The Department of Community Health Behavior and Education at Georgia Southern University’s Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health is designed to prepare you for community-based public health interventions. You will learn to solve problems in the field of public health and prepare for a variety of leadership positions, especially those in community health programs.

Community Health Behavior and Education Major


Community Health Behavior and Education Minors


Community Health Behavior and Education Concentration


PUBH 2130 Foundation of Health Education and Promotion

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

This course introduces students to the field of health education. The historical origins of health education, selected learning theories, emerging issues and trends in the field, and professional responsibilities of health educators in various practice settings will be examined.

PUBH 2130H Foundation of Health Education and Promotion

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

This course introduces students to the field of health education. The historical origins of health education, selected learning theories, emerging issues and trends in the field, and professional responsibilities of health educators in various practice settings will be examined.

PUBH 3128 Multicultural and Social Determinants of Health

3 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

This course introduces the characteristics, causes, and effects of health disparities in the U.S. Health Care System. It also provides students with a foundation to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to become culturally competent health educators. The course explores how health education and promotion is shaped by the cultural, social, and economic contexts in which individuals function. Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130.

PUBH 3130 Substance Use and Abuse

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

This course explores legal and illegal drug use in modern society. Issues related to the social, cultural, political, and economic impact of drug use will be discussed. The emphasis in the course will be on prevention, treatment, and effective education techniques for various practice settings and target populations. Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in HLTH 1520. Cross Listing(s): PUBH 310H.

PUBH 3130H Substance Use and Abuse

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

This course explores legal and illegal drug use in modern society. Issues related to the social, cultural, political, and economic impact of drug use will be discussed. The emphasis in the course will be on prevention, treatment, and effective education techniques for various practice settings and target populations. Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in HLTH 1520. Cross Listing(s): PUBH 310H.

PUBH 3132 Health Care Systems and Advocacy

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

This course introduces students to the background and development of administrative settings for health care delivery in the United States by exploring trends and issues based on current health and medical care programs and practices and analyzing the current organizational structure of medical care services in the United States. Topics to be examined include the medical care process, factors affecting supply and distribution of health professionals and health facilities, health care costs, and financing of care through health insurance and governmental programs. Students will also learn health advocacy skills to plan community based interventions. Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130. Cross Listing(s): PUBH 312S.

PUBH 3132S Health Care Systems and Advocacy

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

This course introduces students to the background and development of administrative settings for health care delivery in the United States by exploring trends and issues based on current health and medical care programs and practices and analyzing the current organizational structure of medical care services in the United States. Topics to be examined include the medical care process, factors affecting supply and distribution of health professionals and health facilities, health care costs, and financing of care through health insurance and governmental programs. Students will also learn health advocacy skills to plan community based interventions. Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130. Cross Listing(s): PUBH 312S.
PUBH 3136 Principles of Environmental Health
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course examines health issues, scientific understanding of causes, and possible future approaches to control the major environmental health problems in industrialized and developing countries. Topics include how the body reacts to environmental pollutants; physical, chemical, and biological agents of environmental contamination; vectors for dissemination (air, water, soil); solid and hazardous waste; susceptible populations; biomarkers and risk analysis; the scientific basis for policy decisions; and emerging global environmental health problems.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130.

PUBH 3136S Principles of Environmental Health
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course examines health issues, scientific understanding of causes, and possible future approaches to control the major environmental health problems in industrialized and developing countries. Topics include how the body reacts to environmental pollutants; physical, chemical, and biological agents of environmental contamination; vectors for dissemination (air, water, soil); solid and hazardous waste; susceptible populations; biomarkers and risk analysis; the scientific basis for policy decisions; and emerging global environmental health problems.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130.

PUBH 3230 Community Health
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course exposes the student to concepts, theories, terms, models, resources, people and experiences which are related to community health issues and programs with a focus on the role of health educators in various community health settings. An examination of affiliations, functions, responsibilities, skills and networks used by community health educators will be included.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130 or permission of instructor.

PUBH 3231 Epidemiology and Biostatistics
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course introduces the student to the principles and practice of epidemiology and biostatistics. Students will be exposed to the historical development of epidemiology, concepts of causality, definitions of health and disease, and sources of community health data. Current principles and practices in the cause, prevention and control of diseases in various community settings will be emphasized.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130.

PUBH 3330 Modifying Health Behaviors
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course examines the major theoretical models used in public health practice for modifying health behavior. The efficacy of interventions in relation to current practices in public health, best practices and applications of theory-driven health behavior change are studied within the context of community-based settings. The focus of the class is to identify the critical factors necessary to create health behavior change in order to address the current Healthy People goals and objectives.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130.

PUBH 3331 Stress Theory and Management in Health Promotion
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course explores issues related to the etiology of stress and stressors with emphasis on environmental, organizational, interpersonal and individual patterns of stress in various health promotion settings. Competency in the active management of stress and mobilizing support in health settings will be evaluated.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in HLTH 1520.

PUBH 3430 Sexuality Education
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course explores contemporary issues in human sexuality and prepares future health professionals to conduct sexuality education with diverse populations in a variety of settings (i.e., school, community, or worksite). Content is intended to help students increase their knowledge of sexuality, improve their ability to educate and promote sexual health and develop skills to increase their comfort level in discussing human sexuality.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in HLTH 1520.

PUBH 3531 Consumer Health
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course prepares individuals to make intelligent decisions regarding the purchasing and use of health products and services that will have a direct effect on their health. Allows students to explore the relationships among consumerism, health and education. Students will investigate consumerism, marketing and advertising as foundational aspects of consumer health. In addition, students will survey a variety of health related products and services to determine the implications and consequences of their use.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in HLTH 1520.

