The Milken Institute SPH offers the following degree programs:

**Degree Programs**

- Bachelor of science with majors in exercise science, nutrition science, and public health.
- Bachelor of science with major in public health with joint master of public health.
- Master of public health in the fields of biostatistics; community oriented primary care; environmental health science and policy; epidemiology; global environmental health; global health program design, monitoring, and evaluation; global health policy; health policy; health promotion; maternal and child health; physical activity in public health; public health communication and marketing; and public health nutrition.
- Master of public health: MPH@GW (online)
- Master of science in the fields of biostatistics; epidemiology; exercise science with a concentration in strength and conditioning; health policy; management of health informatics and analytics and public health microbiology and emerging infectious diseases (Columbian College of Arts and Sciences confers the master of science in the field of biostatistics).
- Master of health administration; master of health administration; MHA@GW (hybrid program).
- Health services administration specialist
- Doctor of public health in the fields of environmental and occupational health; global health; health behavior; and health policy.
- Doctor of philosophy in the fields of biostatistics; epidemiology; social and behavioral sciences in public health; and public policy and administration-health policy track (Columbian College of Arts and Sciences confers the doctor of philosophy in biostatistics and Trachtenberg School of Public Policy confers the doctor of philosophy in public policy and administration (health policy track).

**Combined programs**

The following dual and joint programs are offered:

- Doctor of medicine and master of public health; doctor of medicine and certificate of public health; juris doctor/master of laws in the field of law and master of public health; Elliott School master’s programs and master of public health; master of health administration and graduate certificate in health care corporate compliance; master of public health in the field of health policy and graduate certificate in health care corporate compliance; master of science in health policy and graduate certificate in health care corporate compliance; master of science in Health sciences in the field of physicians assistant and master of public health.

**Mission**

The mission of the Milken Institute SPH is to provide the best public health educational experience incorporating our core values of scholarship and leadership, scientific rigor and policy analysis, and training to foster the next generation of thought leaders, practitioners, policy makers, and scientists who will transform public health worldwide, especially for underserved and poor populations.

**Vision**

As complex global health challenges continue to threaten our health and future, the Milken Institute SPH is preeminent in training tomorrow’s leaders for improving the public’s health. The Milken Institute SPH aspires to become one of the top five private schools of public health in the world.

**Accreditation**

The public health programs of the Milken Institute SPH are fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). In 2016, the Milken Institute SPH was awarded a seven-year accreditation through July 1, 2023. The program in health administration is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME). Milken Institute SPH is a member of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health.
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Undergraduate Regulations
Graduation Requirements

Depending on the Milken Institute SPH degree program, students must complete 120 to 124 credits to earn their degrees. Students in the BS in exercise science and nutrition science degree programs must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 in courses in the exercise science core; those in the BS in public health program must have a minimum overall cumulative GPA of 2.5. The University General Education Requirements are listed under each program’s requirements tab in this Bulletin.

While degrees are awarded at the end of each semester, formal commencement ceremonies occur only in May. Students are eligible to graduate only after they have completed all degree requirements and have no financial obligations to the University. Students may include degree designations (BS, MS, MPH, MHA, DrPh, or PhD) after their name only when they have completed all degree requirements.

Enrollment Status

Once entered in an undergraduate degree program, students are expected to be registered continuously during all fall and spring semesters and to be engaged actively in fulfilling the requirements for their degree.

• During the summer session, students do not have to be enrolled unless they are graduating during the summer; in this case, they should register for Continuous Enrollment.
• Some additional activities, such as study abroad programs, qualify as continuous enrollment.

Degree students who need to interrupt active pursuit of the degree may petition to take a leave of absence for a period of no more than one calendar year during their program. Students who discontinue active enrollment in degree studies without being granted a leave of absence, or students who are granted a leave but do not return to active study at the close of the period of approved absence, are no longer in status and must apply for readmission and be subject to the regulations and program requirements then in effect. Readmission to any program is a competitive process and not guaranteed.

Advising

Students are responsible for building a support system to help ensure their own academic success. Each student is assigned an professional academic advisor who may assist not only with academic counseling, but also in areas ranging from understanding University requirements to finding campus resources to help individual students connect with the GW community. Faculty mentors, tutors, and/or counselors also should be part of the support system. The Center for Career Services and The Writing Center offer walk-in and by-appointment assistance. Personal counseling and other individualized services are available through Mental Health Services, Disability Support Services, Multicultural Student Services Center, and International Services Office.

