticians with strong computational skills.

The goal of Drexel University's MS Program in Biostatistics is to provide students with a thorough understanding of biostatistical methods, strong computational skills, and the ability to apply this knowledge to research focusing on health related problems. The program prepares students for handling the quantitative and computational aspects of a research project, ranging from study design, data collection and management, developing analysis plans, and conducting analyses and reporting findings. The program provides students with knowledge in statistical theory and computational methods as applied to biomedical and public health research.

Upon graduation MS students will attain competencies in the following three areas: general public health knowledge; biostatistics knowledge; data management and computing skills.

For additional information about the program, visit Drexel's School of Public Health web site.

MS in Biostatistics Admission Requirements

Applicants to the MS in Biostatistics must meet the following requirements, having:

- a baccalaureate degree, ideally in a quantitative field such as mathematics, economics and computer science or a scientific area such as natural, biological, medical and environmental sciences.
- at least two semesters of calculus in college.
- knowledge and experience in computing such as operating system, office software and Internet. Familiarity with a programming language or a statistical package is desirable.

The application package will include:

- undergraduate and graduate transcripts
- three letters of recommendation from faculty or professionals who can evaluate the applicant's promise as a graduate student
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores
- a written statement of career and educational goals.

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MS in Biostatistics

48.0 credits

Degree Requirements

Completion of the MS in Biostatistics requires: (1) a minimum of 48 credit hours of course work; (2) a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher; (3) a substantial data analysis project (9 credit hours) with a written report (30-50 pages) and oral presentation.

Curriculum

Required Public Health Courses 10.0 Credits

PBHL 516	Introduction to Public Health	2.0
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In addition, students select two of the following Public Health courses:

PBHL 540	Prevention Principles and Practices	4.0
PBHL 550	Community Based Prevention Practices	4.0
PBHL 640	Environmental Health	4.0
PBHL 650	Policy and Advocacy	4.0
PBHL 660	Occupational Health	4.0

Required Biostatistics Courses 25.0 Credits

PBHL 520	Biostatistics	4.0
PBHL 620	Intermediate Biostatistics I	3.0
PBHL 621	Intermediate Biostatistics II	3.0
PBHL 622	Introduction to Biostatistics Theory	3.0
PBHL 623	Biostatistics Computing	3.0
PBHL 628	Survival Data Analysis	3.0
PBHL 625	Longitudinal Data Analysis	3.0
PBHL 629	Design and Analysis of Clinical Trials	3.0

Required Epidemiology Courses 7.0 Credits

PBHL 530	Epidemiology	4.0
PBHL 630	Intermediate Epidemiology	3.0

Suggested Electives 6.0 Credits

BIO 631	Bioinformatics I	3.0
BIO 640	Biometry	3.0
MATH 510	Applied Probability and Statistics I	3.0
MATH 511	Applied Probability and Statistics II	3.0
PBHL 632	Applied Survey Research in Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 804	Research Methods for Community Health and Prevention	3.0

PBHL 830	Advanced Epidemiology	4.0
STAT 604	Decision Sciences	3.0
STAT 628	Regression and Correlation Analysis	3.0

About the Master of Public Health (MPH): Full-time Program

Drexel University's Master of Public Health (MPH) full-time program provides practical skills and experience, with a unique focus on relevant community issues, challenges, and priorities.

The 64 quarter-credit program is interdisciplinary and requires students to complete a comprehensive, community-based master's project. The program prepares students to enter an array of fields related to public health or a range of doctoral programs.

Program Highlights

The first year of the program covers the five core disciplines offered within the context of culture and community. These include environmental and occupational health; health care systems organization, management, and policy; social and behavioral sciences for population health; epidemiology; biostatistics.

During the second year of the program, students select one of five following concentrations from the school's four academic departments:

- Biostatistics
- Epidemiology
- Community Health and Prevention
- Environmental and Occupational Health
- Health Management and Policy

Throughout the program, group case discussion sessions, case-related activities and didactic sessions are integrated into the experience. These include:

- Skill development labs and workshops (year two);
- Public health grand rounds (for all faculty, students, and community partners) provide access to scholars and their cutting-edge research and initiatives in public health.

Curriculum

The MPH full-time educational program is structured on a quarter-term basis, with a total 64 credit hours required. This is generally taken as a two-year program; all coursework must be completed within seven years of the date of matriculation for the full-time program.

The second-year curriculum is composed of four courses in the chosen area of concentration (Biostatistics; Epidemiology; Community Health and Prevention; Environmental and Occupational Health; Health Management and Policy), three elective courses, and the Community-Based Master's Project (CBMP), the culminating experience required of full-time Drexel MPH students.

Students spend approximately 12 hours each week working on a community-oriented, health-related project, often working as an integral part of a community-based organization. This can be in the areas of government, healthcare and social services, among others. In preparation for developing their final paper, students are required to identify an issue or problem of significance to the target community or

agency, synthesize the literature, develop an approach or methodology to address the issue, and either implement and test the validity of a proposed approach or set out a detailed prescription for addressing the problem. Students may also work with faculty in specific research areas.

