

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH A MAJOR IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Program Director: E. Gray

The bachelor of science (BS) in public health program offers students the chance to acquire knowledge and skills in the critical component elements of public health. The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) defines public health as a force that "protects and improves the health of individuals, families, communities, and populations, locally and globally." In this context, the GW SPH undergraduate program is intended to convey technical detail and analytical thinking, but with a liberal arts philosophical base, to create professionals with the skills and commitment to improve the public's health.

The curriculum prepares students for future practice and study, with courses such as epidemiology, principles of health education and promotion, health policy, and more. Students develop their abilities in critical thinking, analysis, and synthesis of information, applying them to the historical and current trends in public health and health care delivery.

The BS in public health program works to matriculate students who will take their public health voice into diverse fields of professional practice, bringing an informed and evidence-based viewpoint to public health issues affecting society at large.

Visit the program website (<http://publichealth.gwu.edu/programs/public-health-bs/>) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Information on the admission process is available on the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://undergraduate.admissions.gwu.edu/>). Applications may be submitted via the Common Application (<https://go.gwu.edu/commonapp/>).

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions
The George Washington University
800 21st Street NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20052

Contact for questions:
gwadm@gwu.edu or 202-994-6040

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 120 credits, including 22 to 23 credits to meet the University General Education requirement; 34 credits in core

Code	Title	Credits
Public health guided electives		
12 credits selected from the approved elective courses listed below are required. No more than 9 of these credits can be taken through study abroad programs and/or at non-GW domestic institutions. For topics courses, only the specific topic indicated below can be counted toward this requirement. Students can petition the BS in public health program director for approval to use a GW course not listed here as elective.		
AMST 3950	Special Topics (Narrative Medicine in American History)	
ANTH 3503	Psychological Anthropology	
ANTH 3504	Illness, Healing, and Culture	
ANTH 3513	Anthropology of Human Rights	
or ANTH 3513W	Anthropology of Human Rights	
BADM 1004	The Age of Globalization	
BADM 4101	Business Ethics and the Legal Environment	
or BADM 4101W	Business Ethics and the Legal Environment	
BIOC 3560	Diet, Health, and Longevity	
BISC 2450	Organic Evolution	
BISC 3450	Evolutionary Medicine	
or BISC 3450W	Evolutionary Medicine	
COMM 3179	Sexual Communication	
CSCI 1011	Introduction to Programming with Java	
CSCI 1012	Introduction to Programming with Python	
CSCI 1121	Introduction to C Programming	
ECON 2151	Economic Development	
EHS 2109	Infectious Diseases and Bioterrorism	
EHS 2160	Disaster Response Planning and Management	
EHS 3174	Foundations of Emergency Health Services Systems	
EHS 3175	Community Risk Management and Safety in Emergency Health Services	
EHS 4101	Humanitarian Relief Operations	
EXNS 1114	Community Nutrition	

EXNS 1199	Topics in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (International Nutrition)	PHIL 2124	Philosophies of Disability
EXNS 2116	Exercise and Health Psychology	or PHIL 2124W	Philosophies of Disability
EXNS 2119	Introduction to Nutrition Science	PHIL 2125	Philosophy of Race and Gender
EXNS 2122	Food Systems in Public Health	or PHIL 2125W	Philosophy of Race and Gender
EXNS 2123	Nutrition and Chronic Disease	PHIL 2281	Philosophy of the Environment
EXNS 3995	Undergraduate Research	PSC 2240	Poverty, Welfare, and Work
GEOG 1003	Society and Environment	PSC 2367	Human Rights
GEOG 2104	Introduction to Cartography and GIS	PSYC 3128	Health Psychology
GEOG 2127	Population Geography	PSYC 3199	Current Topics in Psychology (Substance Abuse and Addictions)
GEOG 2137	Environmental Hazards	PUBH 1102	History of Public Health
GEOG 3105	Techniques of Spatial Analysis	PUBH 2113	Impact of Culture upon Health
GEOG 3106	Intermediate Geographic Information Systems	PUBH 2114	Environment, Health, and Development
HIST 3363	Race, Medicine, and Public Health	PUBH 2117	Service Learning in Public Health
HLWL 1106	Drug Awareness	PUBH 3115	Global Health and Human Rights
HLWL 1109	Human Sexuality	PUBH 3116	Global Health Systems Performance
HONR 2047	Self and Society Seminar (Pediatric Ethics)	PUBH 3136	Health Law
or HONR 2047W	Self and Society Seminar	or HSCI 4103	Healthcare Law and Regulation
HSCI 2050	Foundations of Health Equity	PUBH 3150	Sustainable Energy and Environmental Health
HSCI 2101	Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Illness (Residential Delivery)	PUBH 3151W	Current Issues in Bioethics
HSCI 2105	Current Issues in Bioethics (Residential Delivery)	or HSCI 2105	Current Issues in Bioethics
or PUBH 3151W	Current Issues in Bioethics	PUBH 3199	Topics in Public Health
HSCI 2110	Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Concepts	PUBH 3201	Introduction to Bioinformatics
HSCI 2118	Global Women's Health	PUBH 3202	Introduction to Genomics
HSCI 3100	Applied Health Equity in Washington, DC	PUBH 3995	Undergraduate Research
HSCI 4103	Healthcare Law and Regulation (Residential Delivery)	PUBH 4199	Independent Study
or PUBH 3136	Health Law	PUBH 4201	Practical Computing
ISTM 3119	Introduction to Programming	PUBH 4202	Bioinformatics Algorithms and Data Structures
ITAL 3300	Italian Literature and Culture in Translation (Pandemics in Italian Literature and Film)	SOC 2102	Techniques of Data Analysis
		SOC 2181	Special Topics in Sociology (Demography and the Social World)

SOC 2189	Special Topics in Criminal Justice (Rethinking DC Youth and Policing)
STAT 2118	Regression Analysis
STAT 2183	Intermediate Statistics Lab/Packages
or STAT 2183W	Intermediate Statistical Laboratory: Statistical Computing Packages
SUST 1001	Introduction to Sustainability
WGSS 3170	Topics in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (Writing/Righting Black Girl's and Women's Health)
Elective courses offered online can only be taken in the summer term.	

health courses; 12 credits in public health guided elective courses; and 51 to 52 credits in general elective courses.

