

# PUBLIC HEALTH, MPH

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**Degree:** Master of Public Health (MPH)

## Program Overview

A Master of Public Health degree is designed to prepare students to address the broad mission of public health, defined as “enhancing health in human populations, through organized community effort,” utilizing education, research and community service. Public health practitioners are prepared to identify and assess the health needs of different populations, and then to plan, implement and evaluate programs to meet those needs. It is the task of the public health practitioner to protect and promote the wellness of humankind. The master of public health program prepares students to enhance health in human populations through organized community effort. Graduates are qualified to work in local and state health departments, universities and colleges, hospitals, ambulatory medical centers, non-profit organizations, and the insurance and pharmaceutical industries. The program seeks to attract a rich mix of students, including those pursuing degrees in medicine, nursing, dentistry, law, social work, anthropology, bioethics, management and other fields, as well as students holding undergraduate degrees.

Students in the MPH program can complete the program using one of two plans of study: Common Core and Intensive Research Pathway. The Common Core is the standard plan of study for MPH Students and the Intensive Research Pathway (IRP) is an alternative plan of study that allows students to gain exposure to more quantitative coursework. Students can complete any concentration regardless of their plan of study. Previous experience or education pertaining to public health may increase the student’s flexibility in course selection. Students may also enroll part-time and take courses over a three to five-year period.

Both the Common Core and the IRP address and meet all Foundational Knowledge and Core Competencies. Regardless of plan of study, all MPH students will complete the same Applied Practical Experience and Integrated Learning Experience requirements. Below is a direct plan of study comparison between the Common Core and the IRP.

## Dual Degree Information

Because of the breadth of the field of public health, the MPH Program is an ideal degree to integrate with other professional schools and graduate programs at Case. University leadership has recognized collaboration as one of the priorities for the future of the university and has approved 11 MPH dual degree programs.

Generally, dual degree students complete both degrees by adding one year of study to the partner degree. For example, an MD student could add one year to the four-year MD Program to complete his/her MD/ MPH dual degree in five years. In addition to the requirements for the partner degree program, all dual degree students will complete 27 credit hours of core MPH requirements (18 core credit hours plus 9 Culminating Experience credit hours). Of the remaining 15 credit hours, it is anticipated that 9 credit hours will be selected from courses taught

by the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences. The remaining 6 credit hours can be selected from the list of approved courses in the partner program. Students wishing to take courses not previously approved in the dual degree plan may petition to do so in writing to both partner programs. In most cases, it will be assumed that dual degree students will adopt an area of concentration specific to their shared degree area.

Dual degree students should have academic advisors from both the MPH Program and the partner program faculty. Advisors of dual degree students are encouraged to develop dialogues with their partner advisors and collaborate on students’ programs of study. This dialogue should be accomplished by a minimum of one annual group meeting of both advisors with the student to be arranged by the student. During the initial meeting, before the end of the student’s first semester, a Planned Program of Study (PPOS) is developed. The PPOS can be revised later, also with the approval of both advisors. Academic performance issues, or any other issues, are presented by the advisors to the MPH Dual Degree Partners Committee for final disposition. The MPH Dual Degree Partners Committee will adjudicate any difference in opinion between advisors.

The Director of the MPH Program, assisted by the Administrative Director, is the coordinator of the dual degree programs and provides services for student support, including special events and publications dedicated to serving the needs of dual degree students and building their sense of scholarship and community as a group.

**Important Note:** The program information contained on this page is current as of April 10, 2025. For the most current information, we advise you to review the Master of Public Health program handbook.

## Graduate Policies

For graduate policies and procedures, please review the School of Graduate Studies section of the General Bulletin.

## Program Requirements

### Common Core Curriculum:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Core required courses:</b>		
MPHP 405	Statistical Methods in Public Health	3
MPHP 406	History and Philosophy of Public Health	3
MPHP 411	Introduction to Health Behavior	3
MPHP 429	Introduction to Environmental Health	3
MPHP 439	Public Health Management and Policy	3
MPHP 483	Introduction to Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	3
<b>Culminating Experience:</b>		
MPHP 652	Public Health Capstone Experience	6
MPHP 650	Public Health Practicum	3
<b>Concentration Courses</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Electives</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>42</b>

### Intensive Research Pathway Course Requirements:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Core required courses:</b>		

MPHP 406	History and Philosophy of Public Health	3
MPHP 411	Introduction to Health Behavior	3
MPHP 429	Introduction to Environmental Health	3
MPHP 431	Statistical Methods I	3
MPHP 432	Statistical Methods II	3
MPHP 439	Public Health Management and Policy	3
MPHP 490	Epidemiology: Introduction to Theory and Methods	3
PQHS 414	Data Management and Statistical Programming	3
PQHS 465	Design and Measurement in Population Health Sciences	3
<b>Culminating Experience:</b>		
MPHP 652	Public Health Capstone Experience	6
MPHP 650	Public Health Practicum	3
<b>Concentration Courses</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>42</b>

## Concentration Requirements

Currently, four different concentrations are offered by the CWRU MPH Program: **Population Health Research, Global Health, Health Policy & Management, and Health Promotion & Disease Prevention**. Each concentration has two required courses (in addition to the core required courses), plus selective offerings to be combined for a total of 9 credit hours in concentration coursework. Students develop a Capstone project relevant to the concentration area to expand and apply the knowledge of the subject. Individual emphasis will differ from student to student within each concentration.