Joint Doctor of Medicine and Master of Public Health Degree (MD/MPH)

Students wishing to complete a course of study earning the joint MD/MPH degree can complete such a program in 5 years. They must apply for the joint program and be accepted by both the Drexel University School of Medicine and the School of Public Health.

Students in this program have enriched public health content in their first two years of medical school and spend their third year of study full time in the School of Public Health. Students are able to enter clinical rotations and residency selection having obtained the MPH degree.

Master of Public Health (MPH) Admission Requirements

The School of Public Health seeks students with intellectual and interpersonal competencies as well as those with potential for leadership. The school has set a high priority on establishing a student body that is representative of the nation's population. We strive to recruit and to admit applicants from underrepresented minority groups who can contribute to the richness of our student population and to that of the nation's public health professionals.

Admissions Process:

- The Admissions Committee carefully reviews applications and gives personal essays and letters of recommendation particular attention.
- The selection process weighs prior academic and personal accomplishments, emphasizing demonstrated leadership.
- Diversity of background and outside interests, depth of self-appraisal, commitment to public health, and working with individuals are highly valued.
- Prior work experience in a field related to public health is highly recommended.

Applicants Should Have:

- Satisfactorily completed an undergraduate bachelor degree program in an accredited U.S. college or university, or its equivalent in another country
- A course in Statistics is highly recommended
- Six undergraduate or graduate credits in the social or behavioral sciences and three in the biological sciences are preferred, but not required
- Satisfactory results from one of the following taken within the past five years (the GRE or GMAT is preferred):
 - Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
 - Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)
 - Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
 - Law School Admission Test (LSAT)
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for applicants whose first language is not English

Please note: Drexel University's School code for submitting GRE scores is 2194.

The Application Process also requires:

- Completion of the Schools of Public Health Common Application (www.sophas.org)
- A personal essay describing what you perceive to be pressing public health issues, why a career in the field appeals to you, and how it will use your strengths and commitment
- Three letters of recommendation
- Resume or CV

Applicants to the joint MD/MPH program must be accepted to both the Drexel

College of Medicine and the School of Public Health.

Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree Requirements

The full-time educational program is structured on a quarter term basis, with a total credit hour requirement of 64 quarter credit hours. This is generally taken as a two-year program; all course work must be completed within four years of the date of matriculation for the full-time program.

First Year Courses		31.0 Credits
PBHL 516	Introduction to Public Health	2.0
PBHL 520	Biostatistics	4.0
PBHL 530	Epidemiology	4.0
PBHL 540	Prevention Principles and Practices	4.0
PBHL 550	Community Based Prevention Practices	4.0
PBHL 600	Management, Leadership, Assurance in Health Services	3.0
PBHL 640	Environmental Health	4.0
PBHL 650	Public Policy	3.0
	Public Health (PBHL) elective course	3.0

Second Year Courses		33.0 Credits
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Required courses for all second year students:

PBHL 680	Community Based Master's Project I	4.0
PBHL 681	Community Based Master's Project II	4.0
PBHL 682	Community Based Master's Project III	4.0

Required Courses by Concentration

Near the end of their first year, students select a concentration area. In their second year, students complete four required concentration courses, two department approved electives and a Community-Based Master's Project relative to their concentration.

Biostatistics

PBHL 620	Intermediate Biostatistics I	3.0
PBHL 621	Intermediate Biostatistics II	3.0
PBHL 622	Introduction to Biostatistics Theory	3.0
PBHL 630	Intermediate Epidemiology	3.0

Community Health and Prevention

Multicultural Competence in Community Health

PBHL 670	Prevention	3.0
PBHL 671	Theory and Practice of Community Health Promotion	3.0
PBHL 672	Theory and Practice of Health Communication	3.0
PBHL 673	Outcomes Assessment in Community Health and Prevention	3.0

Environmental and Occupational Health

PBHL 641	Environmental Hazard Assessment	3.0
PBHL 643	Environmental and Occupational Toxicology	3.0
PBHL 647	Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 662	Environmental and Occupational Policy	3.0

Epidemiology

PBHL 620	Intermediate Biostatistics I	3.0
PBHL 630	Intermediate Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 632	Applied Survey Research in Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 634	Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	3.0

Health Management and Policy

Students in this concentration must choose two courses from each of the following two categories of courses:

Macro Theory and Practice

PBHL 503	Public Health Independent Study: Public Health Law	3.0
PBHL 609	Emerging issues in U.S. Health Policy	3.0
PBHL 611	Race, Ethnicity and Health	3.0

Micro Theory and Practice

PBHL 601	Management Health Care Systems	3.0
PBHL 603	Advanced Healthcare Financial Management	3.0
PBHL 605	Strategy, Innovation and Change Management	3.0

