MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE FIELD OF GLOBAL HEALTH POLICY

Program Director: C. Santos-Burgoa

The mission of GW’s master of public health (MPH) in global health policy program is to prepare professionals to assist in public health decision making related to national, regional, and global interventions and institutions. Students learn to support policy analysis and use diverse analytic tools, including epidemiology and international comparative policy methods, with attention to culture and equity. Program graduates integrate scientific knowledge and global evidence to advise decision making and action by diverse global health systems and other sectors, and to provide insight into policies and processes that impact population health, all with an emphasis on underserved populations and development.

Students enrolled in the global health policy program are committed to improving public health on a global scale and engaging in and promoting public service. These qualities are essential for future health professionals and public health practitioners.

Graduates of the global health policy program can expect to be able to:

- Assess the burden and determinants of health problems, their social distribution and inequities, and the interdependence of countries.
- Apply common economic, epidemiological, and comparative policy analysis methods and tools for evidence to assess burden of disease, determining efficacy and effectiveness of interventions for global infectious and chronic disease control.
- Use global evidence for local action using systematic reviews and local facts to drive well informed health policy decisions. Translate evidence to support program and health systems policy recommendations.
- Work with other disciplines and with sectors beyond health to develop innovative policy options.
- Develop strong cultural sensitivity and intercultural competency within diverse health and political systems.
- Act in global health diplomacy in policy-shaping and negotiations to improve health while strengthening relations among nations.
- Assume leadership roles in the global health policy development process.
- Work with methodological rigor of international policy design, program priority setting, and negotiation.
- Communicate the results of research to a culturally broad set of constituents.

Visit the program website (https://publichealth.gwu.edu/programs/global-health-policy-mph/) for additional program information.

**ADMISSIONS**

**Deadlines:**
- Fall – March 15 (Applications must be complete by December 15 for priority scholarship consideration.)
- Spring – October 1
- Summer – December 15

Individuals interested in applying to this program should submit their application and supporting documents through SOPHAS (http://www.sophas.org) a general online application for Schools of Public Health. A graduated fee is charged for this application, depending on the number of accredited schools to which you apply.

**Standardized test scores:**
GRE general test (institutional code 5268), LSAT, MCAT, or GMAT. Not required for Fall 2021 application, although students may submit their scores if they feel it would be beneficial.

**Recommendations required:**
Two (2) recommendations

**Prior academic records:**
Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Transcripts must be forwarded to SOPHAS in their original sealed envelopes directly from the institution.

Official transcripts from institutions outside the United States must be accompanied by an official transcript evaluation from an accredited independent evaluating agency. Please be sure you request a detailed evaluation that includes all course titles, credit hours, grade-point average (GPA), United States degree equivalency, and date of degree conferral. Please see the list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services (http://www.naces.org/members/).
Statement of purpose:

In no more than 1500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in your chosen field. Include your academic objectives, research interests, and career plans. Also discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned in the application.

The Committee reviews your Statement of Purpose to determine your motivation for pursuing a career in public health.

International applicants only: Please review International Applicant Information ([http://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-applicants/](http://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-applicants/)) carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 GW, and English language requirements. Detailed documentation needed for this program is available here ([https://publichealth.gwu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/](https://publichealth.gwu.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions/)). PLEASE NOTE that all programs in the Milken Institute School of Public Health require the following minimum English language test scores for admission:

- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual band score below 6.0.
- TOEFL: 100 on Internet-based.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:
Office of Admissions
Suite 200
Milken Institute School of Public Health
950 New Hampshire Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20052

Contact for questions:

GWSPHAdmit@gwu.edu – 202.994.2160 (phone)
http://publichealth.gwu.edu/admissions ([http://publichealth.gwu.edu/admissions/](http://publichealth.gwu.edu/admissions/))
9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 45 credits, including 17 credits in core courses, 14 credits in program-specific courses, 4 credits in selective courses, 8 credits of electives and a 2-credit culminating experience.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Core courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6002</td>
<td>Biostatistical Applications for Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6003</td>
<td>Principles and Practices of Epidemiology</td>
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<td>PUBH 6007</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health</td>
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<td>PUBH 6009</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Public Health Program Evaluation</td>
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<td>PUBH 6011</td>
<td>Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6012</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Health Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6021</td>
<td>Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I</td>
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<td>PUBH 6022</td>
<td>Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II</td>
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<td>PUBH 6023</td>
<td>Interprofessional Education Experience</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Program-specific</td>
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<td>PUBH 6315</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Policy Analysis</td>
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<td>PUBH 6400</td>
<td>Global Health Frameworks</td>
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<td>PUBH 6412</td>
<td>Global Health Quantitative Research Methods</td>
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<td>PUBH 6416</td>
<td>Ethical and Cultural Issues in Global Health Research and Programs</td>
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<td>PUBH 6417</td>
<td>Cross-Cultural Approaches for Global Health Practice</td>
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<td>PUBH 6441</td>
<td>Global Health Organizations and Regulations</td>
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<td>PUBH 6450</td>
<td>Global Health Diplomacy</td>
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Selectives

4 credits from the following list of courses. Alternative courses may be taken with prior permission of the advisor.

- PUBH 6442: Comparative Global Health Systems
- or PUBH 6355: Comparative Health Policy
- PUBH 6440: Global Health Economics and Finance (PUBH 6399 must be taken in topic Cost-Benefit Analysis in Healthcare) ¹
- or PUBH 6399: Topics in Health Policy

Electives

8 credits in elective courses. These may be taken from the following list or they may be additional selective courses.

- ECON 6284: Survey of International Macroeconomics and Finance Theory and Policy
- IAFF 6138: Special Topics in International Development Studies (Gender, Disaster and Policy) ²
- IAFF 6158: Special Topics in International Science and Technology Policy (Policy of Science, Technology and Development) ²
- IAFF 6198: Special Topics in International Economic Policy (International Trade and Investment Policy) ²
- IAFF 6502: Professional Skills I ³
- or IAFF 6503: Professional Skills II
- ORSC 6224: Persuasion and Negotiation
- PMGT 6404: Principled Political Leadership
- PPPA 6056: Regulatory Comment Clinic
- PPPA 6062: Community Development Policy and Management
- PUBH 6262: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
- PUBH 6410: Global Health Study Design
- PUBH 6411: Global Health Qualitative Research Methods
- PUBH 6435: Global Health Program Development and Implementation
- PUBH 6436: Global Health Program Management and Leadership
- PUBH 6480: Public Health in Humanitarian Settings
- PUBH 6482: International Food and Nutrition Policy
- PUBH 6486: Global Health Programs and Approaches to the Control of Infectious Diseases
- PUBH 6492: Global Health Programs and Approaches to the Control of Chronic Diseases
- PUBH 6499: Topics in Global Health (National and Global Public Health Systems) ²
- PUBH 6499: Topics in Global Health (Health Financing in Low and Middle Income Countries) ²
- PUBH 6499: Topics in Global Health (Synthesizing Evidence) ²
- PUBH 6575: Communication Skills for Public Health Professionals

Culminating Experience

- PUBH 6015: Culminating Experience (taken for 2 credits)

¹For PUBH 6399, only the topic Cost-Benefit Analysis in Healthcare counts toward program requirements.
²For IAFF 6138, IAFF 6158, IAFF 6198, and PUBH 6499, only the specific topics listed here count toward program requirements.
³See program guide for the topics in IAFF 6502 and IAFF 6503 that qualify as preapproved electives.

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 6022.
4. Interprofessional Education Experience (IPE): Students are required to enroll and participate in an authorized IPE activity (PUBH 6023).
5. Minimum grade-point requirement: minimum 3.0 (B average) 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 grade of B or
above 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.