MPH students can also choose to expand the emphasis and depth of their program of study by electing to do a double concentration plan of study. For the double concentration, the student chooses two areas (two concentrations) of equal emphasis. The student's Capstone project must embrace and integrate both emphases. Students choosing to do the double concentration plan of study should also work closely with an advisor to ensure optimal course selection and foster the evolution of a successful Capstone project.

## Population Health Research Concentration

Coordinator - Mendel Singer, PhD, MPH

### Concentration Competencies:

- Construct a conceptual model and choose an appropriate existing data set, such as electronic health records, Medicare/Medicaid, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, Health Care Utilization Project and Health and Retirement Study, to address a specific population health research question.
- Design and perform a study consisting of a retrospective analysis of an existing data set to address a population health research question of interest
- Design efficient computer programs for data management and manipulation, statistical analysis, as well as presentation using R (or another statistical programming language, such as SAS)
- Apply advanced statistical methods for analyzing count data, categorical data, and time to event data: specifically, Poisson regression models, multinomial and ordinal logistic regression models, and Cox proportional hazard models
- Perform predictive modeling employing different strategies for model selection (best subsets and shrinkage approaches), imputation of missing values, and splitting data into training and test data sets

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Concentration Courses:</b>		
MPHP 432	Statistical Methods II	3
PQHS 515	Secondary Analysis of Large Health Care Databases	3
<b>Concentration Electives:</b>		
CRSP 500	Design and Analysis of Observational Studies	3
MPHP 426	An Introduction to GIS for Health and Social Sciences	3
MPHP 431	Statistical Methods I	3
MPHP 450	Clinical Trials and Intervention Studies	3
MPHP 467	Comparative and Cost Effectiveness Research	1
MPHP 482	Qualitative and Mixed Methods in Public Health	3
MPHP 484	Global Health Epidemiology	1 - 3
NURS 631	Advanced Statistics: Multivariate Analysis	3
NURS 632	Advanced Statistics: Structural Equation Modeling	3
PQHS 414	Data Management and Statistical Programming	3
PQHS 427	Geospatial Analytics for Biomedical Health Applications	3
PQHS 435	Survival Data Analysis	3
PQHS 440	Introduction to Population Health	3
PQHS 451	A Data-Driven Introduction to Genomics and Human Health	3
PQHS 452	Statistical Methods for Genetic Epidemiology	3
PQHS 453	Categorical Data Analysis	3
PQHS 459	Longitudinal Data Analysis	3
PQHS 465	Design and Measurement in Population Health Sciences	3
PQHS 471	Machine Learning & Data Mining	3
PQHS 491	Advanced Study Design and Analysis in Population Health Sciences	3
PSCL 412	Measurement of Behavior	3

## Global Health Concentration

Coordinator - Peter Zimmerman, PhD

### Concentration Competencies:

- Describe the relationships among agencies focused on colonial health, tropical medicine, international health and global health in a historical context
- Prioritize diseases of global health importance and their epidemiological context
- Apply methods for strengthening and focusing existing capacities and resources for health program sustainability and enhancement
- Contrast application of technology to impact priority diseases with addressing the underlying social and economic determinants of global health linked to health care delivery systems
- Apply the fundamental international principles and standards for the protection of human research subjects in diverse cultural setting

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Concentration Courses:</b>		
INTH 401	Fundamentals of Global Health	3

MPHP 484	Global Health Epidemiology	3
<b>Concentration Electives:</b>		
ANTH 459	Introduction to Global Health	3
ANTH 480	Medical Anthropology and Global Health I	3
ANTH 481	Medical Anthropology and Global Health II	3
ANTH 511	Seminar in Anthropology and Global Health: Topics	3
MPHP 426	An Introduction to GIS for Health and Social Sciences	3
MPHP 441	Climate Change and Health	3
MPHP 451	A Data-Driven Introduction to Genomics and Human Health	3
MPHP 489	Women's Public Health	3
MPHP 496	The Evolution of Public Health into Global Health Practice	3
MPHP 540	Operational Aspects of Global Health and Emergency Response	3
POSC 457	Economic, Environmental, and Health Challenges: The Impact of Democracy	3

