Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

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Rashid Biggs, Clinical Assistant Professor
William W. Darrow, Professor
Jessy Devieux, Professor
Carlos Espinal, Research Professor
Melissa Howard, Clinical Assistant Professor
Patricia Rojas, Assistant Professor
Mariana Sanchez, Assistant Professor

The Department offers Graduate Certificates, a Master’s degree in Public Health (MPH) with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention with a Concentration in Maternal and Child Health, and a Ph.D. in Public Health with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

The courses prepare students to develop and implement health promotion/health education programs in various sites. This program of study is concerned with personal and public health lifestyles, identification of risk factors and behavioral change strategies that promote positive health behaviors of individuals, groups, and community. See also Graduate Certificates in Health Promotion and Maternal and Child Health, which do not require enrollment in the MPH degree program.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the University’s general graduate admission requirements:

1. A Bachelor’s degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university or, in the case of foreign students, an institution recognized in its own country as preparing students for further study at the graduate level.
2. A minimum 3.0 GPA on the last 60 undergraduate hours. In addition, applicants are required to submit 1) a current resume; 2) a written statement of purpose (career goals). Applicants are also encouraged to submit three letters of recommendation.
3. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required. Students with diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.
4. Submission of official GRE scores is optional. If a student decides to submit GRE scores, the scores must be less than 5 years old.

MPH Core Curriculum: (15 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6000</td>
<td>Epidemiology I: Introduction to Public Health Epidemiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6052</td>
<td>Biostatistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6102</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6410</td>
<td>Health Behavior and Public Health</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention: (12 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6146</td>
<td>Health Promotion Program Planning and Intervention Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6602</td>
<td>Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6706</td>
<td>Research Methods in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6750</td>
<td>Program Development and Evaluation in Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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Elective Courses: (12 credits)

Electives may be selected from the following list of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention courses. Students must consult with a faculty advisor for approval prior to selecting elective courses not on this list.

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHC 5009</td>
<td>AIDS: Contemporary Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 5113</td>
<td>Community Health Promotion Planning and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 5409</td>
<td>Public Health Behavior Change Theory and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 5415</td>
<td>Public Health in Minority Urban Populations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6412</td>
<td>Health Promotion in Culturally Diverse Communities</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6443</td>
<td>Ethical Issues in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6504</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Education and Wellness</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6530</td>
<td>Principles of Maternal and Child Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6580</td>
<td>Contemporary Issues in Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6589</td>
<td>Health Promotion in Institutional Settings</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6600</td>
<td>Health Promotion Communication Theory and Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6710</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6715</td>
<td>Survey Research in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6751</td>
<td>Community Organization for Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6762</td>
<td>International Public Health</td>
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Practicum and Culminating Experience: (6 credits)

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<tr>
<td>PHC 6945</td>
<td>Practicum in Public Health</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6930C</td>
<td>Integrative Seminar in Public Health</td>
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PHC 6945 (Practicum) and PHC 6930C (culminating experience) are both required for all MPH students. The Practicum may be taken after completing a minimum of 30 hours, including all core courses. The Practicum may be waived if the student has at least 3 years of relevant practice experience working in a public health practice setting. The waiver request is prepared and submitted by the student, through their Faculty Advisor and Department Chair, for final approval/disapproval by the Academic Public Health Director. If the Practicum requirement is waived, the student will need to substitute 3 additional approved hours so that the total curriculum hour requirement of 45 is met. MPH students are expected to complete PHC 6930c Integrative Seminar in Public Health during their last semester in the program.

MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention with a Concentration in Maternal and Child Health
The total credit requirement for the MPH is 45 credits. The MCH Concentration is organizationally housed in the MPH Health Promotion and Disease Prevention major which includes five courses (15 credits) in the MPH Core Curriculum, four courses (12 credits) in the HPDP Major and 2 courses (6 credits) in the Practicum and Culminating Experience. The other 12 credits, as noted above will include the MCH required and MCH elective coursework.

**MPH Core Curriculum: (15 credits)**

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**Maternal and Child Health Required Courses: (6 credits)**

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<tr>
<td>PHC 6530</td>
<td>Principles of Maternal and Child Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6537</td>
<td>Case Studies in Maternal and Child Health Programs, Policies and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Elective Courses: (6 credits)**

Electives may be selected from the following list of Maternal and Child Health courses. Students must consult with a faculty advisor for approval prior to selecting elective courses not on this list.

