

Program Director

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Mission Statement

The Maternal and Child Health program at the George Washington School of Public Health and Health Services is a Master of Public Health (MPH) program designed to train individuals to become responsible and productive public health professionals with an emphasis on MCH populations. This program investigates maternal and child health from a multi-disciplinary perspective that integrates the life course, biological, demographic, epidemiological, developmental, environmental, behavioral and social characteristics that are unique to the health and well-being of women, children and families.

Goals

The goals of this educational program are to provide and improve:

- ◆ Knowledge and skills to assess the health care needs of women, children, and families
- ◆ Ability to plan, design, implement, evaluate and communicate programs and research targeted toward health promotion, disease prevention among women, children, and families

Course Requirements

All George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services (SPHHS) MPH students who select the Maternal and Child Health Program enroll in Core Courses (17 credits) and Program-Specific Courses and electives (28 credits). The 45 total credit requirement includes a Practicum experience, where students apply their classroom education in a Maternal and Child Health organization and/or research endeavor.

Program-Specific Competencies

The Association of Teachers of Maternal and Child Health have outlined 5 basic competency areas in MCH that our program strives to attain:

1. Scientific Basis of MCH public health practice
2. Methodological/Analytical Skills
3. Management and Communication Skills
4. Policy and Advocacy Skills
5. Values and Ethics in MCH Public Health Practice

Upon Completion of the MPH, Maternal and Child Health Program students should possess the following functional competencies:

- **Assess the individual, community, organizational and societal needs of women, children, and families.**

Students should be able to assess existing health related data and data sources on the health and well-being of women, children and families. Students should be able to collect health related data, distinguish between those factors that foster or hinder health and wellbeing, and infer needs of women, children and families from an assessment of health needs. Relevant courses: PubH 370, 371, 372, 368, 369, 381, 380, 386, 374, 373, 364

- **Plan MCH related strategies, interventions and programs to improve the health of women, children and families.**

Student should have the ability to formulate appropriate and measurable program objectives, involve people and organizations in planning, develop a program plan with a logical scope and sequence, design strategies, interventions and programs that are consistent with the program objectives, select appropriate strategies to meet objectives and assess factors that may affect program implementation. Relevant courses: PubH 207, 371, 372, 376, 373, 365, 383

- **Implement strategies, interventions and programs to meet the health needs of women, children and families.**

Students should have the knowledge on how to implement planned programs, to initiate a plan of action, select methods that best meet the program objectives and assess program implementation materials. Relevant courses: PubH 371, 380, 365

- **Conduct evaluation and research related to the health and well-being of women, children and families.**

Students should have the ability to develop plans for evaluation and research, design/evaluate existing data collection instruments, interpret results from evaluation and research and infer implications from evaluation and research into the health and wellbeing of women, children and families. Relevant courses: PubH 370, 371, 372, 368, 381, 380, 386, 374, 376, 365, 383, 364

- **Administer MCH strategies, interventions and programs.**

Students should have the knowledge to exercise professional leadership, conduct strategic planning, apply ethical standards to the administration of programs and practice of public health, and communicate and foster cooperation among the community and public to meet the needs of women, children and families. Relevant courses: PubH 369, 376, 365, 387

- **Communicate and advocate for health and well-being of women, children and families.**

Students should have the capability to use health related information resources, select resource materials for dissemination, analyze and respond to current and future needs in MCH, apply a variety of communication methods and techniques, assess appropriateness of health education messages, techniques and dissemination, influence health policy to promote the health and well being of women, children and families. Relevant courses: PubH 370, 369, 376, 373, 387, 363

- **Knowledge and skills to incorporate a life course perspective to the health and well-being of women, children and families.** Relevant courses: PubH 370, 371, 372, 368, 369, 381, 380, 374

Please see the curriculum sheets that follow.

