

JOINT MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES IN THE FIELD OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AND MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The School of Medicine and Health Science and Milken Institute School of Public Health offer a joint master of science in health sciences in the field of physician assistant (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/medicine-health-sciences/graduate-programs/ms-physician-assistant/>) and master of public health (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/public-health/#graduatetext>) degree program. For the MPH degree, students choose from among the following tracks: community-oriented primary care, environmental health science and policy, epidemiology, global environmental health, and health policy.

The three-year program provides both clinical and academic preparation for careers in medicine and public health. Students receive advanced training in the design of health studies, epidemiological methods, application of computers to public health, community medicine, and techniques of health promotion. Students also design a special research project in collaboration with faculty of the Milken Institute School of Public Health and local, national, or international public health organizations.

Students apply and are admitted to the MSHS program and are subsequently admitted into the MPH program. Up to 9 credits in MSHS coursework may be counted toward the MPH and up to 9 credits of MPH coursework may be counted toward the MSHS.

As degrees in joint programs are awarded simultaneously, all requirements for both programs must be met before either degree is awarded.

Visit the master of science in health sciences in the field of physician assistant (<https://smhs.gwu.edu/physician-assistant/>) and the master of public health (<http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/graduate/masters-programs/#joint>) program websites for additional information.

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED PRIMARY CARE

Community-Oriented Primary Care Track

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 137 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 13 credits in MPH core, 10 credits in prevention and community health courses, and 14 credits in community-oriented primary care track courses.

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 17 credits in public health core courses, and 21 credits in department and program specific coursework as outlined.

Physician assistant curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
ANAT 6215	Anatomy for Physician Assistant Students	
PA 6101	Clinical Assessment I	
PA 6102	Clinical Assessment II	
PA 6103	Clinical Assessment III	
PA 6104	Integration into Clinical Concepts I	
PA 6105	Integration into Clinical Concepts II	
PA 6106	Integration into Clinical Concepts III	
PA 6109	Foundations of Medicine	
PA 6111	Evidence Based Practice for PA/MPH Students	
PA 6112	Clinical Medicine I	
PA 6113	Clinical Medicine II	
PA 6116	Clinical Skills I	
PA 6117	Clinical Skills II	
PA 6119	Health, Justice, and Society II	
PA 6120	Human Behavior	
PA 6121	Clinical Specialties	
PA 6122	Role of the Physician Assistant in U.S. Healthcare	
PA 6259	Introduction to Clinical Education	
PA 6261	Inpatient Medicine Clinical Practicum	
PA 6262	Primary Care Practicum	
PA 6263	Surgical Inpatient Clinical Practicum	
PA 6264	Women's Health Clinical Practicum	
PA 6265	Pediatrics Clinical Practicum	
PA 6266	Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum	
PA 6267	Behavioral Medicine Clinical Practicum	
PA 6268	Elective Clinical Practicum	
PA 6300	Introduction to Professional Practice	
PHAR 6207	Basic Principles of Pharmacology	

PHAR 6208	Pharmacology in Disease Pathophysiology For Health Sciences Students
PHYL 6211	Physiology for Health Sciences Students

Public health, community-oriented primary care curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
Public health core		
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 6011	Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	
PUBH 6012	Fundamentals of Health Policy	
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	
Prevention and community health		
PUBH 6500	Planning and Implementing Health Promotion Programs	
PUBH 6501	Program Evaluation	
PUBH 6015	Culminating Experience	
Community-oriented primary care track		
PUBH 6504	Social and Behavioral Science Research Methods	
PUBH 6510	Community-Oriented Primary Care Principles and Practice	
PUBH 6512	Community-Oriented Primary Care Policy and Issues	
PUBH 6513	Community Health Management	
PUBH 6516	Community Health Information Resources	
PUBH 6591	PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar	

Electives

2 credits in PUBH courses.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCE & POLICY

Environmental Health Science and Policy Track

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 13 credits in MPH core, 22 credits in environmental health sciences and policy courses, and 3 credits in electives.

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 17 credits in public health core courses, and 21 credits in department and program specific coursework as outlined.