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<tr>
<td>SOW 5240</td>
<td>Advanced Interventions in Child Maltreatment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6063C</td>
<td>Health Policy Database Applications I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6531</td>
<td>Environmental Justice in MCH</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6591</td>
<td>Reproductive Health Epidemiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6504</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Education and Wellness</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6762</td>
<td>International Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHC 6754C</td>
<td>Analytic Methods in MCH</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUN 6415</td>
<td>Pediatric Nutrition</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Practicum and Culminating Experience: (6 credits)**

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The practicum may be waived if the student has at least 3 years of relevant public health practice experience, and substituted for 3 additional MCH elective credit hours.

**Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention**

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Health is available with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. Students will be expected to demonstrate significant research capacity by completing 60 credits beyond the Master’s degree and through the writing of an original dissertation.

**Doctoral Admissions**

Applicants must meet the University's general graduate admission requirements:

1. A four-year bachelor’s degree or equivalent from a nationally accredited institution or, in the case of foreign students, from a well-established institution of higher learning that is authorized to grant degrees by appropriate authorities in that country.
2. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA, “B” average, in the last 60 upper-division undergraduate coursework, or a graduate degree from a nationally accredited institution.
3. Official GRE scores (scores must be no more than five years old).
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the IBT TOEFL or a 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required.

The College also requires:

1. A current resume.
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. A writing sample (master’s thesis or project, published manuscript, or other).
4. A personal statement of interest.

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact individual faculty to discuss common research interests since admission decisions may require identification of a potential faculty mentor.

**Doctoral Requirements**

A student may enroll for dissertation credits after completing all coursework, passing the candidacy examination, and being advanced to candidacy. Dissertation credits cannot be taken before advancement to candidacy.

The candidacy examination will be prepared and graded by a committee consisting of a minimum of three faculty members. Admission to candidacy requires that a majority of the committee members agree that the student passed the examination. A candidacy examination may not be passed conditionally. A "Pass" on the examination cannot be made contingent upon other factors such as the completion of additional coursework or the preparation of extra research projects. Students will be allowed only two attempts to pass the candidacy examination.

After a doctoral student is admitted to candidacy, continuous registration for at least 3 dissertation credit hours each semester (including the summer term) is required until the dissertation requirement is fulfilled.

**Required Courses**

The program requires a minimum of 75 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate which includes a minimum of 15 credit hours of dissertation credits. There are three components to the College Ph.D. curriculum. The first is a core curriculum shared across all majors (12 credit hours).
The second component is specific to the major (30 credit hours) and secondary field courses (9 credit hours). The third component consists of the pre-dissertation research and/or elective courses (9 credit hours), and the dissertation, including 15 dissertation credit hours.

**Shared Core Courses: (12 credits)- Required**
- PHC 6601 Emerging Issues in Public Health 3
- PHC 6091 Biostatistics 2 3
- PHC 7981 Research Concepts and Proposal Development 3
- PHC 7705 Methods in Evidence Based Public Health 3

**Courses for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Major**
A minimum of 27 hours which include a minimum of 9 hours in Methods Courses and 18 hours (with minimum of 9 at the 7000 level) in Content Courses.

**Methods Courses**: (12 credits)- Required
Major advisor and the program committee for the student will identify appropriate methods courses from an approved list.
- PHC 6055 Data Management and Epidemiologic Analysis Using SAS/SPSS 3
- PHC 7198 Advanced Qualitative Methods in Public Health 3
- PHC 7723 Survey Research in Public Health 3
- PHC 7702 Advanced Measurement in Public Health 3

*or other advisor-approved methods course

**Content Courses: (18 credits)- Required**
- PHC 6443 Ethical Issues in Public Health 3
- PHC 7162 Grant Writing in Public Health 3
- PHC 7583 Policy and Practice in Health Promotion 3
- PHC 7584 Advanced Research Designs 3
- PHC 7587 Theory Development in Health Promotion 3
- PHC 7588 History and Foundations of Public Health 3

**Secondary field courses or Additional Concentration Outside of Major: (9 credits)- Required**
Courses to be selected in consultation with advisor from University offerings in a focused area appropriate to public health.

**Pre- Dissertation Research and/or Electives (in any combination): (9 credits)- Required**
- PHC 7982 Pre-Dissertation Research 3-9

**Dissertation Requirements:(15 credits)- Required**
- PHC 7980 Dissertation 15

For additional and updated information about degrees offered, entrance requirements, and services, please visit our website: [http://stempel.fiu.edu/students/advising/index.html](http://stempel.fiu.edu/students/advising/index.html).

**Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention-Health Disparities Track**

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Health is available with a major in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. Students will be expected to demonstrate significant research capacity by completing 60 credits beyond the Master's degree and through the writing of an original dissertation.

**Doctoral Admissions**
Applicants must meet the University's general graduate admission requirements:
1. A four-year bachelor's degree or equivalent from a nationally accredited institution or, in the case of foreign students, from a well-established institution of higher learning that is authorized to grant degrees by appropriate authorities in that country.
2. A minimum of a 3.0 GPA, "B" average, in the last 60 upper-division undergraduate coursework, or a graduate degree from a nationally accredited institution.
3. Official GRE scores (scores must be no more than five years old).
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or a 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required.

The College also requires:
1. A current resume.
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. A writing sample (master's thesis or project, published manuscript, or other).

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact individual faculty to discuss common research interests since admission decisions may require identification of a potential faculty mentor.

**Doctoral Requirements**
A student may enroll for dissertation credits after completing all coursework, passing the candidacy examination, and being advanced to candidacy. Dissertation credits cannot be taken before advancement to candidacy.

The candidacy examination will be prepared and graded by a committee consisting of a minimum of three faculty members. Admission to candidacy requires that a majority of the committee members agree that the student passed the examination. A candidacy examination may not be passed conditionally. A "Pass" on the examination cannot be made contingent upon other factors such as the completion of additional coursework or the preparation of extra research projects. Students will be allowed only two attempts to pass the candidacy examination.

After a doctoral student is admitted to candidacy, continuous registration for at least 3 dissertation credit hours each semester (including the summer term) is required until the dissertation requirement is fulfilled.

**Required Courses**
The program requires a minimum of 75 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate which includes a minimum of 24 credit hours of dissertation credits. There are three components to the College Ph.D. curriculum. The first is a core curriculum shared across all majors (12 credit hours). The second component is specific to the major (27 credit hours) and secondary field courses (12 credit hours). The
third component consists of the dissertation, including 24 dissertation credit hours.

Shared Core Courses: (12 credits)
- PHC 6601 Emerging Issues in Public Health 3
- PHC 6091 Biostatistics 2 3
- PHC 7981 Research Concepts and Proposal Development 3
- PHC 7705 Methods in Evidence Based Public Health 3

Courses for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Major-Health Disparities Track
A minimum of 27 hours which include a minimum of 9 hours in Methods Courses and 18 hours (with minimum of 9 at the 7000 level) in Content Courses.

Methods Courses*: (12 credits)
Major advisor and the program committee for the student will identify appropriate methods courses from an approved list.
- PHC 6055 Data Management and Epidemiologic Analysis Using SAS/SPSS 3
- PHC 7198 Advanced Qualitative Methods in Public Health 3
- PHC 7723 Survey Research in Public Health 3
- PHC 7702 Advanced Measurement in Public Health 3
*or other advisor-approved methods course

Content Courses: (18 credits)
- PHC 6443 Ethical Issues in Public Health 3
- PHC 7932 Health Disparities Training and Development Seminar 3
- PHC 7017 Advanced Epidemiology of Health Disparity 3
- PHC 7584 Advanced Research Designs 3
- PHC 7587 Theory Development in Health Promotion 3
- PHC 7588 History and Foundations of Public Health 3

Secondary field courses or Additional Concentration Outside of Major: (9 credits)
- PHC 7466 Policy and Advocacy in Global Health Disparities 3
- PHC 7733 Theoretical Paradigms of Health Disparities Research 3

Dissertation Requirements: (24 credits)
- PHC 7980 Dissertation 24

For additional and updated information about degrees offered, entrance requirements, and services, please visit our website: [http://stempel.fiu.edu/students/advising/index.html](http://stempel.fiu.edu/students/advising/index.html).

Master of Social Work/ Master of Public Health in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HPDP) Degree Pathway
The MSW/MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention degree pathway will be an interdisciplinary, three-year pathway incorporating knowledge and skills from social work and public health with a concentration in clinical social work and Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. The first year will consist of social work courses, followed by public health courses in the second year, and a combination of social work and public health courses in the final year. The required credits for the pathway would be 90 credits.

Admissions Requirements
- Students will need to apply to and be accepted into each degree program separately in order to qualify for the combined degree pathway. Students will have to meet the regular admissions criteria for each program.
- If a student is already in progress with either the MSW or MPH, the application to the other degree program will need to be submitted by the end of the 1st year of coursework. At that time, the student must notify both programs that they are interested in pursuing the combined degree pathway.

