Maternal & Child Health Major—M.P.H.

The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) curriculum is comprehensive, emphasizing comprehension of the latest research and scientific knowledge in the field as well as skill development in methodology and analysis, management and communication, and policy and advocacy. Faculty members in MCH work collaboratively with faculty throughout the University, with particularly strong linkages to the adolescent health program in the Medical School, and the Institute of Child Development. MCH faculty are also internationally and nationally recognized as researchers and they have strong local community ties and collaborations that allow students access to rich experiences.

**Program Curriculum**

There are three programs in the Maternal and Child Health major.

- The Standard program has a 48-credit minimum.

- The MCH Epidemiology program has a 48-credit minimum. Those admitted into this program must demonstrate stronger quantitative skills than students applying to the standard program. This program is designed for students who have a strong interest in pursuing a career that will involve data collection, management, and analysis.

- The 42-credit online program is designed for individuals with an advanced degree (e.g., M.D., M.S., M.S.W., M.Ed.) or individuals without an advanced degree who have at least three years of relevant experience.

**Standard Program Curriculum**

**Scientific Basis of MCH (8 credits)**

- 4 courses from the following list:
  - Global Reproductive Health (PubH 6000, 2 credits)
  - Reproductive and Perinatal Health (PubH 6605, 2 credits)
  - Children’s Health: Issues, Programs and Policies (PubH 6606, 2 credits)
  - Adolescent Health: Issues, Programs and Policies (PubH 6607, 2 credits)
  - Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (PubH 6613, 2 credits)
  - Maternal and Infant Nutrition (PubH 6900, 2 credits)
  - Child and Adolescent Nutrition (PubH 6903, 2 credits)
  - Global Nutrition (PubH 6906, 2 credits)

**Methodological and Analytical Skills (7–14 credits)**

- Program Evaluation for Public Health Practice (PubH 6034, 3 credits)
- Applied Research Methods (PubH 6035, 3 credits)
- Data Processing with PC-SAS (PubH 6325, 1 credit)

3 courses from the following list:

**Contact Information**

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- Epidemiologic Methods II (PubH 6342, 3 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods III (PubH 6343, 4 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods III Lab (PubH 6390, 2 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods IV (PubH 6344, 2 credits)
- Biostatistics II (PubH 6451, 4 credits)
- Practical Methods for Secondary Data Analysis (PubH 6617, 3 credits)
- Qualitative Research Methods (PubH 6636, 2 credits)
- Community Health Assessment (PubH 6705, 2 credits)
- Principles of Public Health Research (PubH 6806, 2 credits)
- Critical Review of Research in Public Health Nutrition (PubH 6910, 1 credit)
Management and Communication Skills (4 credits)
- Grant Writing for Public Health (PubH 6673, 1 credit)
- Foundations of Maternal and Child Health Leadership (PubH 6630, 3 credits)

Additional Courses in Management, Policy, or Advocacy (2–3 credits)
1 course from the following list:
- Building Communities, Increasing Health: Preparing for Community Work (PubH 6066, 2 credits)
- Mass Communication and Public Health (PubH 6074, 3 credits)
- Public Health Policy as a Prevention Strategy (PubH 6078, 2 credits)
- Health Care Finance (PubH 6557, 2 credits)
- Advocacy and Children’s Rights (PubH 6634, 2 credits)
- Health Leadership and Effecting Change (PubH 6727, 2 credits)

Public Health Core (14–17 credits)
- Fundamentals of Social and Behavioral Science (PubH 6020, 3 credits)
- Environmental Health (PubH 6101, 2 credits) or Issues in Environmental and Occupational Health (PubH 6102, 2 credits)
- Fundamentals of Epidemiology (PubH 6320, 3 credits) OR Epidemiologic Methods I (PubH 6341, 3 credits)
- Biostatistical Literacy (PubH 6414, 3 credits) OR Biostatistics I (PubH 6450, 4 credits)
- Ethics in Public Health: Professional Practice and Policy (PubH 6741, 1 credit) OR Ethics in Public Health: Research and Policy (PubH 6742, 1 credit)
- Principles of Management in Health Services Organizations (PubH 6751, 2 credits)

Field Experience and Culminating Experience Project (4 credits)
Field Experience (PubH 7696, 2 credits)
- Culminating Experience Project (PubH 7694, 2 credits)

MCH Epidemiology Program Curriculum

Scientific Basis of MCH Epidemiology (6 credits)
1 of the following two courses:
- Reproductive and Perinatal Health (PubH 6605, 2 credits)
- Women’s Health (PubH 6675, 2 credits)

One course from the following list:
- Genetics in Public Health (PubH 6381, 2 credits)
- Epidemiology and Control of Infectious Diseases (PubH 6385, 2 credits)
- Public Health Aspects of Cardiovascular Disease (PubH 6386, 2 credits)
- Cancer Epidemiology (PubH 6387, 2 credits) • Nutritional Epidemiology (PubH 6389, 2 credits)

1 course from the following list:
- Global Reproductive Health (PubH 6686, 2 credits)
- Children’s Health: Issues, Programs, and Policies (PubH 6606, 2 credits)
- Adolescent Health: Issues, Programs, and Policies (PubH 6607, 2 credits)
- Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (PubH 6613, 2 credits)
- Maternal and Infant Nutrition (PubH 6902, 2 credits)
- Child and Adolescent Nutrition (PubH 6903, 2 credits)
- Global Nutrition (PubH 6906, 2 credits)

Methodological and Analytical Skills (14 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods II (PubH 6342, 3 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods III (PubH 6343, 4 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods III Lab (PubH 6390, 2 credits)
- Biostatistics II (PubH 6451, 4 credits)
- Data Processing with PC-SAS (PubH 6325, 1 credit) OR Introduction to SAS Programing (PubH 6420, 1 credit)