Physician assistant curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
ANAT 6215	Anatomy for Physician Assistant Students	
PA 6101	Clinical Assessment I	
PA 6102	Clinical Assessment II	
PA 6103	Clinical Assessment III	
PA 6104	Integration into Clinical Concepts I	
PA 6105	Integration into Clinical Concepts II	
PA 6106	Integration into Clinical Concepts III	
PA 6109	Foundations of Medicine	
PA 6111	Evidence Based Practice for PA/MPH Students	
PA 6112	Clinical Medicine I	
PA 6113	Clinical Medicine II	
PA 6116	Clinical Skills I	
PA 6117	Clinical Skills II	
PA 6119	Health, Justice, and Society II	
PA 6120	Human Behavior	
PA 6121	Clinical Specialties	
PA 6122	Role of the Physician Assistant in U.S. Healthcare	
PA 6259	Introduction to Clinical Education	

PA 6261	Inpatient Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6262	Primary Care Practicum
PA 6263	Surgical Inpatient Clinical Practicum
PA 6264	Women's Health Clinical Practicum
PA 6265	Pediatrics Clinical Practicum
PA 6266	Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6267	Behavioral Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6268	Elective Clinical Practicum
PA 6300	Introduction to Professional Practice
PHAR 6207	Basic Principles of Pharmacology
PHAR 6208	Pharmacology in Disease Pathophysiology For Health Sciences Students
PHYL 6211	Physiology for Health Sciences Students

Environmental health science and policy curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
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 6021	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I	
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II	
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience	
PUBH 6121	Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology	
PUBH 6122	Protecting Public Health and the Environment: Policies, Politics, and Programs	

PUBH 6123	Toxicology: Applications for Public Health Policy
PUBH 6124	Risk Management and Communication
PUBH 6126	Assessment and Control of Environmental Hazards
PUBH 6137	Environmental and Occupational Health Culminating Experience I
PUBH 6138	Environmental and Occupational Health Culminating Experience II
PUBH 6591	PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar
PUBH 6853	Use of Statistical Packages for Data Management and Data Analysis

Elective

One 1-credit PUBH course selected with the advisor's approval.

NOTE: PUBH 6000 may be met with PA clinical rotation in Occupational Health with advanced approval.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Epidemiology Track

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 13 credits in MPH core, 18 credits in epidemiology track courses, 4 credits in selective courses, and 3 credits in electives.

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 17 credits in public health core courses, and 21 credits in department and program specific coursework as outlined.

Physician assistant curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
ANAT 6215	Anatomy for Physician Assistant Students	
PA 6101	Clinical Assessment I	
PA 6102	Clinical Assessment II	
PA 6103	Clinical Assessment III	
PA 6104	Integration into Clinical Concepts I	
PA 6105	Integration into Clinical Concepts II	
PA 6106	Integration into Clinical Concepts III	
PA 6109	Foundations of Medicine	

PA 6112	Clinical Medicine I
PA 6113	Clinical Medicine II
PA 6116	Clinical Skills I
PA 6117	Clinical Skills II
PA 6119	Health, Justice, and Society II
PA 6120	Human Behavior
PA 6121	Clinical Specialties
PA 6122	Role of the Physician Assistant in U.S. Healthcare
PA 6259	Introduction to Clinical Education
PA 6261	Inpatient Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6262	Primary Care Practicum
PA 6263	Surgical Inpatient Clinical Practicum
PA 6264	Women's Health Clinical Practicum
PA 6265	Pediatrics Clinical Practicum
PA 6266	Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6267	Behavioral Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6268	Elective Clinical Practicum
PA 6300	Introduction to Professional Practice
PHAR 6207	Basic Principles of Pharmacology
PHAR 6208	Pharmacology in Disease Pathophysiology For Health Sciences Students
PHYL 6211	Physiology for Health Sciences Students

Public health, epidemiology curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
MPH core		
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 6021	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience

Epidemiology track

PUBH 6015	Culminating Experience
PUBH 6247	Epidemiologic Methods I: Design of Health Studies
PUBH 6252	Epidemiologic Methods II: Advanced Epidemiologic Methods
PUBH 6260	Applied Epidemiologic Data Analysis
PUBH 6591	PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar
PUBH 6853	Use of Statistical Packages for Data Management and Data Analysis

Selective

4 credits from the following:

PUBH 6237	Chronic Disease Epidemiology
PUBH 6241	Nutritional Epidemiology
PUBH 6242	Clinical Epidemiology and Public Health: Reading the Research
PUBH 6244	Cancer Epidemiology
PUBH 6245	Infectious Disease Epidemiology
PUBH 6248	Epidemiology of Aging
PUBH 6250	Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS
PUBH 6259	Epidemiology Surveillance in Public Health

Electives

2 credits in graduate-level Public Health courses.