Students must achieve a minimum grade of C- in all prerequisite, required, and guided elective coursework.

University General Education Requirement

- One course in critical thinking in the humanities
- Two courses in critical thinking, quantitative reasoning, or scientific reasoning in the social sciences¹
- One course that has an approved oral communication component²
- One course in quantitative reasoning (must be in mathematics or statistics)³
- One course in scientific reasoning (must be in natural and/or physical laboratory sciences)⁴
- UW 1020 University Writing (4 credits).
- After successful completion of UW 1020, 6 credits distributed over at least two different Writing in the Disciplines (WID) courses taken in separate semesters (summer counts as one semester)⁵

A list of qualifying courses can be found under University General Education Requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
Required for the major		
PUBH 1010	First-Year Experience in Public Health	
PUBH 1101	Introduction to Public Health and Health Services	
PUBH 2110	Public Health Biology	

PUBH 2112	Principles of Health Education and Health Promotion
PUBH 2140	Foundations of Research Methods
PUBH 2142	Introduction to Biostatistics for Public Health
PUBH 3130	Health Services Management and Economics
PUBH 3131	Epidemiology
PUBH 3132	Health and Environment
PUBH 3133	Global Health and Development
PUBH 3135W	Health Policy
PUBH 4140W	Senior Seminar

Electives

63 or 64 credits in elective courses, including 12 credits in approved guided electives (below) and 51 or 52 credits in general electives.

Most courses offered by GW can be taken as general electives. Students are encouraged to meet with their advisor to help select these courses. No more than 3 credits in Lifestyle, Sport, and Physical Activity (LSPA) courses can be counted toward the 120 credits required for the bachelor's degree. LSPA courses count as general electives.

All students must comply with policies and procedures outlined in the University Regulations (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/#undergraduatetext>), GWSPH Regulations (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/public-health/#regulationstext>), and the BSPH program guide. Students should pay special attention to the SPH requirements for completing human subjects research training, eight hours of professional enhancement activities, and passing the SPH academic integrity quiz.

General Education footnotes:

¹Critical thinking, quantitative reasoning or scientific reasoning in the social sciences—ECON 1011 applies to this requirement and is a prerequisite for PUBH 3130.

²Approved courses with an oral communications component—One course selected from the following is required:

Code	Title	Credits
AMST 2450	History and Meaning of Higher Education in the United States	
AMST 2620	Human Mind and Artificial Intelligence	
ANTH 1004	Language in Culture and Society	

ANTH 2502	Anthropology of Science and Technology: Twenty-First Century Brave New Worlds
CHEM 2118W	Practicing Science Communications
CHEM 2118W	Practicing Science Communications
COMM 1040	Public Communication
COMM 1041	Interpersonal Communication
EAP 1010	Oral Academic Communication for International Students
ECON 4198W	Proseminar in Economics
ENGL 1365	Literature and the Environment
ENGL 3918	Literature and Medicine
GTCH 2003	Step 1 and 2 Hybrid: Inquiry Approaches to Teaching and Lesson Design
GTCH 3101	Knowing and Learning in Mathematics and Science
HSSJ 4195	Senior Capstone
ORSC 2000	Sophomore Colloquium
PHIL 2124	Philosophies of Disability
or PHIL 2124W	Philosophies of Disability
PHIL 2134	Philosophy of Human Rights
PSTD 1010	Introduction to Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution
SLHS 1011	Voice and Diction
SOC 4192	Advanced Seminar in Criminal Justice
SOC 4195	Senior Research Seminar
or SOC 4195W	Senior Research Seminar
SPAN 3022	Advanced Oral Proficiency: Environmental and Social Sustainability in Latin America
SUST 2004	Introduction to Sustainability Communication
WLP 1020	Writing, Literature, and Society

³Approved courses in quantitative reasoning in mathematics or statistics—The following courses are not recommended for students in the BS in public health students: STAT 1051, STAT 1053, STAT 1111, and STAT 1127. Students who take one of these STAT courses after declaring the public health major are still required to take PUBH 2142, which is largely similar in content.

⁴Approved courses in scientific reasoning in natural and/or physical laboratory sciences—One course selected from the following is required:

Code	Title	Credits
BISC 1005	The Biology of Nutrition and Health	
BISC 1006	The Ecology and Evolution of Organisms	
BISC 1007	Food, Nutrition, and Service	
BISC 1008	Understanding Organisms through Service Learning	
BISC 1111	Introductory Biology: Cells and Molecules	
BISC 1112	Introductory Biology: The Biology of Organisms	
HONR 1033	Honors Seminar: Scientific Reasoning and Discovery (Biology Topic Only)	

⁵Writing in the Disciplines course requirement—Public health majors satisfy this requirement with PUBH 3135W and PUBH 4140W.

COMBINED PROGRAM

Combined programs

- Dual Bachelor of Science with a major in public health and Master of Public Health