Electives

**12.0
Credits**

Students are required to successfully complete four electives (12 credits). These courses may be within the School of Public Health, or from other academic units within the University. It is the responsibility of the student to determine course restrictions and the registration process for campus electives taken at the Main Campus. The following is a list of the School of Public Health electives by department:

Biostatistics Electives

PBHL 623	Introduction to Statistical Computing	3.0
PBHL 628	Survival Data Analysis	3.0
PBHL 629	Design & Analysis of Clinical Trials	3.0
PBHL 684	Biostatistics Theory II	3.0
PBHL 686	Advanced Statistical Computing	3.0

Community Health and Prevention Electives

PBHL 805	Qualitative Research in Community Health	3.0
PBHL 809	Community Health Policy Development and Analysis	3.0

Environmental and Occupational Health Electives

PBHL 648	Public Health Readiness and Disaster Preparedness	3.0
PBHL 649	Occupational and Environmental Cancers	3.0
PBHL 660	Occupational Health	4.0
PBHL 661	Occupational and Environmental Diseases	3.0

Epidemiology Electives

PBHL 633	Epidemiology of Cancer	3.0
PBHL 636	Infect Disease Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 638	Perinatal Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 639	Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology	3.0

Health Management and Policy Electives

COM 675	Grant Writing: Arts/Humanities	3.0
PBHL 602	HMP Problem Conceptualization	3.0
PBHL 604	Public Health Advocacy & Activism	3.0
PBHL 606	Vaccines and Public Health Policy	3.0
PBHL 607	Evolution of US Health Policy	3.0
PBHL 615	Perspectives on Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Social Class	3.0
PBHL 617	Health Disparities: Systemic, Structural, Environmental & Economic	3.0
PBHL 618	Historical and Contemporary Developments in Social Justice	3.0
PBHL 802	Health and Human Rights	3.0
PBHL 817	Economic Evaluation Methods	3.0
PBHL 851	Health Systems Policy Analysis	3.0
PBHL 852	Economics of Social Justice	3.0
PBHL 854	Politics of Food and Gender	3.0
PBHL 856	Violence, Trauma, Adversity in Public Health	3.0

About the Executive Master of Public Health Degree

Modeled on the highly successful full-time MPH program offered by the School of Public Health since 1996, the Executive Program is designed for working professionals, whether in public health or considering a career change to public health, who wish to accelerate or redirect their career. The program is tailored for individuals who are committed to advancing their careers and acquiring the knowledge and tools to advance to leadership roles in public health. The program is fast-paced, intensive and demanding but builds on each individual's former education, work experience and skills.

The MPH Executive Program is designed to enable individuals to acquire a generalist MPH in 21 months with a convenient class schedule and intensive utilization of the internet. The class meets one Friday and one Saturday each month. Between class sessions, students utilize web-based technologies to interact with facilitators and other students with whom they may be collaborating in preparation for the next class.

Like the full-time MPH Program, the Executive Program covers the major disciplines of public health, including Community Health and Prevention, Environmental and Occupational Health, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Health Management and Policy. It is case-based and built upon the Problem Based Learning (PBL) model in which the student becomes a self-directed learner as well as a collaborator in learning with her/his peers, assisted by the faculty facilitator. The PBL model develops in the student a set of skills designed to effectively address the increasingly dynamic, uncertain world in which we live and work and prepares each individual to be an effective life-long learner.

Students also have the opportunity to attend a variety of learning activities at the School of Public Health, including the twice-monthly Public Health Grand Rounds, Resource Sessions, and Workshops. Students in the Executive Program are also encouraged to participate in the School's Student Government Organization, journal clubs and other social events of the School community. For more information, visit the School of Public Health's Executive Master of Public Health Degree page.

Executive Master of Public Health (MPH) Admission Requirements

The School of Public Health seeks students with intellectual and interpersonal competencies as well as those with potential for leadership. The school has set a high priority on establishing a student body that is representative of the nation's population. We strive to recruit and to admit applicants from underrepresented minority groups who can contribute to the richness of our student population and to that of the nation's public health professionals.

While most of the students in the Executive MPH program are from the Philadelphia area, the format of the program does not limit students from outside of the Philadelphia region from attending.

Admissions process:

- The Admissions Committee carefully reviews applications and gives personal essays and letters of recommendation particular attention.
- The selection process weighs prior academic and personal accomplishments, emphasizing demonstrated leadership.
- Diversity of background and outside interests, depth of self-appraisal, commitment to public health, and working with individuals are highly valued.
- A minimum of 3 years of professional work experience is required.

Applicants should have:

- Satisfactorily completed an undergraduate bachelor degree program in an accredited U.S. college or university, or its equivalent in another country
- A course in Statistics is highly recommended
- Six undergraduate or graduate credits in the social or behavioral sciences and three in the biological sciences are preferred, but not required.
- Satisfactory results from one of the following taken within the past five years (the GRE or GMAT is preferred):
 - o Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
 - o Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)
 - o Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
 - o Law School Admission Test (LSAT)
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for applicants whose first language is not English

The Application Process also requires:

- Completion of the School's application
- A personal essay describing what you perceive to be pressing public health issues, why a career in the field appeals to you, and how it will use your strengths and commitment
- Three letters of recommendation
- Resume or CV.