Management & Communication Skills (1 credit)
- Grant Writing for Public Health (PubH 6673, 1 credit)
- Foundations of Maternal and Child Health Leadership (PubH 6630, 3 credits)

Additional Courses in Management, Policy, or Advocacy (2–3 credits)
- Building Communities, Increasing Health: Preparing for Community Health Work (PubH 6066, 2 credits)
- Mass Communication and Public Health (PubH 6074, 3 credits)
- Public Health Policy as a Prevention Strategy (PubH 6078, 2 credits)
- Advocacy and Children’s Rights (PubH 6634, 2 credits)

Public Health Core (15 credits)
- Fundamentals of Social and Behavioral Science (PubH 6020, 3 credits)
- Environmental Health (PubH 6101, 2 credits) OR Issues in Environmental and Occupational Health (PubH 6102, 2 credits)
- Epidemiologic Methods I (PubH 6341, 3 credits)
- Biostatistics I (PubH 6450, 4 credits)
- Ethics in Public Health: Professional Practice and Policy (PubH 6741, 1 credit) OR Ethics in Public Health: Research and Policy (PubH 6742, 1 credit)
- Principles of Management in Health Services Organizations (PubH 6751, 2 credits)

Field Experience and Culminating Experience Project (4 credits)
- Field Experience (PubH 7696, 2 credits)
- Culminating Experience Project (PubH 7694, 2 credits) Electives (to total 48 credits)

Electives should be taken in an area of concentration and approved by the advisor.
MCH Online Program Curriculum

Scientific Basis of MCH (5 credits)
- Immigrant Health Issues (PA 5451, 3 credits)
- Global Reproductive Health (PubH 6686, 2 credits)
- Children's Health: Issues, Program, and Policies (PubH 6606, 2 credits)
- Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (PubH 6613, 2 credits)
- Maternal and Infant Nutrition (PubH 6902, 2 credits)
- Child and Adolescent Nutrition (PubH 6903, 2 credits)

Methodological and Analytical Skills (5 credits)
- Program Evaluation (PubH 6852, 2 credits)
- Community Based Participatory Research (PubH 6650, 1 credit)
- Focus Group Interviews (PubH 7200, 1 credit)
- Data Analysis from Focus Groups (PubH 7200, 1 credit)
- Community Health Data (PubH 7200, 1 credit)
- Clinical Trials (PubH 7400, 3 credits)
- Intro to SAS (PubH 6420, 1 credit)
- Continuous Quality Improvement (PubH 3 credits)

Management & Communication Skills (6.5 credits)
- Grant Writing (Nurs 5925, 1 credit)
- Principals and Programs of MCH in the US (PubH 6655, credit 1)

Select a minimum of 2 courses from the following list:
- Foundations of Public Health (PubH 6700, 2 credits)
- Motivational Interviewing (PubH 6005, 1 credit)
- Health Leadership and Effecting Change (PubH 6727, 2 credits)
- Culturally Responsive Leadership and Management (PubH 7200, 1 credit)
- Public Health is a Team Sport: The Power of Collaboration (PubH 6299, 1.5 credits)

Public Health Core (14 credits)
- Fundamentals of Social and Behavioral Science (PubH 6020, 3 credits)
- Issues in Environmental and Occupational Health (PubH 6102, 2 credits)
- Fundamentals of Epidemiology (PubH 6320, 3 credits)
- Biostatistical Methods I (PubH 6414, 3 credits)
- Ethics in Public Health: Professional Practice and Policy (PubH 6741, 1 credit) OR Ethics in Public Health: Research and Policy (PubH 6742, 1 credit)
- Principles of Management in Health Services Organizations (PubH 6751, 2 credits)

Master’s and Field Experience (4 credits)
- Field Experience (PubH 7696, 2 credits)
- Master’s Project (PubH 7694, 2 credits)

Electives (to total 42 credits)

Interdisciplinary Concentration Areas
Interdisciplinary concentrations are optional secondary areas of study to further personalize and enrich the M.P.H. degree. Students have the option of concentrating their studies in one of four areas: global health, health disparities, complementary and alternative medicine, and policy. Students are not required to identify a concentration area, but interested students may do so after they are admitted.

Dual/Joint Degrees
The School of Public Health offers numerous joint and dual degree options in collaboration with schools and colleges across the University. The MCH program offers Dual Degrees with Law and Social Work.

Admission Preferences
Admission requires a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited college or university. Admissions committees in each major review applicants according to their personal statements, background and experience, record of academic achievement, demonstrated academic potential, letters of recommendation, compatibility of interests with program faculty, and other factors. Test scores and GPAs provide competitive points of reference for admission but are not used exclusively in the admissions review.

Preferred Performance Levels
- GPA of 3.0
- Combined GRE (verbal, quantitative) score of 300, and a 3.5 analytical writing score
- TOEFL score of 600 on the paper test or 250 on the computer-based test or 100 on the internet-based (iBT) test for applicants whose native language is not English

Prerequisites
- A minimum of one year of experience in a clinical, community-based, public health, or managed-care agency/program that focuses on women, children, adolescents, and/or families.
- Basic understanding of physiological and/or psychological human development as demonstrated by coursework, experience, and/or referenced readings.
- Applicants for the MCH Epidemiology curriculum should have evidence of quantitative skills through GRE scores, coursework, and/or professional experience.

Fall Application Deadlines
- Priority: December 1
- Final: April 15

Admission Decisions
The admissions committee begins review of applications in mid-December. Applicants are notified about admission decisions by mail approximately six weeks after their completed application is received by the major.