Milken Institute SPH students may pursue a double major, either within the Milken Institute SPH or across the University.

Students in the exercise science and nutrition science majors who earn a grade of D+ or below in the first course of a sequence (such as EXNS 1110 or EXNS 2111) may not take the second course in the sequence in the following semester. Students must earn a C- or above in the first course before
taking the second course in the sequence. Please see your advisor for more information.

Timely Progress Toward the Degree

Students who fail to make adequate and timely progress toward the degree, through repeated leaves of absence or repeated failure to complete an appropriate number of credits per semester, may be dismissed from the University (see Right to Dismiss Students under University Regulations). Students dismissed on these grounds may apply for readmission after supplying sufficient evidence of academic promise. Additionally, students must attain grades no lower than C- in required major field courses. If a student receives a grade of D+, D, or D- in a course specifically required for the major, the student is required to repeat the course until a satisfactory grade (C- or above) is earned. For the BS, Public Health program, this requirement applies to all courses that apply to the major, including required courses, pre-requisites for required courses, and elective coursework. Once the student has completed the course with a satisfactory grade, credits earned the first time the course was taken count toward the minimum number of credits required for the major. Credits earned toward the repetition do not count toward the degree.

Incompletes

Conditions under which the symbol I, Incomplete, may be assigned are described under University Regulations. In the Milken Institute SPH, the conditions for granting a notation of I must be documented in a written contract between the faculty member and the student, to be submitted prior to the last day of the term. The incomplete work must be completed as specified in the contract but no later than six months from the end of the semester in which the course was taken. If work for the course is not completed within the designated time, the grade is converted automatically to a grade of F. In cases of well-documented extenuating circumstances, an instructor and a student may jointly petition the dean for additional time in which to complete the work of the course.

Pass/No Pass Option

Junior or senior students in good standing may, with the permission of the instructor and program director, take one course each semester for a grade of P, Pass, or NP, No Pass. No student is allowed to take more than a total of four courses on a P/NP basis under this regulation. Students may, however, also receive grades of P/NP in courses that are graded only on that basis. Courses required for the University General Education Requirement or in the student’s major or minor field (including those courses required for the major that are offered by other departments) may not be taken on the P/NP basis. A transfer student may not choose this option until the second semester of enrollment in the University. Under no circumstances may a student change from P/NP status to graded status, or vice versa, after the end of the eighth week of class. The Milken Institute SPH and the University do not allow LSPA courses to be counted toward the degree.

Academic Workload

To encourage academic performance of high quality, the Milken Institute SPH limits the number of credits an undergraduate student may register for in a given semester to 17. However, after freshman year, students who wish to request approval for a course overload may do so. Requests are reviewed based on prior academic performance. Students must be in good academic standing and have no pending incomplete grades, or grades of F, W, or Z from the previous semester. Permission to take a workload of 18+ credits requires the written approval of the faculty advisor. Permission to take a workload of 18+ credits may be granted for full-time students who, during the immediately preceding semester, have received no grades below B- and have earned grades of A or A- in three courses totaling at least 9 credits with the written approval of a dean. Undergraduates taking more than 17 credits per semester are charged at the rate of 1 credit for each credit exceeding that limit.

Applying for Readmission to a Program

Undergraduate students who previously were registered in a SPH program but who did not register during the immediately preceding semester (summer sessions excluded) are out of status and must apply for readmission by completing an admissions petition. Filing the petition does not guarantee that the student will be readmitted. Milken Institute SPH departments are responsible for readmitting students and can do so only if the student is not in violation of other Milken Institute SPH or University policies. Students who have attended one or more academic institutions while absent from this University must have complete, official transcripts from each institution sent directly to the Milken Institute SPH Office of Admissions. Applicants for readmission are considered on the basis of policies and program requirements currently in effect and if readmitted, are subject to the policies and program requirements then in effect.

