DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH POLICY

Program Directors A. Dor, L. Ku

Dedicated to health policy education and research, our faculty members include some of the nation’s best-known health policy experts, as well as leaders from the public and private health policy sectors. Our program joins stimulating classes with hands-on experience with critical health policy issues. Our graduates can be found in congressional offices, federal health agencies, the most prominent professional health societies in Washington, D.C., trade associations and health policy consultancies. With courses scheduled in the late afternoons and early evenings, our programs allow students to attain valuable career experience while they earn their degrees.

The PhD in Health Policy program develops scholars who are skilled at critically assessing the political, economic, legal and social aspects of health policy and management and learning to apply innovative research tools to analyze processes and outcomes in the health care delivery and public health setting to inform policy decision-making.

ADMISSIONS

Admissions

Deadlines: Fall - December 1 (This program enrolls on a biennial basis every even year.)

Individuals interested in applying to this program should submit their application and supporting documents through SOPHAS, 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).

Recommendations required:

Three (3) 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.

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.

In addition to the above, please describe your current skills and future goals related to research, leadership, and problem solving.

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

International Applicants:

Please review International Applicant Information 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.

- 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 Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20052

Contact for questions:
GWSPAdmit@gwu.edu – 202.994.2160 (phone)
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: 48 credits, including 15 credits in public health fundamentals and advanced health policy courses; 12 credits in methods and advanced statistics; 9 credits minimum in elective courses, 12 credits in dissertation preparation and dissertation research; and successful completion of a comprehensive examination.
## Code | Title | Credits
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### Required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6340</td>
<td>Health Economics and Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 8401</td>
<td>Foundations in Public Health Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 8620</td>
<td>Seminar: Foundations of U.S. Health Policy</td>
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<td>PUBH 8610</td>
<td>Statistical Methods for Health Policy</td>
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<td>PUBH 8622</td>
<td>Health Care Payments, Systems, and Delivery Models</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6080</td>
<td>Pathways to Public Health</td>
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### Core methods courses

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 8404</td>
<td>Advanced Topics: Health Systems and Health Policy Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 8405</td>
<td>Advanced Topics: Health Economics Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 8417</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPPA 8022</td>
<td>Econometrics for Policy Research II</td>
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### Electives

9 credits in elective courses. A recommended list of electives is available in the program guide. Other doctoral-level electives may be approved by the advisor.

### Dissertation

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 8422</td>
<td>Advanced Health Care and Public Health Research Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 8999</td>
<td>Dissertation Research</td>
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Graduation requirements as follow:

1. Credits: Successful completion of 48 credits.
2. Comprehensive examination: Once the course of study is completed, students are required to pass the comprehensive exam to be officially admitted to the candidacy phase.
3. Dissertation: PUBH 8422 or PUBH 8435 dissertation preparation course plus 10 credits in dissertation research are required. Once the proposal has been successfully defended and the dissertation research credit requirements has been met, the oral defense may be scheduled.
4. Grade-point average: A minimum overall grade-point average of B (3.0).
5. Time limit: The degree must be completed within seven years.