Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health

The Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH) created January 2006 and accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). The College exists to provide public health education, research, and community service that will positively impact the quality of life and health disparities of rural and underserved populations. The establishment of the College was made possible by a generous gift from Dr. Karl E. Peace, in memory and honor of his wife, Dr. Jiann-Ping Hsu.

Vision

The Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health will be the nationally recognized leader in the empowerment of rural communities and underserved populations to address public health issues, eliminate health disparities and improve health outcomes.

Mission

The mission of the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health is to improve health, eliminate health disparities and health inequities of rural communities and underserved populations globally through excellence in teaching, public health workforce development, research, scholarship, professional service and community engagement.

College Structure

- Department of Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Environmental Health Sciences (http://catalog.georgiasouthern.edu/archive/2018-2019/graduate/jiann-ping-hsu-public-health/biostatistics-epidemiology-and-environmental-health-sciences)

About Public Health

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has defined the role of public health as “...the fulfillment of society’s interest in assuring the conditions in which people can be healthy” (IOM, 1988).

Public health activities focus on improving the health of communities. Public health is also defined as the art and science of promoting health, preventing disease, and prolonging life among human populations; the broad mission of public health is to enhance human health through organized community efforts (Council on Education for Public Health, 1978).

A diverse and ever-expanding field of practice, public health embraces an ecological approach that recognizes the interactions and relationships among multiple determinants of health. It involves the dissemination of reliable information for policy decisions; identifying systemic inequalities and problems; protecting the public’s health and safety through education and research; and fostering partnerships with individuals, communities, and organizations to promote health.

Though public health involves the knowledge and application of many disciplines in its research, teaching, service, and practice activities, the following have been identified as fundamental, core areas to the practice of public health (CEPH Accreditation Criteria, 2011):

- Biostatistics - collection, storage, retrieval, analysis and interpretation of health data; design and analysis of health-related surveys and experiments; and concepts and practice of statistical data analysis;
- Environmental Health Sciences - environmental factors including biological, physical, and chemical factors that affect the health of a community;
- Epidemiology - distributions and determinants of disease, disabilities, and death in human populations; the characteristics and dynamics of human populations; and the natural history of disease and the biologic basis of health;
- Health Policy & Management - planning, organization, administration, management, evaluation, and policy analysis of health and public health programs; and
- Community Health Education/Social and Behavioral Sciences - concepts and methods of social and behavioral sciences relevant to the identification and solution of public health problems.

The teaching, research, and service activities of the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health are grounded in these core public health knowledge areas. Our goals for workforce development, community-based research and community-based service help us focus our efforts on cross disciplinary projects that build on the synergistic effects of these core knowledge areas.

Public health is concerned with protecting the health of communities, both small and large. Public health professionals focus on building on assets and preventing problems from happening or re-occurring through implementing educational programs, developing policies, administering services, and conducting research in concert with, but in contrast to, clinical health professionals (e.g., physicians and nurses) who focus primarily on treating individuals after they become sick or injured. No matter what form public health assumes, its goal is always the same: to improve the quality of life of individuals, families, and communities by focusing on prevention, promotion, and protection.

This preventive model encompasses three core functions:

1. assessing and monitoring the health of communities and at-risk populations to identify health problems and establish priorities;
2. formulating public policies in collaboration with community and government leaders designed to prioritize and solve local and national health problems; and
3. assuring that all populations have access to appropriate and cost-effective health care, including health promotion and disease prevention services, and evaluating the effectiveness of the care.

Our Shared Values

The Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health is endowed by Dr. Karl E. Peace as a tribute to his wife and an enduring celebration of her life characterized by "a zeal for excellence, consideration of others, intelligence and scholarship, honesty, kindness and humility." In honor of Dr. Hsu, the faculty, students and staff of the JPHCOPH commit to demonstrate these values in our behavior toward one another and to those that we serve.

In 2007, the JPHCOPH students, faculty and staff worked together to clarify the following list of shared core values. These values serve to guide decision making for our workforce development, research, professional service and community engagement activities. We will also use these
values to help us make choices about how to move forward when the path is not clear.

- Excellence in research, service and instruction.
- Passion for improving the health of rural communities and underserved populations.
- Responsibility for promoting health equity and eliminating health disparities in rural communities and underserved populations.
- Commitment to community involvement.
- Collaboration for problem solving.
- Commitment to developing as a “learning organization”.

Experiential Learning Opportunities

All M.P.H. students are required to complete a practicum experience and an integrated capstone experience. The practicum and capstone experience are both competency-based. The 300 hour in agency practicum provides the student the opportunity to further develop and integrate skills learned in the classroom. An electronic portfolio about the practicum is submitted at completion of the 300 hours. The capstone experience serves to facilitate problem solving skills through the integration of public health principles across all concentrations. Elements of these two experiences make up the culminating experience for the M.P.H.

All Dr.P.H. students are required to complete a preceptorship in Public Health, candidacy exams and a Dissertation. The preceptorship/field experience consists of 300 hours of field experience under the joint direction of a qualified specialist working in selected areas of public health. An electronic portfolio about the activities and outcomes of the experience is required upon completion of the preceptorship. Students must successfully pass a candidacy exam on the core and concentration competencies to begin the preceptorship and dissertation. The doctoral dissertation is a culminating experience that requires the student to synthesize and integrate knowledge and apply theory and principles learned to an area of public health practice within the area of concentration. The dissertation must also be presented and successfully defended before the faculty.

Advisement

Graduate students are advised by the Coordinator of Student Services and mentored by a faculty member from the Student’s concentration area.

Programs

Master’s


Doctoral


Certificates


Endorsements

No results were found.

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