International Students--Less than Full-Time Status

International students on an F-1 or J-1 Visa are responsible for enrolling as a full-time student (minimum 12 credits for undergraduate students) for spring and fall semesters according to U.S. Immigration and Naturalization rules governing registration requirements. In certain circumstances, a reduced workload may be allowed; students should contact the International Services Office (http://internationalservices.gwu.edu) to request approval for this exception.

Special Honors

In addition to meeting the general requirements stated under University Regulations, a candidate for graduation with Special Honors in exercise science and nutrition science must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 in required courses in the major and a minimum overall GPA of 3.25. The candidate must submit an honors paper; the student is recommended for graduation.
with special honors only if a committee of at least two faculty members approves the paper.

**Independent Study Course Requirements**

Independent study is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to gain or enhance public health knowledge and to explore an area of interest related to public health research or the delivery and/or administration of health services. Forms and instructions for registration are available online (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/forms). Independent study projects may not be used as a substitute for an available required or elective course and may not cover substantially the same subject matter that is available in a required or elective course.

**Preparation for Medical School**

A student who plans to apply to medical school fulfills the general requirements of their program. The or-health advisors in the Columbian College Office of Undergraduate Studies (prehealth@gwu.edu) provide advice about academic preparation for medical school. For admission to most medical schools, the student must earn a bachelor's degree that includes the following coursework: Biology—8 credits of introductory biology, including laboratory. Students who receive credit for AP biology must complete 8 credits of upper-level biology coursework, including laboratory; chemistry—8 credits of general inorganic chemistry, including laboratory; organic Chemistry—8 credits, including laboratory; biochemistry—3 credits; physics—8 credits, including laboratory; and English—6 credits in introductory English composition courses (fulfilled by the University Writing Program). Many medical schools have additional entrance requirements, which may include courses in biochemistry, genetics, and mathematics; even when such courses are not required, they are strongly recommended. With the exception of the specified requirements, applicants are urged to follow their personal interests in developing their course of study.

**Preparation for Law School**

A broad liberal arts education is the best undergraduate preparation for law school. Students are encouraged to use elective credit to increase the breadth of their program of study. Advice about academic preparation for law school is provided by the pre-law advisor in the Columbian College Office of Undergraduate Studies (https://advising.columbian.gwu.edu).

**Other Regulations**

Other regulations applicable to undergraduate students of the University can be found under University Regulations (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/university-regulations).

**Graduate Regulations**

The Milken Institute SPH provides an online Graduate Student Handbook (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/pdf/Handbook.pdf), which contains additional updated information on policies, regulations, and other matters of concern to enrolled or admitted students. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of the information contained in both this Bulletin and the Handbook. Students should also consult departmental handbooks and guidelines.

**Enrollment Status**

Once entered in a graduate degree program, students are expected to be registered continuously during all fall and spring semesters and engaged actively in fulfilling the requirements for the degree.

During the summer session, students do not have to be enrolled unless they are graduating during the summer; in this case, they should register for Continuous Enrollment.

- Some additional activities, such as Master’s International, qualify as continuous enrollment.

Degree students who need to interrupt active pursuit of the degree may petition to take a Leave of Absence for a period of no more than one calendar year during the their program. Students who discontinue active enrollment in degree studies without being granted a leave of absence, or students who granted a leave but does not return to active study at the close of the period of approved absence, are no longer in status and must apply for readmission and be subject to the regulations and program requirements then in effect. Readmission to any program is a competitive process and not guaranteed.

**Advising**

Students are responsible for building a support system to help ensure their own academic success. Each student is assigned a faculty advisor who may assist not only with academic counseling, but also in areas ranging from understanding University requirements to finding campus resources to help individual students connect with the GW community. Other members of the faculty, professional advisors, tutors, and/or counselors also should be part of the support system. The University Career Center (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/services/career-center) and Writing Center (http://www.gwu.edu/~gwriter) offer walk-in and by-appointment assistance. Personal counseling is available through the office of the Dean of Student Affairs (http://students.gwu.edu), Mental Health Services (http://counselingcenter.gwu.edu), Disability Support Services (https://disabilitysupport.gwu.edu), the Multicultural Student Services Center (https://mssc.gwu.edu), and the International Services Office (https://internationalservices.gwu.edu).