Executive Master of Public Health (MPH) Requirements

42.0 Credits

Modeled on the full-time MPH program offered by the School of Public Health since 1996, the Executive Program is designed for working professionals, whether in public health or considering a career change to public health, who wish to accelerate or redirect their career. The program is tailored for individuals who are committed to advancing their careers and acquiring the knowledge and tools to advance to leadership roles in public health.

The MPH Executive Program is designed to enable individuals to acquire their MPH with a convenient class schedule and intensive utilization of the Internet.

The Executive MPH program requires a minimum of 42 credits. All degree requirements must be completed within five years of the date of matriculation. A minimum of five academic semesters, divided into blocks of residency, is required for the degree. Blocks of enrollment must be continuous unless academic leaves are granted. A minimum overall GPA of 3.0 is required for graduation.

These sequential blocks are as follows:

- Introduction to Public Health
- Introduction to Biostatistics
- Introduction to Epidemiology
- Health Behavior and Health Promotion
- Community Health Assessment
- Management, Leadership, Assurance, and Health Services
- Program Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation
- Public Health Master's Paper
- Environmental and Occupational Health
- Health Policy and Advocacy: Integration
- Integrated Public Health Case Analysis

Block Course Descriptions

Block I: Introduction to Public Health

Introduction to Public Health introduces the mission, roles, issues, and context of public health, community health, and health systems. Topics include the history and mission of public health as well as a comprehensive exploration of the definition of public health including the essential services and core functions of public health. In addition, the relationships between public health, social justice, and human rights are examined. Block I introduces and explores the five disciplines of public health: Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Community Health and Prevention, Environmental and Occupational Health, and Health Management and Policy.

Block II: Introduction to Biostatistics

Introduces and applies the biostatistics tools and analytical base required for population-based and community health assessment and evaluation. The focus is on providing a broad and basic understanding of biostatistics, with more advanced methods included as

appropriate.

Block III: Introduction to Epidemiology

Introduces and applies the principles of epidemiology and study design needed to support population-based and community-health assessment and evaluation. Basic and more advanced methods are covered as appropriate, with applications to public health and community contexts, and integration with the biostatistics taught in Block II.

Block IV: Health Behavior and Health Promotion

Health Behavior and Health Promotion introduces principles of health behavior in context of the human life cycle and covers their application to prevention and health promotion programs in a community context. This interdisciplinary block focuses on how individuals and groups approach issues of health behavior, health communication, and health promotion. The goal is to acquire basic knowledge of social and behavioral science theories, models, and research methods. The human rights framework will be introduced to analyze and create public health interventions and policies. Block IV addresses ways in which class, culture, gender, and age factors influence an individual's encounter with health-related issues throughout the course of life. Students will be expected to critically analyze the theories and models as they explore the experiences of individuals in different developmental stages, groups, and communities in a variety of settings. Students will also have the opportunity to create a behavioral intervention with a team of peers, and to simulate the experience of presenting at a professional conference.

Block V: Community Health Assessment

Community Health Assessment consists of four cases and a four-week Service-Learning workshop. Block V has an interdisciplinary foundation focused on strategies designed to provide students with the competencies needed to enhance the health of the community. During the first four weeks of Block V, concepts and theories regarding planned change and models of community organization for health promotion are critically examined. Critical in this block is the role of empowerment in the context of community health, and the central role of community residents in the identification of local issues, goals, and priorities affecting their lives and neighborhoods. The final four weeks of Block V are devoted to exploring and experiencing Service-Learning concepts in the context of public health.

Block VI: Management, Leadership, Assurance, and Health Services

Management, Leadership, Assurance, and Health Services is a block that explores the critical elements of the assurance role of public health. Block VI is based on the premise that effectiveness of program delivery and the public health assurance require an understanding of organizations, leadership, and change in the context of economics, strategy and systems. The goal of Block VI is to learn, integrate, and apply fundamental theoretical concepts of economics, organizational theory, law, communications, and strategy within an integrated management paradigm. In addition, different organizational and management styles within the community health system are explored. This is accomplished through presentations and reinforcement of an integrated management paradigm with cases and supporting reports, symposia, and examinations designed to identify, integrate, and reinforce basic principles of management.