<p>THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER WASHINGTON DC</p>		<p>School of Public Health and Health Services</p> <p>Master of Public Health Maternal and Child Health Program</p> <p>Program-at-a-Glance 2009-10</p>		
Begin Planning Your Practicum During Year 1				
Required Core Courses				
Required Core Course		Credits	Semester Offered	Grade
PubH 201	Biological Concepts for Public Health	2	Fall, Spring, Summer I	
PubH 202	Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	Fall, Spring, Summer 10 wk	
PubH 203	Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3	Fall, Spring, Summer 10 wk	
PubH 204	Environmental & Occup Health in a Sustainable World	2	Fall, Spring, Summer I	
PubH 205	Policy Approaches to Public Health	2	Fall, Spring, Summer 10 wk	
PubH 207	Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health	2	Fall, Spring, Summer	
PubH 208	Management Approaches to Public Health	3	Fall, Spring, Summer 10-wk	
Total	Core Credits	17		
Required Department-Specific Courses				
Required Department Core Courses		Credits	Semester Offered	Grade
PubH 363	Introduction to Public Health Communication and Marketing	3	Fall, Spring	
PubH 382	Planning and Administration of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs (pre-req: PubH 207)	2	Fall, Spring	
PubH 383	Evaluation of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs (pre-req: PubH 382)	3	Fall, Spring	
Required Program Courses				
PubH 370	Maternal and Child Health I (NOTE: must be taken in the first spring semester enrolled in the program)	3	Spring	
PubH 371	Maternal and Child Health II (pre-req: PubH 370)	2	Spring	
PubH 372	Reproductive Health: US and Global Perspectives	2	Fall	
Choose 2 of 3				
PubH 368 &/or	Women's Health &/or	2	Spring	
PubH 369 &/or	Adolescent Health and Development &/or	2	Fall	
PubH 381	Child Development and Public Health	2	Fall	
Select 3 credits from this list (see advisor for modifications)				
PubH 225	Introduction to Children's Health and the Environment	2		
PubH 249	Use of Statistical Packages: Data Management and Analysis	3	Fall, Spring	
PubH 323	Scientific Basis of Global Health Interventions	2	Fall	
PubH 361	Community-Oriented Primary Care (COPC): Principles & Practice	3	Fall	
PubH 364	Qualitative Methods in Health Promotion	2	Spring	
PubH 373	Maternal and Child Policy Analysis	2	Fall	
PubH 374	Children and Youth with Special Needs	2	Fall	
PubH 376	Preventing Health Disparities	2	Fall	
PubH 380	Maternal and Child Nutrition	1 – 2	Summer (1 credit) Spring (2 credits)	
PubH 386	School Health and Safety	1 – 2	Summer (1 credit) Spring (2 credits)	
PubH 387	Community Organization, Development and Advocacy	3	Fall	
PubH 396	Social Marketing: Theory and Practice	3	Spring	
	Electives: Any SPHHS Graduate Course(s)	2	Summer, Fall, Spring	
PubH 214.18	Practicum	2	See Advisor	
PubH 215.18	Culminating Experience	2	See Advisor	
Course Distribution		Credits		
Public Health Core Courses		17		
Department Specific Courses		8		
Program-Specific Courses		14		
Electives		2		
Practicum		2		
Culminating Experience		2		
Total Degree Credits		45		

School of Public Health and Health Services
Master of Public Health and Graduate Certificate Program

Maternal and Child Health

2009-2010

Note: All curriculum revisions will be updated immediately on the website <http://www.gwumc.edu>

Graduation Requirements
MPH

1. **Graduate Credit Requirement.** 45 graduate credits are required.
2. **Course Requirements.** Successful completion of the Core Courses and the Program-Specific Courses are required.
3. **Grade Point Requirement.** A 3.0 (B average) overall grade point average is required.
4. **Time Limit Requirement.** The degree must be completed within four years.
5. **Transfer Credit Policy.** Up to 12 graduate credits that have not been applied to a previous graduate degree may be transferred to the MPH. Up to 18 credits may be transferred to the MPH from the SPHHS Graduate Certificate. Credits must have been earned from an accredited institution in the last 3 years with a grade point of 3.0 or better.

Graduation Requirements
Graduate Certificate

1. **Graduate Credit Requirement.** 18 graduate credits are required.
2. **Graduate Credit Requirement for students enrolled concurrently in a SPHHS Degree Program.** 12 credits are required.
3. The Program Director/Advisor must pre-approve all course selections and course sequencing by developing a "program of study" prior to the student's initial registration. Graduate Certificate students meet with their advisor each semester before registration. All changes in this program of study must be pre-approved by the Program Director/Advisor.
4. **Course Requirements.** Since most graduate certificate students are currently enrolled in an MPH program or have previously earned a graduate degree, most course credits will be selected from the program-specific course list. Under no circumstances may a certificate student enroll in fewer than 9 credits of program-specific courses.
5. **Grade Point Requirement.** A 3.0 (B average) overall grade point average or better is required.
6. **Time Limit Requirement.** The certificate must be completed within two years.
7. **Transfer Credit Policy.** The Program Director/Advisor may approve up to 4 graduate credits that have not been applied to a previous graduate degree to be transferred to the graduate certificate. (Exceptions: GW master's students and alumni may transfer up to 6 credits of the master's degree to the Graduate Certificate.) The course(s) must be relevant to the graduate certificate. Credits must have been earned from an accredited institution in the last 3 years with a grade point of 3.0 or better.