Additional information including approved elective lists can be found on the program website.

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Global Environmental Health Track

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 13 credits in MPH core,

23 credits in global environmental health courses, and 2 credits in electives.

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 17 credits in public health core courses, and 21 credits in department and program specific coursework as outlined.

Physician assistant curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
ANAT 6215	Anatomy for Physician Assistant Students	
PA 6101	Clinical Assessment I	
PA 6102	Clinical Assessment II	
PA 6103	Clinical Assessment III	
PA 6104	Integration into Clinical Concepts I *	
PA 6105	Integration into Clinical Concepts II	
PA 6106	Integration into Clinical Concepts III	
PA 6109	Foundations of Medicine	
PA 6111	Evidence Based Practice for PA/MPH Students	
PA 6112	Clinical Medicine I	
PA 6113	Clinical Medicine II	
PA 6116	Clinical Skills I	
PA 6117	Clinical Skills II	
PA 6119	Health, Justice, and Society II	
PA 6120	Human Behavior	
PA 6121	Clinical Specialties	
PA 6122	Role of the Physician Assistant in U.S. Healthcare	
PA 6259	Introduction to Clinical Education	
PA 6261	Inpatient Medicine Clinical Practicum	
PA 6262	Primary Care Practicum	
PA 6263	Surgical Inpatient Clinical Practicum	
PA 6264	Women's Health Clinical Practicum	
PA 6265	Pediatrics Clinical Practicum	
PA 6266	Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum	
PA 6267	Behavioral Medicine Clinical Practicum	

PA 6268	Elective Clinical Practicum *
PA 6300	Introduction to Professional Practice
PHYL 6211	Physiology for Health Sciences Students
PHAR 6207	Basic Principles of Pharmacology
PHAR 6208	Pharmacology in Disease Pathophysiology For Health Sciences Students

Public health (global environmental health) curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
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 6021	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I	
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II	
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience	
PUBH 6121	Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology	
PUBH 6126	Assessment and Control of Environmental Hazards	
PUBH 6128	Global Environmental and Occupational Health	
PUBH 6137	Environmental and Occupational Health Culminating Experience I	
PUBH 6138	Environmental and Occupational Health Culminating Experience II	
PUBH 6400	Global Health Frameworks	
PUBH 6411	Global Health Qualitative Research Methods	

PUBH 6435 Global Health Program Development and Implementation

PUBH 6591 PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar

PUBH 6853 Use of Statistical Packages for Data Management and Data Analysis

Electives

1 credit in PUBH courses selected with the advisor's approval.

NOTE: PUBH 6000 may be met with PA clinical rotation in Occupational Health with advanced approval.

HEALTH POLICY

Health Policy Track

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 13 credits in MPH core, 22 credits in health policy track courses, and 3 credits in electives.

Physician assistant curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
ANAT 6215	Anatomy for Physician Assistant Students	
PA 6101	Clinical Assessment I	
PA 6102	Clinical Assessment II	
PA 6103	Clinical Assessment III	
PA 6104	Integration into Clinical Concepts I	
PA 6105	Integration into Clinical Concepts II	
PA 6106	Integration into Clinical Concepts III	
PA 6109	Foundations of Medicine	
PA 6112	Clinical Medicine I	
PA 6113	Clinical Medicine II	
PA 6116	Clinical Skills I	
PA 6117	Clinical Skills II	
PA 6119	Health, Justice, and Society II	
PA 6120	Human Behavior	
PA 6121	Clinical Specialties	
PA 6122	Role of the Physician Assistant in U.S. Healthcare	
PA 6259	Introduction to Clinical Education	
PA 6261	Inpatient Medicine Clinical Practicum	

PA 6262 Primary Care Practicum

PA 6263 Surgical Inpatient Clinical Practicum

PA 6264 Women's Health Clinical Practicum

PA 6265 Pediatrics Clinical Practicum

PA 6266 Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum

PA 6267 Behavioral Medicine Clinical Practicum

PA 6268 Elective Clinical Practicum

PA 6300 Introduction to Professional Practice

PHAR 6207 Basic Principles of Pharmacology

PHAR 6208 Pharmacology in Disease Pathophysiology For Health Sciences Students

PHYL 6211 Physiology for Health Sciences Students

Public health (health policy) curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
Public health core		
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 6021	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I	
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II	
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience	
Health policy track		
PUBH 6310	Statistical Analysis in Health Policy	
PUBH 6315	Introduction to Health Policy Analysis	
PUBH 6320	Advanced Health Policy Analysis	