Block VII: Program Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation

Program Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation emphasizes program development in the context of community-identified needs. The block content is built on the premise that the health assurance role of public health begins with program planning, development, implementation, and evidence-based practice. Block VII critically examines models of program planning, implementation, and evaluation and introduces students to the theoretical and practical aspects of planning and evaluating programs. Thus it includes direct service, surveillance, communication campaigns, policy development initiatives, research initiatives, and administrative activities. The multidisciplinary perspectives

presented in this series of cases demonstrate the importance of individuals, communities, corporations, agencies, and institutions to intentionally and thoughtfully work together. These cases highlight the importance of integrating all aspects of a community to make for a holistic society. It is in this holistic integration that citizens will have the capacity to achieve their full potential.

Block VIII: Public Health Research Paper

The Public Health Research Paper is an opportunity for students to work on an independent research paper in a topic area that is chosen by the student in conjunction with a faculty advisor. This paper is expected to reflect the students' year-long effort in critically analyzing the relevant literature, and carefully crafting an educated and realistic response to an identified public health issue. The paper is the culmination of the students' experience in the Executive MPH program.

Block IX: Environmental and Occupational Health

Environmental and Occupational Health introduces concepts, theories, and programmatic applications within the fields of environmental and occupational health. The goal of Block IX is to understand basic concepts and principles of environmental and occupational health and their application to public health practice from individual, organizational, political, legal, and community perspectives. The cases provide students with the opportunity to link environmental and occupational health issues with health promotion strategies through a systems approach.

Block X: Health Policy and Advocacy: Integration

Health Policy and Advocacy: Integration introduces the fundamentals of public health law and the concepts and theories of health policy development, adoption, and evaluation. Block X covers the advocacy process and its importance to the development of sound public health policy. Systemic integration and understanding of the assessment, assurance, and policy development roles are emphasized in the community and political context. Throughout the block, students will learn about the process of policy analysis and formulation and how to influence the policy process to accomplish their objectives for policy intervention.

Block XI: Integrated Public Health Case Analysis

This is the capstone course of the Executive MPH. Students will work in small groups to conduct a case analysis and a case development assignment focusing on current public health issues which are multidisciplinary. All core disciplines will be examined as influences for the problem and possible solutions.

For additional information, students should visit the [Public Health, Executive MPH](#) page on the Center for Graduate Studies, Sacramento web site.

About the Doctor of Public Health in Community Health and Prevention

Drexel University's School of Public Health offers a doctoral program in Community Health and Prevention, leading to the doctor of public health (DrPH) degree. The mission of the School of Public Health is to promote health and quality of life through graduate education, applied research, and community service in the prevention and control of disease, injury, and disability. The DrPH program in Community Health and Prevention builds upon the unique strengths of the School of Public Health, including the master's program in public health, a multidisciplinary faculty, and institutional resources.

The goal of the DrPH program in Community Health and Prevention is to produce doctoral-level public health graduates who exhibit a broad-based, systemic understanding of public health and are committed to effecting meaningful change in public and/or community health systems. Integrating applied research, education, service, and advocacy, the program emphasizes the application of interdisciplinary, theoretical, and applied research paradigms to the understanding and prevention of public health problems.

The DrPH program in Community Health and Prevention is structured as follows: *required courses*, which build core competencies in community health and prevention; *elective courses*, which develop specific areas of expertise; the *comprehensive exam* which reassures student understanding and application of core public health competencies; the *practicum*, which structures the application of concepts and methods to solving public health problems; and the *dissertation*, which showcases the student's competency in applied research. This general framework is infused with community public health practice, rigorous qualitative and quantitative applied research methods, and skilled advocacy.

Developing Core Competencies for Understanding and Solving Public Health Problems

Students in the DrPH program in Community Health and Prevention are expected to attain five core competencies for understanding and solving specific public health problems. The core competencies for the DrPH program integrate public health competencies developed by the Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice* with the unique characteristics of the faculty of the Department of Community Health and Prevention and the practice community.

The five core competencies are as follows:

- Understand the mission, goals, and strategies of community health and prevention
- Understand and assess community health status and needs
- Understand and assess individual and environmental determinants of health
- Design, implement, and evaluate public health programs and policies
- Translate findings into policy recommendations and advocate for change

*The Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice

represents national public health academic and practice organizations including the American Public Health Association, the Association of Schools of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Over the past decade, the council has developed a list of public health competencies to guide curriculum development in public health education.

For more information, visit the [Drexel University School of Public Health website](#).

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Admission Requirements

Admission to the doctor of public health program in Community Health and Prevention is competitive. Students who demonstrate an ability to integrate public health competencies and skills into public health practice are preferred.

Applicants to the DrPH program must meet the following requirements:

- A master's of public health degree (MPH) or a master's degree in a related field
- Documented evidence of applied research
- Potential for a high level of performance in the DrPH program and for significant contributions to the field of public health.

To qualify for admission, the applicant must present a portfolio that includes:

- Undergraduate and graduate transcripts;
- GRE General Test (verbal, quantitative, analytical writing);
- Evidence of applied research skills (master's thesis, master's research paper, or publication);
- Three letters of recommendation, including one from a public health practitioner; and
- A written statement of career and educational goals, professional experience, and area of interest for the dissertation.