Maternal and Child Health Course Descriptions

SPHHS Required Core Courses
(17 Credits)

PubH	201	Biological Concepts for Public Health	2	Provides an overview of current knowledge about biological mechanisms of major diseases causing death and disability in the US and globally; understanding and interpreting the reciprocal relationships of genetic, environmental, and behavioral determinants of health and disease in an ecologic context; analyzing, discussing, and communicating
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				biologic principles of disease from a public health perspective. Fall, Spring , Summer 1
PubH	202	Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	Application of biostatistical principles to critical analysis of retrospective studies, prospective studies, and controlled clinical trials, as well as studies in the health services literature. Selection, basic calculations, and interpretation of statistical methods for detection of significant associations and differences. Fall, Spring, Summer 10 weeks
PubH	203	Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3	General principles, methods, and applications of epidemiology. Outbreak investigations, measures of disease frequency, standardization of disease rates, study design, measures of association, hypothesis testing, bias, effect modification, causal inference, disease screening, and surveillance. Case studies apply these concepts to a variety of infectious, acute, and chronic health conditions affecting the population. Fall, Spring, Summer 10 weeks
PubH	204	Environmental and Occupational Health	2	Examines the connection between population health and exposures to chemical, physical, and biological agents in the environment. Through the use of problem-solving frameworks, students will become familiar with data sources, methodologies and policy approaches being used to address the public health impacts of environmental and occupational health hazards, including the consequences of climate change, natural resource degradation, and industrial chemicals. The course will integrate key concepts of environmental health with principles of sustainability to illustrate how public policies and practices on the local, national and global level affect population health. Fall, Spring, Summer I
PubH	205	Policy Approaches to Public Health	2	Introductory multidisciplinary course focusing on the interplay of all aspects of global public health on health policy problems. Students will learn how health policy is made, how health care and public health services are delivered, and how to define and analyze key health policy problems drawing on the perspectives and skills of the public health disciplines. Fall, Spring, Summer 10 weeks
PubH	207	Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health	2	Emphasizes social and behavioral science theories, models, and concepts that can be applied to public health problems and interventions. Describes the role of social and community factors, including race/ethnicity and culture, in both the onset and solution of public health problems and describe the inter-relationship between the social/behavioral science. Fall, Spring, Summer I
PubH	208	Management Approaches to Public Health	3	An advanced multidisciplinary course examining global public health and health delivery issues through the use of a case study approach. Prerequisites: PubH 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, and 207. Fall, Spring, Summer 10 weeks

**Required Department Courses
(8 Credits)**

PubH	363	Introduction to Public Health Communication and Marketing	3	Communication theories and methods used in promoting health and preventing disease. Theoretical background in communication and behavior science and practical communication development methods. Fall, Spring
PubH	382	Planning and Administration of Health Promotion, Disease Prevention Programs	2	In this course students will develop skills to effectively plan, implement, and manage programs that address public health problems for defined populations in a variety of settings. The PRECEDE/PROCEED framework will be used to guide this process. Pre-requisite PubH 207. Fall, Spring
PubH	383	Evaluation of Health Promotion Disease/ Prevention Programs	3	Provides students with the knowledge, competencies and skills to plan and implement and evaluation of health promotion-disease prevention programs for a defined population at risk. Pre-requisite PubH 382 Fall, Spring