**Academic Standing**

Graduate students who are not suspended, on academic probation, or under extended provisional admission status are considered to be in good standing. Maintenance of a minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for the degree. All courses taken for graduate credit after matriculation as a degree candidate–including those the Milken Institute SPH transferred in from
Graduate students who receive a grade of F are subject to suspension. If such students wish to remain enrolled, they must present cause, for consideration by the dean and the director of their degree program, as to why continued study should be permitted. Once a grade of F is earned in a core, required, or elective course, it remains a part of the student’s permanent record and is calculated into the GPA. A graduate student who receives the grade of F in a core or other required course and is permitted to continue in graduate studies must repeat the course and achieve a minimum grade of B. The repetition does not, however, expunge the grade of F, which remains part of the student’s record. If the student receives a grade below B in the repeated course, they are suspended from the degree program.

Timely Progress Toward the Degree
A graduate student who fails to make adequate and timely progress toward the degree, through repeated leaves of absence or repeated failure to complete an appropriate number of credits per semester, may be suspended. Students suspended on these grounds may apply for readmission after supplying sufficient evidence of academic promise.

Summary of Academic Standing Policies for Graduate Students
- Provisional Admission—A student who receives a grade of I or of B- or below while on provisional admission status is subject to suspension.
- Semester Warning—A student with a cumulative GPA below 3.0 (with fewer than 9 credits completed) must take corrective action.
- Academic Probation—A student with a cumulative GPA below 3.0 (with 9 or more credits completed) is placed on academic probation. A student on academic probation who receives an unacceptable grade (B-, C, F, I, Z) or fails to raise the cumulative GPA to 3.0 within the next 12 credits taken is subject to suspension.
• Grade of F—A student who receives a grade of F is subject to suspension. If a student wishes to remain enrolled they must present cause as to why continued study should be permitted. If permitted to continue in graduate studies, the student must repeat the course (if core or required) and achieve a minimum grade of B.
• Suspension—A student who is suspended may not register for or complete any courses at GW. A student who is suspended or withdraws under these conditions may apply for readmission after one semester.

Incompletes
Incompletes - Conditions under which the symbol I, Incomplete, may be assigned are described under University Regulations (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/university-regulations). In the Milken Institute SPH, the conditions for granting a notation of I must be documented in a written contract (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/pdf/gwsph_incomplete_contract.pdf) between the faculty member and the student, to be submitted prior to the last day of the term. The incomplete work must be completed as specified in the contract but no later than six months from the end of the semester in which the course was taken. If work for the course is not completed within the designated time, the grade is converted automatically to a grade of F. In cases of well-documented extenuating circumstances, an instructor and a student may jointly petition the dean for additional time in which to complete the work of the course.

In Progress (IP)
The notation In Progress (IPG) is assigned for all thesis, residency, advanced reading, independent study, culminating experience, practicum, and dissertation research courses until the coursework is completed. Upon the satisfactory completion, the grade replaces the notation IPG on the transcript. An IPG may not be assigned to regular, semester-length courses.

Applying for Readmission to a Program
Students Who Have Taken Classes Within the Past Year: Milken Institute SPH graduate degree or certificate students who were previously registered in the university but did not register during the immediate preceding semester/module (excluding summer sessions) are out of status and must apply for readmission by completing an admissions petition. (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/forms)

Students Who Have Not Taken Classes in More Than a Year: Students who have not taken any courses at GW in more than one year must apply for readmission using SOPHAS Express (https://sophasexpress.liaisoncas.com).

Students Who Have Been Suspended: Students who were suspended from the Milken Institute SPH must apply for readmission through SOPHAS Express (https://sophasexpress.liaisoncas.com). Students may only apply for readmission after at least one academic year has passed. Students should consult with the advisor concerning readmission requirements.

International Students---Less than Full-Time Status
International students on an F-1 or J-1 Visa are responsible for enrolling as full-time student (minimum 9 credits for graduate students) for the spring and fall semesters according to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization rules governing registration requirements. Under certain circumstances, a reduced workload may be allowed. To request approval for a course reduction, students should submit the F-1/ J-1 Request for Reduced Course Load Form (https://internationalservices.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2486/f/downloads/RCL_0.pdf). More information is available by calling the ISO at (202) 994-4477.

