

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION

Program Director: K. Lora

Mission

The mission of the master of public health (MPH) degree program in the field of public health nutrition is to develop and train graduate students to integrate nutrition into the core of public health practice. The program encompasses a social-ecological perspective on the role of nutrition in the etiology, prevention, and treatment of both acute and chronic disease at the individual, community, national, and global levels. This program is designed to train students as public health scientists and practitioners in order to assist public and private agencies with program development, implementation, and evaluation with regard to nutrition in health promotion and disease prevention.

Goals

The MPH program in the field of public health nutrition ensures that graduates:

- Understand the pathophysiology of common acute and chronic disease processes and the role that nutrition may play in the development of these diseases.
- Understand the factors impacting the accessibility, availability, adequacy, and safety of the food and water systems serving a community, and the relationship between community food and water systems and health outcomes.
- Develop skills in nutrition assessment of both individuals and communities.
- Utilize appropriate epidemiologic methods for developing and testing hypotheses relating to nutrition and health outcomes at the population level.
- Develop skills in designing, implementing, and evaluating nutrition interventions to improve the health of communities.
- Appreciate the role of public health policy in altering the food environment at the community level.

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

ADMISSIONS

Visit the Milken Institute School of Public Health website (<https://publichealth.gwu.edu/>) for additional information about academic programs and information about GWSPH. Graduate admissions information, including application requirements and deadlines, can be found on the GWSPH Graduate Admissions website (<https://publichealth.gwu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/>).

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 45 credits, including 17 credits in core courses, 13 credits in program-specific courses, 7

credits in research methods coursework, 6 credits in electives, and a 2-credit culminating experience.

| Code | Title | Credits |
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| Prerequisites | | |
| Students who do not have an undergraduate degree in nutrition must complete introductory nutrition and nutritional biochemistry coursework, with a minimum grade of C, either at GW or another regionally accredited institution, prior to matriculation in the program. | | |
| Required | | |
| Core Courses (19 credits) | | |
| PUBH 6000 | MPH Applied Practice Experience | |
| PUBH 6002 | Biostatistical Applications for Public Health | |
| PUBH 6003 | Principles and Practices of Epidemiology | |
| PUBH 6007 | Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health | |
| PUBH 6009 | Fundamentals of Public Health Program Evaluation | |
| PUBH 6011 | Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health | |
| PUBH 6012 | Fundamentals of Health Policy | |
| PUBH 6015 | Culminating Experience | |
| PUBH 6021 | Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I | |
| PUBH 6022 | Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II | |
| PUBH 6023 | Interprofessional Education Experience | |
| Public Health Nutrition Core Courses (13 credits) | | |
| EXNS 6242 | Nutrition Throughout the Life Cycle | |
| PUBH 6611 | Nutrition Assessment | |
| PUBH 6612 | Food Systems in Public Health | |
| PUBH 6613 | U.S. Food Policy and Politics | |
| or PUBH 6482 | International Food and Nutrition Policy | |
| PUBH 6620 | Designing Healthy Communities | |
| PUBH 6500 | Planning and Implementing Health Promotion Programs | |
| Research Methods Courses (7 credits) | | |

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| PUBH 6699 | Topics in Nutrition Sciences (Nutritional Epidemiology Study Design & Analysis ONLY) |
| EXNS 6204 | Biostatistical Methods and Research Design |
| Additional Research Methods Selective Courses - choose 2 credits from the courses below: | |
| PUBH 6047 | Systematic Reviews to Synthesize Evidence in Public Health Practice |
| PUBH 6247 | Epidemiologic Methods I: Design of Health Studies |
| PUBH 6260 | Applied Epidemiologic Data Analysis |
| PUBH 6262 | Introduction to Geographic Information Systems |
| PUBH 6263 | Advanced GIS |
| PUBH 6273 | Ethnographic Methods |
| PUBH 6281 | Analysis of Complex Surveys Using SAS and Stata |
| PUBH 6299 | Topics in Epidemiology (in topic Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health only) |
| PUBH 6310 | Statistical Analysis in Health Policy |
| PUBH 6410 | Global Health Study Design |
| PUBH 6411 | Global Health Qualitative Research Methods |
| PUBH 6412 | Global Health Quantitative Research Methods |
| PUBH 6488 | Cost-effectiveness Analysis in Public Health and Health Care |
| PUBH 6489 | Evaluation of Food and Nutrition Programs and Policies |
| PUBH 6504 | Social and Behavioral Science Research Methods |
| PUBH 6530 | Qualitative Methods in Health Promotion |
| PUBH 6533 | Design and Conduct of Community Health Surveys |
| PUBH 6534 | Community-Based Participatory Research |
| PUBH 6572 | Marketing Research for Public Health |
| PUBH 6599 | Topics in Prevention and Community Health (in topic Economic Evaluation for Health Promotion only) |

PUBH 6853 Use of SAS for Data Management and Analysis

PUBH 6856 Advanced SAS for Public Health Research

Electives

6 credits in graduate-level elective courses selected in consultation with the advisor.

MPH graduation requirements

1. Graduate credit requirement: 45 graduate credits.
2. Course requirements: Successful completion of core and program-specific courses.
3. Practicum Requirement: Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the Applied Practice Experience (Practicum) to receive credit for PUBH 6000 MPH Applied Practice Experience.
4. Interprofessional Education Experience (IPE): Students are required to enroll and participate in an authorized IPE activity (PUBH 6023 Interprofessional Education Experience).
5. Minimum grade-point requirement: minimum 3.0 (B) cumulative grade-point average.
6. Time limit requirement: The degree must be completed within five years.
7. Transfer credit policy: With approval, up to 12 graduate credits that have not been applied to any previous graduate degree may be transferred to the master of public health program. External credits must have been earned from an accredited institution in the last three years with a minimum grade of 3.0 (B) in each course. Students in SPH graduate certificate programs can transfer as many credits earned toward the certificate to the MPH degree as meet MPH degree requirements, to a maximum of 18 credits.
8. Graduate certificate students wishing to transfer to a degree program may apply to do so after completion of three or more courses with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 via the online change of concentration petition (<https://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/forms/>). A minimum grade of B is required for a specific course to be eligible for transfer.
9. CITI Training requirement: All students are required to complete training regarding human subject protection regulation and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).
10. Integrity Quiz and Plagiarism requirement: All students are required to review the George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity (<https://studentconduct.gwu.edu/code-academic-integrity/>) and take the SPH Academic Integrity Quiz at GWSPH Source (<https://source.publichealth.gwu.edu/user/login/?destination=node/193>). within their first semester of study.
11. Professional Enhancement requirement: Students must participate in eight hours of public health-related lectures, seminars, and symposia, related to their field of study.

COMBINED PROGRAM

Combined program

- Joint Master of Public Health or SPH graduate certificate and Juris Doctor or Master of Laws (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/public-health/jd-mph/>)