Public Health Dr.P.H. (Concentration in Community Health Behavior and Education)

Degree Requirements: 60 Credit Hours

Regular

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 one 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 M.P.H. 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;

Non-degree Admission Requirements

An applicant may be admitted to the COGS as non-degree students to earn credit in Public Health graduate courses without working toward a Dr.P.H. Interested applicants should consult the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies for the types of Non-Degree admission as well as the requirements for admission in this category.

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</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 7132</td>
<td>Scientific Basis of Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 9132</td>
<td>Public Health Perspectives in Community-Based and Translational Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 9134</td>
<td>Professionalism and Ethics in Public Health Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHBE 9130</td>
<td>Research Methods in Community and Behavioral Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHBE 9230</td>
<td>Community-Based Public Health Program Planning and Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHBE 9235</td>
<td>Communication and Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHBE 9331</td>
<td>Health Disparities and the Rural Underserved</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHBE 9335</td>
<td>Global Health and Preparedness</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHBE 9630</td>
<td>Doctoral Seminar in Community Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 8136</td>
<td>Theoretical Perspectives of the Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 9630</td>
<td>Public Health Doctoral Seminar</td>
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Electives

Must take 15 hours of Advisor Approved Electives

1 Applicants may be required to take prerequisite coursework prior to taking program concentration courses. Conditions of admission will be presented in the letter of acceptance to each student.
Doctoral Public Health Field Practicum

PUBH 9790 Doctoral Preceptorship in Public Health 3

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

PUBH 9999 Dissertation 9

Total Credit Hours 60

Social and Behavioral Sciences Competencies

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

- Identify basic theories, concepts and models from a range of social and behavioral disciplines that are used in public health research and practice.
- Communicate and interact with people across diverse disciplines, communities and cultures for development of programs, policies, and research.
- Develop collaborative partnerships with communities, policy makers, and other relevant groups.
- Engage communities in creating evidence-based, culturally competent programs.
- Understand community-based participatory intervention and research projects.
- Design action plans for enhancing community and population-based health.
- Assess cultural, environmental, and social justice influences on the health of communities.
- Implement culturally and linguistically appropriate programs, services, and research.

Advisement

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