MPH Foundation and Public Health Practice (PHP)
Program Specific Competencies

PHP students are required to fulfill the 5 PHP program competencies either through the Applied Practice Experience (APE) or Integrated Learning Experience (ILE) or courses.

- For the Applied Practice Experience (APEx) PHP students are required to address at least 5 competencies and at least 3 must be MPH foundational competencies and the others can be PHP program-specific competencies.
- For the Integrated Learning Experience (ILE) students are required to address at least 3 competencies that may be a combination of MPH foundational and PHP program-specific competencies.

MPH 22 Foundation Competencies
Established and required from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)
Effective fall 2018

Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health
1. Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice
2. Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
3. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate
4. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice

Public Health & Health Care Systems
5. Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings
6. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels

Planning & Management to Promote Health
7. Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities’ health
8. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs
9. Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention
10. Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
11. Select methods to evaluate public health programs

Policy in Public Health
12. Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
13. Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
14. Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations
15. Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity

Leadership
16. Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision making
17. Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges
Communication
18. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
19. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
20. Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content

Interprofessional Practice
21. Perform effectively on interprofessional teams

Systems Thinking
22. Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue

Public Health Practice program-specific competencies
Effective Fall 2018

Public Health Practice competencies are based on the domains established by The Council of Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice. Students may fulfill the public health competencies with either the applied practice or integrated experiences or coursework.

Competency 1 - Identify the rational and key steps for policy development: assessment, planning, implementing, advocacy and evaluation.

Policy Development/Program Planning skills focus on determining needed policies and programs; advocating for policies and programs; planning, implementing, and evaluating policies and programs; developing and implementing strategies for continuous quality improvement; and developing and implementing community health improvement plans and strategic plans.

Competency 2 – Develop skills in systemic thinking and understand how systems are connected and interdependent, and understand the potential consequences that systems may have on communities.

Systems Thinking and Leadership skills focus on incorporating ethical standards into the organization; creating opportunities for collaboration among public health, health care, and other organizations; mentoring personnel; adjusting practice to address changing needs and environment; ensuring continuous quality improvement; managing organizational change; and advocating for the role of governmental public.

Competency 3 - Explain the effects of policies, programs, community-based interventions that promote improving health for different populations in communities.

Cultural Competency skills focus on understanding and responding to diverse needs, assessing organizational cultural diversity and competence, assessing effects of policies and programs on different populations, and taking action to support a diverse public health workforce.

Competency 4 – Demonstrate how to turn data into information and action to influence public health policies and programs.

Analytical/Assessment skills focus on identifying and understanding data, turning data into information for action, assessing needs and assets to address community health needs, developing community health assessments, and using evidence for decision-making.

Competency 5 – Demonstrate how data and information is developed and conveyed to different audiences (professionals and the public) using a variety of media approaches.

Communication skills focus on assessing and addressing population literacy; soliciting and using community input; communicating data and information; facilitating communications; and communicating the roles of government, health care, and others