An in-person or telephone interview is required of all finalists.
For more information, contact the Academic Coordinator for the School of Public Health/DrPH Program, Drexel University, 245 N. 15th Street, MS 660, Philadelphia, PA 19102-1192, 215-762-2572.

Doctor of Public Health in Community Health and Prevention (DrPH)

Degree Requirements

Completion of the DrPH program requires the following:

- 60 quarter credit hours of coursework beyond the master's degree (30 credits of required coursework; 9 credits of elective courses; a 3 credit practicum; and 12 credits for the dissertation). Coursework covers the theory and practice of community health and prevention, health and human rights, community health interventions, qualitative research methods, community epidemiology, statistical methods for prevention research, program evaluation, health policy development and analysis, and leadership and advocacy;
- a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3;
- completion of the a practicum experience;
- passage of the doctoral comprehensive/candidacy examination; and
- completion of a dissertation that is highly relevant to community health practice and involves applied research, policy analysis, or management analysis.

All coursework is designed to develop the five core competencies of community health and prevention.

Electives

The 9 credits of elective coursework enable doctoral students to expand and enhance skills within specific areas of competency. New courses are developed and added regularly, based on interests of faculty and students. Three electives (indicated by an *) are highly recommended.

Note: Students are not limited to the electives offered by the DrPH program. Each student is encouraged to choose electives that maximize the fit between the student's educational objectives and opportunities throughout the University.

Curriculum

School Required Courses		15.0 Credits
PBHL 620	Intermediate Biostatistics	3.0
PBHL 630	Intermediate Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 632	Applied Survey Research in Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 802	Health and Human Rights	3.0
PBHL 804	Research Methods for Community Health and Prevention	3.0
Department Required Courses		21.0 Credits
PBHL 801	Theory & Practice of Community Health and Preventions I	3.0

PBHL 803	Theory & Practice of Community Health and Preventions II	3.0
PBHL 805	Qualitative Research in Community Health	3.0
PBHL 808	Community Program Evaluation	3.0
PBHL 824	Public Health Ethics	3.0
PBHL 825	Measuring Health	3.0
PBHL 814	Community-Based Participatory Research	3.0

Practicum **3.0 Credits**

PBHL 810	Practicum in Community Health and Prevention	3.0
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Dissertation Sequence **12.0 Credits Minimum**

PBHL 901	Dissertation Seminar I	5.0
PBHL 902	Dissertation Seminar II	5.0
PBHL 998	Dissertation Guidance	1.0 - 6.0

Electives **9.0 Credits**

PBHL 822	Independent Study in Community Health and Prevention: Leadership*	3.0
PBHL 822	Independent Study in Community Health and Prevention: Public Health Ethics*	3.0
PBHL 670	Multicultural Competence in Community Health and Prevention	3.0
PBHL 671	Theory and Practice of Community Health Promotion	3.0
PBHL 672	Theory and Practice of Health Communication	3.0
PBHL 673	Outcome Assessment in Community Health and Prevention	3.0
PBHL 806	Community Health Research Methods	3.0
PBHL 807	Analytic Methods for Community Health and Prevention	3.0
PBHL 814	Community Based Participatory Research	3.0
PBHL 817	Economic Evaluation Methods for Community Health and Prevention	3.0
PBHL 818	Community Nutrition and Food Politics	3.0
PBHL 819	Understanding and Preventing Domestic Violence	3.0
PBHL 820	Adolescent Risk Behavior in a Developmental Context	3.0
PBHL 821	Public Health Practice in and with Latino Communities	3.0
PBHL 822	Independent Study in Community Health and Prevention	1.0 - 3.0

*This is a highly recommended elective.

About the Doctor of Public Health in Health Policy and Social Justice

Drexel University's School of Public Health offers a doctoral program in Health Policy and Social Justice, leading to the doctor of public health (DrPH) degree.

The mission of the School of Public Health is to promote health and quality of life through graduate education, population-based research, and community service in the prevention and control of disease, injury and disability and the maintenance of health and quality of life. Effective public health practice is built on a foundation of effective programs and health policy and necessitates long-term partnerships with community, organizations and regulatory bodies.

Inequities based on social group memberships, including race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and class, are well documented in the scientific literature. Equally alarming are disparities in access to health care and health outcomes based on race, ethnicity and other social indicators. Graduates of the DrPH in Health Policy and Social Justice will generate new knowledge about social justice and will use this knowledge in the analysis, evaluation and modification of existing policy as well as the design and delivery of new policy affecting public health practice.

The DrPH in Health Policy and Social Justice will prepare students to play strong professional roles in developing and implementing policies that improve public health by focusing on those who are most vulnerable. By studying important racial and ethnic, social class and gender differences within the larger social justice framework, students will emerge from the program with a sound theoretical and practical foundation for critical scholarship in health disparities, cultural competency and social justice. Furthermore, they will gain the tools to implement effective policies in both public and private health sectors.