PUBH 6325	Federal Policymaking and Policy Advocacy
PUBH 6335	Public Health and Law
or PUBH 6330	Health Services and Law
PUBH 6340	Health Economics and Finance
PUBH 6350	Health Policy Capstone
PUBH 6591	PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar

Electives

3 credits in graduate-level Public Health courses.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 138 credits, including 100 credits in physician assistant courses, 15 credits in public health core courses, and 23 credits in department and program-specific coursework.

Physician assistant curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
ANAT 6215	Anatomy for Physician Assistant Students	
PA 6101	Clinical Assessment I	
PA 6102	Clinical Assessment II	
PA 6103	Clinical Assessment III	
PA 6104	Integration into Clinical Concepts I	
PA 6105	Integration into Clinical Concepts II	
PA 6106	Integration into Clinical Concepts III	
PA 6109	Foundations of Medicine	
PA 6111	Evidence Based Practice for PA/MPH Students	
PA 6112	Clinical Medicine I	
PA 6113	Clinical Medicine II	
PA 6116	Clinical Skills I	
PA 6117	Clinical Skills II	
PA 6119	Health, Justice, and Society II	
PA 6120	Human Behavior	
PA 6121	Clinical Specialties	

PA 6122	Role of the Physician Assistant in U.S. Healthcare
PA 6259	Introduction to Clinical Education
PA 6261	Inpatient Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6262	Primary Care Practicum
PA 6263	Surgical Inpatient Clinical Practicum
PA 6264	Women's Health Clinical Practicum
PA 6265	Pediatrics Clinical Practicum
PA 6266	Emergency Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6267	Behavioral Medicine Clinical Practicum
PA 6268	Elective Clinical Practicum
PA 6300	Introduction to Professional Practice
PHAR 6207	Basic Principles of Pharmacology
PHAR 6208	Pharmacology in Disease Pathophysiology For Health Sciences Students
PHYL 6211	Physiology for Health Sciences Students

Public health, maternal and child health curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
Required		
Public health core courses		
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 6011	Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	
PUBH 6012	Fundamentals of Health Policy	
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	
Onboarding for PA/MPH Students		
PUBH 6591	PA/MPH Clinical Leadership Seminar	

Maternal and child health courses	
PUBH 6500	Planning and Implementing Health Promotion Programs
PUBH 6501	Program Evaluation
PUBH 6015	Culminating Experience
PUBH 6550	Maternal and Child Health I
PUBH 6551	Maternal and Child Health II
Program-specific selective courses	
6 credits in courses selected from the following:	
PUBH 6235	Epidemiology of Obesity
PUBH 6240	Pediatric HIV/AIDS
PUBH 6262	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
PUBH 6269	Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology
PUBH 6299	Topics in Epidemiology
PUBH 6335	Public Health and Law
PUBH 6359	Reproductive Health Policy
PUBH 6400	Global Health Frameworks
PUBH 6451	Monitoring/Evaluation of Sexual/ Reproductive Health Programs in Low- and Middle- Income Countries
PUBH 6452	Social and Behavior Change Communication in Middle- to Low-Income Countries
PUBH 6455	Global Vaccinology
PUBH 6481	Global Mental Health
PUBH 6499	Topics in Global Health (Structural Racism and Public Health)
PUBH 6503	Introduction to Public Health Communication and Marketing
PUBH 6514	Preventing Health Disparities
PUBH 6552	Women's Health
PUBH 6553	Adolescent Health
PUBH 6555	Reproductive Health: U.S. and Global Perspectives
PUBH 6560	School Health and Safety

PUBH 6561	Maternal and Child Health Policy Analysis
PUBH 6562	Physical Activity and Obesity Interventions: From the Individual to the Environment
PUBH 6563	Global Child Health
PUBH 6620	Designing Healthy Communities
PUBH 6853	Use of Statistical Packages for Data Management and Data Analysis
EXNS 6242	Nutrition Throughout the Life Cycle
HDEV 6109	Child Development

General electives

At least 2 credits taken in any graduate-level SPH courses.