PUBLIC HEALTH (PU)

PU500: Foundations in Public Health
This course provides an introduction to the world of public health. You will study the historical contexts of public health, and its underlying philosophy and values. The biological/genetic, behavioral/psychological, and social/cultural factors related to human health will be examined in relation to basic concepts of prevention. You will analyze the techniques of managing and leading the public health enterprise; locally, nationally, and globally. Globalization and the global burden of disease addressed by public health systems will be discussed. This course contains several public health case studies that will expose you to the interdisciplinary skills, knowledge, and critical thinking demanded by today’s public health workforce.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU505: Health Behavior
This course provides a conceptual grounding in theoretical approaches to health behavior, emphasizing the use of psychosocial theories and models of health behavior for effective health education and public health practice and research. You will apply the theories and models of health behavior to real-world scenarios encountered in health education and public health. The course focuses on the various factors that influence health behavior, the impact on health and disease of populations, and the implications for health programming.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU520: Principles of Epidemiology
This course introduces the epidemiologic methods, concepts, and issues that are critical for the assessment, analysis, and interpretation of health-related data. You will study epidemiologic methods used in surveillance, outbreak investigation, screening, and epidemiologic measures, and apply these methods to relevant public health issues.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU530: Environmental Health
This course presents an overview of the basic concepts of environmental health. You will explore the relationships between human health and environmental contaminants, including those within a workplace. Major areas of focus include epidemiological studies, risk assessments, and environmental policies. You will explore different interventions to reduce exposure to environmental hazards, including regulation. The roles and responsibilities of local, state, national, and international health organizations are introduced.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU535: Public Health Biology - A Global Perspective
The impact of biological processes in infectious and chronic disease, as related to the mechanisms of causation, disease transmission, host risk factors, and host vulnerabilities, is presented. The underlying pathophysiologic mechanisms and internal and external triggers are studied to help maintain health and wellness, prevent and treat disease, and plan control strategies and effective interventions to improve global health on the individual and population level.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU545: Disaster Management for Public Health Professionals
This course examines incident preparedness and response from a variety of public health dimensions including: acute and chronic health care delivery, impact on vulnerable populations, delivery of basic human services, epidemiologic response, and effective collaborations in public health preparedness planning. Students learn how to prepare for and address disruptions of public health systems arising from disasters.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU550: Public Health Leadership and Administration
Leading a health organization requires a diverse skill set. In this course, students will study the delivery, quality, and costs of health services for individuals, organizations, and populations in a variety of global settings. Students will study the structure, process, and outcomes of health services including the costs, financing, structure, outcomes, and accessibility of care. Students will study ways to improve health organizations and make ethical and economic decisions for organizational solvency. Each student will form a personalized leadership development plan for future professional growth.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU610: Public Health Program Development
In this course you are introduced to the principles of program development and evaluation in public health. Topics include methods of design, development, implementation, and evaluation of public health programs to improve individual and community health.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU615: Grant and Contract Writing
This course provides an overview of the grant writing process including how to find grants, types of grants, and grant management of awarded grants. This includes how to develop an idea, how to write clear goals and objectives, how to develop a budget, and how to assess and evaluate your grant-funded program. In addition, basic contract formulation will be addressed.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU625: Global Health - Cultural and Health Systems Impacts
This course introduces you to the main concepts of global health. You will review the global burden of disease using key measurements. You will analyze the social, political, and economic determinants of health and investigate global health disparities. You will investigate the global impact of health policies as well as interventions for disease prevention globally.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU630: Health Education and Communication
This course focuses on the role of health education and communication in the practice of health education and public health. The coursework will include the principles of successful health education, its basis in health behavioral theories, and methods of health education. The student will design a health education campaign using the modern and traditional methods of communication to deliver culturally appropriate, effective health education of public health importance.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU650: Infectious Disease Epidemiology
In this course you are introduced to the scope and practice of infectious disease epidemiology. Topics include historical context, definitions, nomenclature, outbreak investigation, vaccine-preventable diseases, and types of infectious diseases. You will also explore the global aspects of infectious disease in the modern world.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None
PU660: Global Health and Epidemiology
This course investigates current global health issues and trends. You will explore several specific global health issues such as communicable disease, chronic disease, malnutrition, water and sanitation, violence against women, and child health. You will investigate causes of and trends in these issues as well as research and brainstorm potential solutions, including global policy. You will assess global health topics from the perspective of social, economic, environmental, and cultural determinants of health and through a lens of health equity.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: None

PU680: Practical Skills in Public Health I
You will demonstrate public health knowledge and skills by working within a health organization. Through this onsite learning experience, you will engage with other public health professionals and train for the public health workforce. An onsite preceptor and University faculty member will evaluate student performance.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: PU550 and permission from the Clinical Placement Team

PU690: Practical Skills in Public Health II
In a continuation of Practical Skills in Public Health I, you will further develop practical skills related to working in the public health sector. Through this onsite learning experience, you will engage with other public health professionals and train for the public health workforce. An onsite preceptor and University faculty member will evaluate your performance. You will also complete written assignments in the course in order to reflect on skills and knowledge applied in the field of public health.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: PU680 and permission from the Clinical Placement Team

PU699: Master of Public Health Capstone
The Master of Public Health (MPH) Capstone provides a culminating, integrative experience in which you apply public health principles outside of the typical classroom setting. In this course, you will bridge the journey from a graduate student to public health professional through a series of activities, which can be personalized to meet your specific career goals. By successfully completing this course, you will have attained relevant experiences and professional deliverables that highlight your occupational potential in the public health workforce.
Quarter Credit Hours: 4 | Prerequisite: Last term or permission from the Dean