Developing Core Competencies for Understanding and Solving Public Health Problems

The core competencies of the DrPH were developed in response to the proposed core competencies of the Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice. These competencies include the ability to:

1. Identify health system problems and health policy opportunities
2. Analyze structural, economic and political forces that affect the health of populations
3. Evaluate the social justice implications of policy formulation, analysis and implementation
4. Inform and education leaders and policy-makers about public health issues and opportunities
5. Develop policies and plans that support the health of the public
6. Apply sound health economics principals and methods to health policy analyses
7. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, outcomes and quality of health services
8. Research for new insights and innovative approaches to public health policy
9. Apply social justice and human rights principles when addressing health

- system and health policy problems and opportunities
10. Conduct policy and health services research to improve health and health services in diverse populations
 11. Develop public health policies and strategies based upon well-articulated problem statements and an understanding of the values of the communities involved
 12. Use appropriate methods of policy analysis, economic evaluation, measurement and statistical approaches to reach sound and defensible conclusions
 13. Disseminate findings, analyses and effective models to the lay public, leaders and policy makers across disciplines.

For more information, visit the [Drexel University School of Public Health website](#).

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) in Health Policy and Social Justice Admission Requirements

Applicants to the DrPH Program in Health Policy and Social Justice must meet the following requirements:

- MPH degree or master's degree in a related field.
- Potential for high level of performance in the DrPH Program and subsequent contributions to the field of Public Health Policy.

Students will be admitted on a competitive basis, and those with a demonstrated ability to integrate public health competencies and skills into public health practice will be preferred. The admission portfolio will include: undergraduate and graduate transcript, three letters of recommendation from faculty or professionals who can evaluate the applicant's promise as a graduate student, official Graduate Record Examination scores, documented evidence of applied research or a writing sample, and a written statement of career and educational goals, professional experience, and area of research interest. For international students or applicants who earned a degree outside of the U.S., an international transcript evaluation is required

An in-person or telephone interview is required of all finalists.
For more information, contact:

Mr. Solomon Evans
School of Public Health/DrPH Program
Drexel University
Friends Center
1501 Cherry Street, 2nd Floor
Philadelphia PA 19102-1403
sevans@drexel.edu
215.571.4011

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) in Health Policy and Social Justice

Degree Requirements

Completion of the DrPH in Health Policy and Social Justice requires the following:

- 60 quarter credit hours of coursework beyond the master's degree (33 credits of required coursework; 12 credits of elective course; a 3 credit practicum; and 12 credits for the dissertation).
- a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3;
- completion of a practicum experience;
- passage of the doctoral comprehensive/candidacy examination; and
- completion of a dissertation that involves applied research, policy analysis, or management analysis.

All coursework is designed to develop the core competencies of health policy and social justice.

Electives

The 12 credits of elective coursework enable doctoral students to expand and enhance skills within specific areas of competency. New courses are developed and added regularly, based on interests of faculty and students. Students are not limited to the electives offered by the DrPH program. Each student is encouraged to choose electives that maximize the fit between the student's educational objectives and opportunities throughout the University.

Curriculum

Required Courses (Doctoral Core)		15.0 Credits
PBHL 620	Intermediate Biostatistics	3.0
PBHL 630	Intermediate Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 632	Applied Survey Research in Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 802	Health and Human Rights	3.0
PBHL 804	Research Methods for Community Health and Prevention	3.0

Department Required Courses		18.0 Credits
PBHL 615	Perspectives on Gender, Race, Ethnicity and Social Class	3.0
PBHL 617	Health Disparities	3.0
PBHL 618	Historical and Contemporary Developments in Social Justice	3.0
PBHL 851	Health Systems Policy Analysis	3.0
PBHL 853	Applied Health Economics: Technology Assessment and Economic Evaluation	3.0
PBHL 805	Qualitative Research in Community Health	3.0
or		

PBHL 855	Health Services Research	3.0
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Practicum		3.0 Credits
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PBHL 850	Practicum in Health Policy and Social Justice	3.0
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Dissertation		12.0 Credits (minimum)
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PBHL 998	Dissertation Guidance	1.0 - 6.0
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PBHL 998	Dissertation Guidance	1.0 - 6.0
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PBHL 998	Dissertation Guidance	1.0-6.0
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Electives		12.0 Credits
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In consultation with their advisors, students select elective courses appropriate for their educational goals. These courses may be from the School of Public Health or may be offered by other schools and colleges at Drexel University.

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About the PhD in Epidemiology

The PhD in Epidemiology prepares students to approach problems with the critical analytic skills necessary for the generation of substantial and significant epidemiologic questions, and to utilize the most rigorous and parsimonious research strategies to answer such questions. Additionally, integral values of the Department and School will infuse students with the commitment to pursue important and innovative topics of inquiry even when faced with methodological challenges, and to undertake studies that generate knowledge applicable to diverse social, ethnic, and geographically defined populations.