Required Courses
Year One
Fall (14 credits)
- SOW 5105 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I 3
- SOW 5235 Social Welfare Policy and Services I 3
- SOW 5342 Social Work Practice with Individuals and Families 3
- SOW 5379L Interviewing Skills Lab 3
- SOW 5404 Social Work Methodology 3
- PHC 6706 Research Methods in Public Health 3

Spring (13 credits)
- SOW 5344 Theory and Practice with Communities & Orgs 3
- SOW 5324 Theory and Practice with Groups 3
- SOW 5532 Field Practicum I 3
- SOW 5629 Social Work Practice with Diverse Populations 3

Summer (6 credits)
- SOW 6125 Human Behavior and the Social Environment II 3
- Social Work Elective 3

Year Two
Fall (9 credits)
- PHC 6052 Biostatistics I 3
- PHC 6602 Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion 3
- PHC 6410 Health Behavior and Public Health 3

Spring (9 credits)
- PHC 6315 Introduction to Environmental Health Sciences 3
- PHC 6000 Intro to Public Health Epidemiology 3
- PHC 6102 Intro to PH Health Policy & Management 3

Summer (6 credits)
- Public Health Elective 3
- Public Health Elective 3

Year Three
Fall (12 credits)
- Social Work Elective 3
- PHC 6146 Health Promotion Program Planning and Intervention Design 3
- SOW 6236 Social Welfare Policy & Services II 3
- SOW 6435 Evaluating Empirically Based Social Work Practice 3
MSW/MPH Program in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (HPDP) with MSW Advanced Standing Status Degree Pathway

The MSW/MPH in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention with Advanced Standing degree pathway will be an interdisciplinary, two-year accelerated program incorporating knowledge and skills from social work and public health with a concentration in clinical social work and Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. Only students who already have an undergraduate degree in social work and meet the criteria for the advanced standing MSW may apply to this accelerated pathway. Both the first and second years of the pathway will involve social work and public health courses.

Admissions Process:
- Students will need to apply to and be accepted into each degree program separately in order to qualify for the combined degree pathway.
- For the MSW/MPH with advanced standing, admission to both programs must occur prior to beginning any coursework. At the time of admission, the students will need to notify both programs that they are interested in pursuing the combined degree pathway with advanced standing in social work.

Required Courses:
The required credits for the program is 66 credits.

Year One
Fall (12 credits)
SOW 6125 Human Behavior and the Social Environment II 3
PHC 6052 Biostatistics I 3
PHC 6146 Health Promotion Program Planning and Intervention Design 3
PHC 6410 Health Behavior and Public Health 3

Spring (12 credits)
PHC 6750 Program Development & Evaluation for Health Promotion 3
PHC 6000 Intro to Public Health Epidemiology 3
PHC 6102 Intro to PH Health Policy & Management 3
SOW 6435 Evaluating Empirically Based Social Work Practice 3

Summer (12 credits)
PHC 6930 Integrative Seminar in Public Health 3
SOW 6534 Field Practicum III 6
SOW 6351 Clinical Intervention in Couple and Family Social Work Practice 3

Substitutions:
- SOW 6533 Field Practicum II may substitute for PHC 6945 Practicum in Public Health with approval from internship coordinator in public health.
- Students may choose to take either PHC 6706 Research Methods in Public Health or SOW 5404 Social Work Research Methodology.
- Students must take two (2) electives in social work and two (2) electives in HPDP. The two (2) social work electives may substitute for the 3rd and 4th HPDP electives usually required.
- MSW/MPH students do not have to take PHC 6500 Foundations in Public Health.

Year Two
Fall (12 credits)
SOW 6236 Social Welfare Policy & Services II 3
PHC 6602 Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion 3
PHC 6315 Introduction to Environmental Health Sciences 3
PHC 6706 Research Methods in Public Health 3

Spring (9 credits)
SOW 6425 Clinical Assessment and Intervention Planning 3
SOW 6533 Field Practicum II 3
SOW 6351 Clinical Intervention in Couple and Family Social Work Practice 3

Summer (12 credits)
PHC 6930 Integrative Seminar in Public Health 3
SOW 6534 Field Practicum III 6
SOW 6351 Clinical Intervention in Couple and Family Social Work Practice 3

Substitutions:
- SOW 6533 Field Practicum II may substitute for PHC 6945 Practicum in Public Health with approval from internship coordinator in public health.
- Students must take two (2) electives in social work and two (2) electives in HPDP. The two (2) social work electives may substitute for the 3rd and 4th HPDP electives usually required.
- MSW/MPH students do not have to take PHC 6500 Foundations in Public Health.