**Required Program Courses
(12 Credits)**

PubH	370	Maternal and Child Health I	3	Public health issues affecting the health and well-being of women, children, and families. A multidisciplinary
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				perspective that integrates the biological, demographic, epidemiological, economic, behavioral, social, cultural and environmental aspects. Spring
PubH	371	Maternal and Child Health II	2	Specific intrapersonal, interpersonal, community, and social interventions and programs that impact the well-being of women, children, and adolescents. Students critically analyze current issues and apply theory to practice by using population-focused and evidence-based frameworks. Prerequisite: PubH 370, Fall
PubH	372	Reproductive Health: US and Global Perspectives	2	Reproductive health from a variety of public health perspectives, from defining reproductive health, past perspectives, needed improvements, and the factors that influence reproductive health. Fall
PubH	368	Women's Health	2	Issues of women's health through the life cycle. The process of critically evaluating women's health research and issues. Spring
PubH	369	Adolescent Health and Development	2	Issues of physical, mental, and social development and their bearing on the health of adolescents, with special emphasis on prevention. Fall
PubH	381	Child Development and Public Health	2	Examination of the development of children from a public health perspective and provide a detailed examination of the indicators of children's health that are needed to assist public health professionals improve children's health. Fall
PubH	225	Introduction to Children's Health and the Environment	2	Describes the impact of environmental toxicants on children's health and reviews some of the major policy issues in the field of children's environmental health. Prerequisites: PubH 204. Spring
PubH	323	Scientific Basis of Global Health Interventions	2	Introduces the scientific basis of global health interventions and how they address proximal and underlying determinants of health. Successful students will obtain a strong technical grounding in the determinants, biology and pathogenesis of specific diseases, for which affordable tools for prevention, control, and case management exist and are in use in public health practice. Fall, Spring
PubH	249	Use of Statistical Packages: Data Management and Analysis	3	This course familiarizes the student with one of the most widely used database management systems and statistical analysis software packages, the SAS System, operating in a Windows environment. Throughout the course, several database management system techniques and data analytical strategies for the appropriate analysis of datasets obtained from a variety of studies will be presented. Statistical techniques covered include linear regression, analysis of variance, logistic regression, and survival analysis. Prerequisite: PubH 202. Fall, Spring
PubH	361	Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC): Principles and Practice	3	Theory and practice of community-oriented primary care, including an extended small group exercise carrying out a COPC project with a simulated community using Web-based data sets. Fall
PubH	364	Qualitative Methods in Health Promotion	2	Application of qualitative methods in the development of health promotion interventions, evaluations, and research. Collecting and analyzing qualitative data through participant observation, interviewing, group methods, and case studies. Prerequisite: PubH 207. Spring
PubH	373	Maternal and Child Health Policy Analysis	2	Maternal and child health policy in the U.S., particularly policies related to organizations, financing, delivery, and quality oversight of personal health services for mothers and children. Public policy development at the national, state, and local levels. Prerequisite: PubH 370. Fall
PubH	374	Children and Youth with Special Needs	2	In order to place children and youth with special needs into a public health framework, this course presents an introduction to and an overview of children and youth with special needs due to a developmental disability. Many aspects of developmental disability will be addressed including 'concept' and definitions of disability, causes, epidemiological considerations, and development of federal legislation. The scope and range of developmental disabilities will be reviewed along with classification schemes. Both national and international distributions will be considered from a sociopolitical viewpoint. Fall
PubH	376	Preventing Health Disparities	2	Critical evaluation of the current issues in racial and ethnic issues in health care. Introduces students to differences and disparities in the access, use, and health outcomes of health care in the US. Fall

PubH	380	Maternal and Child Nutrition	1 to 2	Covers the nutritional needs of women during the child bearing years, infants, children and adolescents. The course emphasizes the life course approach to nutrition and has a special emphasis on the effects of diet during infancy on obesity and degenerative diseases in later life. Students will examine the biological basis of nutrition, identify risk factors associated with poor nutrition in individuals and populations and evaluate domestic and international programs designed to meet the nutrient needs of this important segment of the population. Summer (1 credit), Spring (2 credits)
PubH	386	School Health and Safety	1 to 2	Examines the history, organization, financing, and politics of school health programs. It will provide an overview of the core components of school health as defined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention: health services, health education, physical education, nutrition services, counseling or mental health, school environmental health, health promotion, and family/community involvement. Summer (1 credit), Spring (2 credits)
PubH	387	Community Organization, Development, and Advocacy	3	Educates health promotion practitioners in how to organize community groups to promote health. The focus is on learning how to use resources available in the community to advocate change. Prerequisite: PubH 207, Fall, Spring
PubH	396	Social Marketing Theory and Practice	3	Focuses on the use of marketing to change the behavior of people, populations, and policy makers in ways that are in their, and society's, best interest. Students in this skills-based course will study and work in teams to apply a range of marketing strategies to a real-world situation. Prereq: PubH 363. Spring

Practicum and Culminating Experience

PubH	214.18	Practicum	1-3	This course provides the opportunity for MPH students to apply the knowledge and skills acquired through their programs of study. A planned, supervised and evaluated practice experience that is relevant to the student's program is an essential component of a public health professional degree program. These opportunities can take place in a variety of agencies or organizations. Each program customizes Practicum requirements to meet students' needs. (Credit/No Credit) Summer, Fall, Spring
PubH	215.18	Culminating Experience	2-3	A culminating experience is one that requires a student to synthesize and integrate knowledge acquired in coursework and other learning experiences and to apply theory and principles in a situation that approximates some aspect of professional practice. It is through this course that faculty evaluates the extent to which the student has mastered the body of knowledge and can demonstrate proficiency in the required competencies. Each program customizes Culminating Experience requirements to meet students' needs. Summer, Fall, Spring