For additional information about the program, visit Drexel's School of Public Health web site.

PhD in Epidemiology Admission Requirements

Applicants to the PhD program in Epidemiology must meet the following requirements:

- MPH degree or master's degree in epidemiology or a related field.
- Potential for high level of performance in the PhD program and subsequent contributions to the field of epidemiology.

The application package will include:

- undergraduate and graduate transcripts,
- three letters of recommendation from faculty or professionals who can evaluate the applicant's promise as a graduate student
- official Graduate Record Examination scores (no other standardized test accepted for this program),
- a written statement of career and educational goals, professional experience, and area of research interest.

An in-person or telephone interview is required of all finalists.

All entering students are expected to have already completed introductory and intermediate level epidemiology and biostatistics courses (equivalents of PBHL 520, 530, 620, 630) as part of their Master's program or must enroll in these courses, or their equivalents, as additional requirements.

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PhD in Epidemiology

69.0 credits

Degree Requirements

Completion of the PhD in Epidemiology requires: (1) a minimum of 69.0 quarter credit hours of course work beyond the master's degree; (2) a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3; (3) passing the doctoral comprehensive examination; (4) passing the candidacy oral examination; (5) completing a dissertation of publishable quality; and (6) passing the final defense.

A student in the PhD degree program shall have five calendar years from the date of initial registration to complete and successfully defend a dissertation.

Electives

All students must complete two epidemiology area electives, two biostatistics area electives, and two additional electives. For their additional electives, students can choose from many different epidemiology or biostatistics courses, or from other graduate-level courses across the university which have been identified as possible electives.

Curriculum

School of Public Health Core Courses		12.0
		Credits
PBHL 555	Public Health Ethics	3.0
PBHL 632	Applied Survey Research in Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 802	Health and Human Rights	3.0
PBHL 804	Research Methods for Community Health and Prevention	3.0
Departmental Required Courses		44.0
		Credits
PBHL 620	Intermediate Biostatistics I	3.0
PBHL 621	Intermediate Biostatistics II	3.0
PBHL 630	Intermediate Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 636	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 826	Causal Inference in Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 830	Advanced Epidemiology	4.0
PBHL 831	PhD Seminar in Epidemiology I	1.0
PBHL 832	PhD Seminar in Epidemiology II	6.0
PBHL 998	Dissertation Research	18.0
University Required Course		1.0
		Credit
EDUC 531	College Teaching and Communication Skills	1.0
A minimum of two Epidemiology Area electives:		6.0
		Credits
PBHL 633	Cancer Epidemiology	3.0

PBHL 634	Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	3.0
PBHL 635	Social and Psychiatric Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 638	Perinatal Epidemiology	3.0
PBHL 639	Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology	3.0

A minimum of two Biostatistics Area electives: 6.0 Credits

PBHL 622	Introduction to Biostatistics Theory	3.0
PBHL 623	Biostatistics Computing	3.0
PBHL 625	Longitudinal Data Analysis	3.0
PBHL 628	Survival Analysis	3.0
PBHL 629	Design and Analysis of Clinical Trials	3.0

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Certificate in Epidemiology and Biostatistics

9.0 credits

About the program

The Certificate in Epidemiological and Biostatistical Principles and Methods for Public Health in the Twenty-First Century, offered by Drexel University's School of Public Health, is an interdisciplinary program designed for working professionals of diverse backgrounds, including public health administrators, physicians, nurses, clinical research professionals, health educators, and policy experts.

Never before has disease prevention and health promotion been more important. As world events develop, with the added threat of bioterrorism and other emerging public health issues, those who can apply knowledge gained through research to real-world problems are in great demand across all sectors: health care, pharmaceuticals, governmental and non-governmental agencies, business, and academia.

The certificate program is supervised by the School of Public Health's director of eLearning and the department chair. The program is administered through Drexel eLearning. Applications to the certificate program are managed by Drexel eLearning. For the most current admission information, please visit www.drexel.com.

About the curriculum

The certificate program provides research-oriented training in the theory and tools of core public health disciplines. Students build the statistical background needed to conduct research, develop hypotheses, analyze data, and interpret and communicate results.

The certificate program consists of three sequential 3-credit courses. Each course is taught over a 10-week period, allowing completion of the certificate within a 30-week period. The curriculum reflects core epidemiological and biostatistical concepts and practices in a similar manner to the full-time and Executive MPH programs. Contact between faculty and students creates an intense experience over this exclusively online format. The online format allows asynchronous learning while providing flexibility for adult learners constrained by physical and time limitations.

Requirements		9.0 Credits
PBHL 701	Introduction to Descriptive Epidemiology and Biostatistics	3.0
PBHL 702	Introduction to Analytic Epidemiology and Biostatistics	3.0
PBHL 703	Design and Analysis of Epidemiological Studies	3.0

Additional information

For more information about the program, visit the Certificate in Epidemiology & Biostatistics on the Drexel Online web site.