

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Description and Outcomes

Public health professionals work to improve the health of populations ranging from communities as large as several countries to those as small as a single neighborhood. Public health practice includes designing and implementing health interventions, studying diseases and injuries affecting specific populations, and promoting healthy behaviors. Public health professionals also develop health policy and legislation, manage health services and facilities, and serve as consultants on a wide range of health initiatives. The Master of Public Health program prepares you to pursue diverse career opportunities across public health and private industries.

The Master of Public Health curriculum provides core knowledge and skills in the foundational areas of public health. The program emphasizes essential public health concepts and practical competencies needed to enter and advance in the field. You will explore key concepts such as biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health sciences, health policy, and social and behavioral sciences. Coursework is designed to help you apply public health principles to real-world situations while developing strong administrative, ethical, and professional skills. These competencies position you for leadership roles in the growing field of population health across local, state, and federal settings, as well as private organizations. You will have the opportunity to select elective courses in specialized areas of interest, allowing you to tailor your education to your career goals.

The program culminates in a capstone project that integrates and applies public health knowledge to a real-world issue or scenario without the involvement of human research participants. This culminating experience provides you with an opportunity to demonstrate readiness for professional practice in the public health workforce.

Concentrations

You can personalize your degree with a concentration in epidemiology, public health informatics, or public health leadership and administration.

Program Length

The Master of Public Health program consists of a minimum of 64 quarter credit hours. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be awarded the Master of Public Health degree.

Program Outcomes

1. **Disciplinary Knowledge and Skills:** Analyze the impact of the social determinants of health on population-level outcomes.
2. **Research and Analysis:** Appraise current and relevant health issues and policies.
3. **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving:** Incorporate an evidence-based approach that is culturally and linguistically appropriate.
4. **Professionalism and Ethics:** Leverage ethical principles, epidemiological concepts, and socio-behavioral frameworks to make recommendations for public health practice.
5. **Leadership and Teamwork:** Apply leadership and management principles to address a relevant issue.
6. **Communications:** Demonstrate professional competence in communicating effectively with diverse target groups.

Professional Competencies

In addition to the discipline-specific outcomes, professional competencies are integrated throughout your academic program. You can review the professional competencies associated with your academic program in the Professional Competencies (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/graduate/professional-competencies/>) section of this Catalog.

Program Availability

For program availability, please refer to the U.S. State and Other Approvals (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/accreditation-approvals-memberships/>) section and Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>).

Policies

Admissions Requirements

You must meet the below admissions requirements in addition to Purdue Global's general requirements (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/>).

Progression Requirements

If you are a graduate of a medical, osteopathic, naturopathic, chiropractic, or pharmacy program from an accredited university and hold the MD, DO, ND, DC, or PharmD degree, you may receive transfer credit fulfilling PU520 Principles of Epidemiology, PU535 Public Health Biology - A Global Perspective, and any available elective credits in your degree plan. Total credit awarded will range from 8 to 20 credits, depending on your election of a concentration.

To receive credit, by the end of the first term an official transcript must be received from your doctoral degree-granting institution. Transcripts received after the end of the first term may be denied eligibility for an official transfer credit evaluation.


Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams

Certification and licensure boards have state-specific educational requirements for programs that lead to a license or certification that is a precondition for employment. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information.

Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please see Purdue Global's Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>) to determine enrollment eligibility.

You are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. Such requirements may change during the course of your program. You are not automatically certified in any way upon program completion. Although certain programs are designed to prepare you to take various optional certification exams, Purdue Global cannot guarantee you will be eligible to take these exams or become certified. Your eligibility may depend on your work experience, completion of education and/or degree requirements, not having a criminal record, and meeting other certification requirements.

Degree Plan

The  icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module courses. Module course availability may be limited to certain academic calendars. See Course Types (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/approach-to-learning/>) for information about module courses.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		
HA545	Health Policy	4
HI501	Health Informatics	4
PU501	Fundamentals of Public Health and Health Systems	4
PU508	Social and Behavioral Theory and Frameworks	4
PU520	Principles of Epidemiology	4
PU525	Biostatistics for Public Health	4
PU535	Public Health Biology - A Global Perspective	4
PU555	Foundations of Public Health Research	4
PU605	Public Health Programming	4
PU635	Survey of Environmental and Occupational Health	4
PU685	Issues and Concepts in Maternal and Child Health	4
PU699	Master of Public Health Capstone	4
Total Core Requirements		48
Open Elective Requirements		
Health Electives ¹		16
Total Open Elective Requirements		16
TOTAL CREDITS		64

¹ Students enrolled in the non-concentration option must take PU545 Disaster Management within their health electives.

Concentration Requirements

Concentration courses are completed within the health electives requirement of the degree plan.

Students in this program are not required to select a concentration.

Epidemiology

Code	Title	Credits
PU565	Qualitative and Quantitative Methods	4
PU570	Chronic Disease Epidemiology	4
PU580	Environmental Epidemiology	4
PU650	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	4
TOTAL CREDITS		16

Public Health Informatics

Code	Title	Credits
HI520	Database Design and SQL	4
HI530	Clinical Terminologies, Vocabularies, and Information Standards	4
HI560	Health Care Data Analytics	4
HI570	Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Information	4
TOTAL CREDITS		16

Public Health Leadership and Administration

Code	Title	Credits
HA510	Organizational Development in Health Care	4
HA520	Health Care Financial Management	4
HA540	Health Care Operations and Quality Assessment	4
PU550	Public Health Leadership and Administration	4
TOTAL CREDITS		16