PUBH 3611H Health Honors Thesis Seminar I
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Hour. 0 Lab Hours.
This is a seminar course that prepares students to complete a senior honors thesis proposal.

PUBH 3612H Health Honors Thesis Seminar II
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Hour. 0 Lab Hours.
This is a seminar course that prepares students to complete a senior honors thesis proposal.

PUBH 4090 Selected Topics in Public Hlth
1-3 Credit Hours. 1-3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
Allows the student the opportunity to receive specialized and/or focused instruction in a public health topic not generally offered by the College.

PUBH 4090S Selected Topics in Public Hlth
1-3 Credit Hours. 1-3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
Allows the student the opportunity to receive specialized and/or focused instruction in a public health topic not generally offered by the College.

PUBH 4099 Selected Topics in Health Science
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Hour. 0 Lab Hours.
This course provides the student with in-depth study of selected topics in health science.

PUBH 4099S Selected Topics in Health Science
1-3 Credit Hours. 1-3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course provides the student with in-depth study of selected topics in health science.

PUBH 4132 Health Education and Promotion Program Planning I
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course introduces students to the theory and application of community-based program planning and evaluation. The first of a two-course sequence, the focus will be on the development of a health promotions program plan designed to apply course content to a real-life health issue. Concepts in community assessment, organization, and mobilization for the purpose of addressing identified public health concerns will serve as the foundation for the planning process.
Prerequisite(s): PUBH 2130.
Corequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 4134.

PUBH 4133 Health Education and Promotion Program Planning II
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course introduces students to additional theory and application of community-based program planning and evaluation. The second of a two-course sequence, the focus will be on program implementation, evaluation, and reporting of the health promotion plan developed during the prior semester. Students will gain first-hand experience in conducting an evaluation of community health education program.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 4132.
PUBH 4134 Research Methods and Evaluation in Health Education and Promotion
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course introduces the student to research methods used in health education and promotion. Examines the rationale and procedure to evaluate health education/promotion programs. Focuses on several topics including: research design, methods of program evaluation, planning research and evaluation, the politics and ethics of evaluation, measurement, sampling logistics, data analysis and the development of a student project.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130.
Corequisite(s): PUBH 4132.

PUBH 4195S International Studies Abroad in Health and Promotion
3-9 Credit Hours. 3-9 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course offers students the opportunity to examine health, nutrition and food science, or kinesiology practices in a foreign country through travel abroad. Classroom instruction will be combined with on-site experiences to provide a realistic learning experience.

PUBH 4230 Maternal and Child Health
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course will review the historical and contemporary maternal and child health trends and issues. The application of health behavior and education theories to understanding the health status of women and their children will be central to the course. Particular emphasis will be placed on promotion and education efforts designed to improve the health, well-being and quality of life for women and children in the United States.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in HLTH 1520.

PUBH 4231 Health Aspects of Aging
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course examines the aging process from a health education perspective. Students will become acquainted with the process of and problems associated with aging in order to effectively manage this important public health issue. Knowledge and understanding of biological, psychological, and sociological aspects of aging as related to health and wellness will also be addressed.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in HLTH 1520.

PUBH 4330 Promotional Strategies for Health Programs
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course explores the application of social marketing and communication theory to the development of strategies to enhance health education and promotion programs.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in PUBH 2130.

PUBH 4611H Health Honors Thesis Seminar III
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Hour. 0 Lab Hours.
In a seminar setting, students will continue writing and revising their thesis. This course provides the student with the opportunity to revise manuscript proposal based upon previous work in Honors Thesis Seminar I and II. Student will be guided through primary data collection and analysis. Student will also complete writing the first draft of the Research Manuscript adhering to current APA style manual.

PUBH 4612H Health Honors Thesis Seminar IV
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Hour. 0 Lab Hours.
Students will complete an Honors Research thesis and successfully defend their original research project to their Research Director and Research Committee. Revisions to the Honors thesis will be based upon feedback from the oral defense. To demonstrate proficiency in oral research presentation, students will present their original research at the Honor's Research Symposium and Phi Kappa Phi Research Symposium. Finally, students will be required to submit the final Research Manuscript for publication in a professional format.

PUBH 4618 Senior Seminar in Health Education and Promotion
1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Hour. 0 Lab Hours.
This course provides senior level Health Education and Promotion majors with a colloquium in which to discuss current issues and topics, with a focus on professional ethics, professional employment opportunities, internships, development and growth and current research themes within the profession.

PUBH 4798 Internship in Health Education and Promotion
12 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course provides the senior level Health Education and Promotion majors with a practical experience in an appropriate health setting. Students must complete all course work in the Health Education and Promotion major prior to enrolling in this course.

PUBH 4890 Directed Individual Study
1-3 Credit Hours. 1-3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
Provides the student with an opportunity to investigate an area of interest under the direction of a faculty mentor.

PUBH 4899 Directed Individual Study
1-3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course provides the student with the opportunity to investigate an area of interest under the direction of a faculty mentor.

PUBH 5520 Introduction to Public Health
2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.
This course is designed to give students a foundation in the core functions of population-based public health (assessment, policy development and assurance). In addition, this course will examine the 10 essential services of public health within these core functions. Defining effective public health practice and providing knowledge about the technical, social, and political parameters related to public health research and practice are goals for this class. Students will gain an understanding of public health as a broad area of work that applies the benefits of current biomedical, environmental, social, and behavioral knowledge in ways that maximize the health status of all populations.
Cross Listing(s): PUBH 5520G.