Public Health Dr.P.H. (Concentration in Biostatistics)

Degree Requirements: 60 Credit Hours

Degree Admission Requirements

Regular 1

To complete an application to the Dr.P.H. program, applicants must submit the following:

• Completion of an application in SOPHAS.
• Official transcript(s) from a regionally accredited college or university showing courses completed, grades earned, dates, and degree(s) awarded. Transcript(s) must show completion of at least one (1) course in of the following five (5) areas:
  • biostatistics
  • epidemiology
  • social and behavioral sciences in public health
  • health policy and management
  • environmental health sciences
• Courses must have been completed in the last five (5) years, and each must have been passed with a grade of "B" or better. Applicants who have not completed these courses, but whose applications show exceptional potential for success in the Dr.P.H. program, may be admitted to the Dr.P.H. program, but will be required to complete the courses (as presented in the JPHCOPH MPH core course requirements) with grades of "B" or better before enrolling in doctoral level courses;
• Three (3) letters of recommendation. Two must be from graduate faculty members and it is encouraged that the third letter be from a work supervisor;
• Official scores from the GRE (General Test) taken in the last five (5) years. An original copy of the test score, sent by the testing agency to the Office of Admissions, is required before any action is taken on an application. A copy of the score provided to the student and subsequently forwarded is not acceptable. The requirement for completion of a standardized test will be waived for those applicants who hold a doctoral degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
• All international applicants, including resident and non-resident aliens, whose native language is not English and who do not have an undergraduate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. college or university, are required to submit official TOEFL scores taken within the year immediately proceeding the requested semester of admission. A minimum total score of 83 is required, with minimum scores of 20 for each of the skills evaluated by the TOEFL: Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing) An original copy of the test score, sent by the testing agency to the Office of Admissions is required before any action is taken on an application. The copy of the score provided to the student and subsequently forwarded is not acceptable;
• Personal statement/letter of interest emphasizing reasons for pursuing Dr.P.H. (700-1000 words);
• Current curriculum vitae or resume;
• Environmental health sciences

Applications for admission into the Dr.P.H. program will be based on a review of the applicant’s Graduate Record Examination scores, recommendations for successful graduate study, and previous academic training. The college also considers the compatibility of the student's interest areas with those of the faculty and curriculum emphases. Admission is based on the totality of the applicant’s work, educational experience, recommendations, and other application data. A single application criterion will not be used to outweigh other criteria in making recommendations for admission.

Admission into the Dr.P.H. program requires a master’s degree in public health (M.P.H.) or an acceptable equivalent. Students should have master’s level grade point averages and Graduate Record Examination scores that are acceptable as determined by the faculty. Students who have not completed the public health core as part of their master’s degree must do so by taking an approved course in each of the following areas: biostatistics, environmental health sciences, epidemiology, health policy and management, and social and behavioral sciences.

Admission to the Dr.P.H. is highly selective to ensure that all accepted into the program have the potential to become effective practitioners and applied researchers.

NOTE: Prerequisite undergraduate course work may be required. Contact the Division Director in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health for complete information.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 7132</td>
<td>Scientific Basis of Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 9132</td>
<td>Public Health Perspectives in Community-Based and Translational Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 9134</td>
<td>Professionalism and Ethics in Public Health Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9130</td>
<td>Biostatistical Consulting</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9131</td>
<td>Advanced Statistical Theory for Biostatistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9132</td>
<td>Advanced Clinical Trials</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9133</td>
<td>Advanced Statistical Theory for Biostatistics II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9134</td>
<td>Stochastic Process for Biological Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9135</td>
<td>Advanced Survival Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9231</td>
<td>Bayesian Statistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 9333</td>
<td>Applied Longitudinal Data Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives

Must take 15 hours of Advisor Approved Electives

Doctoral Public Health Field Preceptorship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 9790</td>
<td>Doctoral Preceptorship in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 300 hours of field experience under the joint direction of a public health faculty member and a qualified specialist working in the area of concentration.

Dissertation
Biostatistics Concentration Competencies

At the completion of the Dr.P.H. degree program all Biostatistics students will be able to:

• Design a public health and biomedical investigation in terms of the experimental design, data to be collected that reflect research objectives, number of subjects needed, and specification of appropriate methods for analysis.
• Analyze public health and biomedical data using appropriate statistical software such as SAS, R and S-plus.
• Interpret analytic methods used in the public health and biomedical journals, as well as critique published reports of public health and biomedical experiments as to the validity of the inferential conclusions.
• Develop new biostatistical methods and new ideas for applying existing biostatistical methods to applications in public health and the biomedical sciences.
• Develop written and oral reports to communicate effectively with research investigators the pivotal aspects of a study, including: design, study objectives, data analysis methodology, results and conclusions.
• Create a collaborative environment for working on written and oral reports.

Advisement

Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health
P.O. Box 8015
Statesboro, GA 30460
Phone: (912) 478-2674
FAX: (912) 478-5811
http://jphcoph.georgiasouthern.edu