Independent Study Course Requirements
Independent study is designed to provide students with an opportunity to gain or enhance public health knowledge and to explore an area of interest related to public health research or the delivery and/or administration of health services. Instructions and forms required for registration (http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/forms) are available. Independent study projects may not be used as a substitute for an available required or elective course and may not cover substantially the same subject matter that is available in a required or elective course.

Graduation
While degrees are awarded at the end of each semester, formal commencement ceremonies occur only in May. Students are eligible to graduate only after they have completed all degree requirements and have no financial obligations to the University. Students may include degree designation (BS, MS, MPH, MHA, DrPh, or PhD) after their name only when they have completed all degree requirements.

Other Regulations
Other regulations applicable to graduate students of the University can be found under University Regulations. (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/university-regulations)

UNDERGRADUATE
Bachelor's programs
• Bachelor of Science with a major in exercise science (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/exercise-science/bs)
• Bachelor of Science with a major in exercise science, pre-athletic training/sports medicine concentration (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/exercise-science/bs/pre-athletic-training)
• Bachelor of Science with a major in exercise science, pre-medical professional concentration (http://
GRADUATE

Master of Public Health
- Master of Public Health in the field of epidemiology

Master of Science
- Master of Science in the field of biostatistics (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/epidemiology-biostatistics/ms-biostatistics)
- Master of Science in the field of epidemiology (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/epidemiology-biostatistics/ms-epidemiology)
- Master of Science in the field of health policy (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/health-policy-management/ms)

Combined program
- Dual Bachelor of Science in public health and Master of Public Health

Minors
- Minor in nutrition science
- Minor in public health
• Master of Health Administration (MHA@GW) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/health-policy-management/mha-online-executive-program)

Specialist program

Combined programs
• Dual Master of Arts in any Elliott School graduate program and Master of Public Health (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/dual-ma-esia-mph)
• Dual Master of Health Administration and graduate certificate in health care corporate compliance (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/mha-corporate-compliance-certificate)
• Dual Master of Science in Health Policy and graduate certificate in health care corporate compliance (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/ms-health-policy-corporate-compliance-certificate)
• Joint Master of Science in Health Sciences in the field of physicians assistant and Master of Public Health (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/mshs-mph)
• Joint Juris Doctor or Master of Laws and Master of Public Health or SPH graduate certificate (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/jd-mph)

Doctoral programs
• Doctor of Philosophy in the field of biostatistics (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/epidemiology-biostatistics/phd-biostatistics)
• Doctor of Philosophy in the field of epidemiology (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/epidemiology-biostatistics/phd-epidemiology)

CERTIFICATES
• Graduate certificate in health administration generalist (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/health-policy-management/health-administration-generalist-certificate)
• Graduate certificate in long-term care
• Graduate certificate in (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/public-health/health-policy-management/health-policy-certificate)

COURSES

Explanation of Course Numbers
• Courses in the 1000s are primarily introductory undergraduate courses
• Those in the 2000s to 4000s are upper-division undergraduate courses that can also be taken for graduate credit with permission and additional work
• Those in the 6000s and 8000s are for master’s, doctoral, and professional-level students
• The 6000s are open to advanced undergraduate students with approval of the instructor and the dean or advising office

The letters and range of numbers below indicate the department in which the course is offered.

- PUBH 6000 - 6099: MPH Core & MPH@GW Program-Specific Courses
- PUBH 6100 - 6199: Environmental and Occupational Health Courses
- PUBH 6200 - 6299: Epidemiology and Biostatistics Courses
- PUBH 6300 - 6399: Health Policy Courses
- PUBH 6400 - 6499: Global Health Courses
- PUBH 6500 - 6599: Prevention and Community Health Courses
• PUBH 6600 - 6699: Public Health Nutrition and Miscellaneous Courses
• PUBH 8000 - 9000: Doctoral Level Courses
• EXNS 6000 - 7000: Exercise Science Courses
• HSML 6200 - 6300: Health Services Management and Leadership Courses
• Epidemiology (EPID) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/courses/epid)
• Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (EXNS) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/courses/exns)
• Health and Wellness (HLWL) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/courses/hlwl)
• Health Services Management and Leadership (HSML) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/courses/hsml)
• Lifestyle, Sports, and Physical Activity (LSPA) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/courses/lspa)
• Public Health (PUBH) (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/archives/2018-2019/courses/pubh)