

# 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, 5

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

Code	Title	Credits
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 (5 credits)		

EXNS 6204	Biostatistical Methods and Research Design
PUBH 6614	Study Design and Analysis in Nutritional Epidemiology
2 additional credits in research methods courses selected from the following:	
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) program 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 can 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 can 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. 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 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/>)