## Health Policy & Management Concentration

Coordinator - Kate Nagel, DrPH

### Concentration Competencies:

- Apply the principles of program development, planning, budgeting, and resource management in organizational or community initiatives
- Describe how policy impacts healthcare delivery and outcomes
- Apply a continuous quality and performance improvement framework to address organizational coordination and performance
- Identify methods for decision making using evidence-based, systems thinking, and data-driven approaches to health policy and management
- Identify how access, quality, and cost are influenced by organizational or financial structures

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Concentration Courses:</b>		
MPHP 468	The Continual Improvement of Healthcare: An Interdisciplinary Course	3
MPHP 456	Health Policy and Management Decisions	3
<b>Concentration Electives:</b>		
BETH 417	Introduction to Public Health Ethics	3
HSMC 420	Health Finance	3
HSMC 425	Dialogues in Healthcare Management	3
LAWS 4201	Health Law	3
LAWS 5218	Health Care Organizations, Finance, and Regulation	3
LAWS 5220	Health Care Controversies	2
MPHP 412	Racism and Public Health	3
MPHP 433	Community Interventions and Program Evaluation	3
MPHP 467	Comparative and Cost Effectiveness Research	1
MPHP 482	Qualitative and Mixed Methods in Public Health	3
MPHP 540	Operational Aspects of Global Health and Emergency Response	3
POSC 457	Economic, Environmental, and Health Challenges: The Impact of Democracy	3

POSC 483	Health Policy and Politics in the United States	3
SASS 500	Special Topics in Applied Social Sciences	1 - 6
SOCI 457	Sociology of Human Rights	3

## Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Concentration

Coordinator - Erika Trapl, PhD

### Concentration Competencies:

- Assess needs for health interventions for the general public as well as at-risk populations
- Systematically evaluate health promotion strategies across typologies of evidence
- Apply system complexity concepts in the context of nested individuals, social networks, organizations, and communities (i.e., systems nested within systems) in the analysis of public health problems and solutions
- Develop health education/health promotion strategies that create an understanding of and respect for the importance of culture in practice and policy
- Apply social and behavioral theory and planning models and evidence-based health promotion strategies for a variety of populations in the development of a health education/health promotion plan

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Required Concentration Courses:</b>		
MPHP 413	Health Education, Communication, and Advocacy	3
MPHP 433	Community Interventions and Program Evaluation	3
<b>Concentration Electives:</b>		
ANTH 435	Illegal Drugs and Society	3
BETH 417	Introduction to Public Health Ethics	3
BETH 419	Medical Science and Technology in Society	3
MPHP 412	Racism and Public Health	3
MPHP 426	An Introduction to GIS for Health and Social Sciences	3
MPHP 441	Climate Change and Health	3
MPHP 467	Comparative and Cost Effectiveness Research	1
MPHP 409	Addictions & Dual Diagnoses	3
MPHP 468	The Continual Improvement of Healthcare: An Interdisciplinary Course	3
MPHP 482	Qualitative and Mixed Methods in Public Health	3
MPHP 484	Global Health Epidemiology	1 - 3
MPHP 485	Adolescent Development	3
MPHP 489	Women's Public Health	3
MPHP 496	The Evolution of Public Health into Global Health Practice	3
MPHP 540	Operational Aspects of Global Health and Emergency Response	3
NTRN 401	Nutrition for Community and Health Care Professionals	2 - 3
POSC 457	Economic, Environmental, and Health Challenges: The Impact of Democracy	3
SASS 500	Special Topics in Applied Social Sciences	1 - 6

SOCI 457	Sociology of Human Rights	3
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**Important Note:** The program information contained on this page is current as of April 10, 2025. For the most current information, we advise you to review the Master of Public Health program handbook. You can find the most recent Program Handbook [here](#).

## Sample Plan of Study

### First Year

Fall		Credit Hours
MPHP 406	History and Philosophy of Public Health	3
MPHP 411	Introduction to Health Behavior	3
MPHP 483	Introduction to Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>9</b>

### Spring

MPHP 405	Statistical Methods in Public Health	3
MPHP 429	Introduction to Environmental Health	3
MPHP 439	Public Health Management and Policy	3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>9</b>

### Second Year

Fall		
MPHP 650	Public Health Practicum	3
Concentration Course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>12</b>

### Spring

MPHP 652	Public Health Capstone Experience	6
Concentration Course		3
Concentration Course		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>42</b>

## Dual Degree Options

- Anthropology, MA/Public Health, MPH
- Anthropology, PhD/Public Health, MPH
- Bioethics and Medical Humanities, MA/Public Health, MPH
- Business Administration, MBA/Public Health, MPH
- Dental Medicine, DMD/Public Health, MPH
- Nutrition, MS/Public Health, MPH
- Nursing, MSN/Public Health, MPH
- Programs Toward Graduate or Professional Degrees
- Public Health, MPH/Law, JD
- Public Health, MPH/Medicine, MD
- Public Health, MPH/Social Work, MSW