

New York University Bulletin



UNDERGRADUATE 2010-2012

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Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

Applied Psychology

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Public Health

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Program Director

Public health is a broad social enterprise. The field of public health is concerned with protecting, promoting, and improving the health and well-being of populations, particularly those most vulnerable in today's society.

Public health draws on an interdisciplinary approach to solving problems to extend the benefits of current knowledge in ways that will have the maximum impact on the health status of a population.

With social justice as the foundation of public health, those who study and practice in this field are concerned with the many conditions that influence health and well-being, including social, economic, political, and medical care factors.

Those engaged in this field are concerned with questions as diverse as these:

- What is the best way to reduce deaths from malaria in sub-Saharan Africa?
- What can governmental and nongovernmental agencies do to improve the safety of the nation's food supply?
- How can tobacco consumption be reduced worldwide?

- What types of strategies can be put in place in schools, neighborhoods, and communities to reduce violence?
- What public policies might help to reduce rates of childhood obesity?
- How can access to life-saving pharmaceutical drugs be improved in less developed countries?
- Should special consent be required for HIV testing?
- How can we improve access to health care in this country? What are the pros and cons of different policy proposals to do that?
- How is climate change affecting public health in different parts of the world?
- What kinds of systems need to be put in place to deal with natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina?
- What is the best way to reduce the use of illegal drugs?

While those who deliver essential health care services—in medicine (as doctors, emergency technicians, physician assistants), nursing (as nurses or nurse practitioners), dentistry, or other allied health fields—are part of our nation's public health workforce, those choosing to prepare themselves for a public health career typically focus their work on developing policies and programs that support the creation of well-being and the prevention of disease. They focus their studies on disease prevention and health promotion in neighborhoods, schools, communities, and in government, examining how to deliver services, craft public policies, improve environments, and equip people with information to protect their own health.

Curriculum

The curriculum in public health requires completion of 129 credits. These are divided into six categories:

Required Credits

Liberal Arts Requirements	63
Public Health Major	32
Research	4
Internship	4
Electives by Advisement	10
Unrestricted Electives	16

New Student Seminar

Students must enroll in New Student Seminar E03.0001 (0 points) during the first semester in residence, to review basic college-level skills and to obtain an introduction to NYU's academic and personal resources and services.

Study Abroad

Overseas travel, study, and/or work provide extraordinary opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of other cultures and to gain new perspective on national and international public health issues and policies.

NYU Global Sites: Public health majors may study for one semester or one year at any of NYU's global study sites in Accra (Ghana), Berlin, Buenos Aires, Florence, London, Madrid, Paris, Prague, Shanghai, and Tel Aviv. NYU in Ghana offers Health and Society, one of the core courses of the B.S. degree, as well as opportunities for students to do public health community service projects arranged through the NYU campus.

Alternative Breaks: NYU's short-term alternative breaks program during winter and spring breaks may take students to such destinations as Mexico, Peru, or other countries to work on health and environmental projects in local communities.

Dean's Research Travel

Colloquia: Offered by Steinhardt to honors students, Dean's Research Travel Colloquia (DRTC) combine student research with international travel over winter or spring break. Past colloquia, which are interdisciplinary and led by Steinhardt faculty, have examined Muslim youth identity in Turkey, the intersections between humans and nature in Greece, and public and private health care in Mexico.

Senior Year Research and Honors Option

As part of the program, students undertake a field-based research project in their senior year. Students who qualify for the honors track will also participate in an honors research seminar and work with a faculty mentor on their research project.

Public health faculty are engaged in research in such areas as HIV/AIDS and substance abuse prevention both in the U.S. and in

YOUR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A recent Institute of Medicine report drew attention to the large number of jobs in public health currently filled by people with no formal public health training, and it called for public health to be integrated into all undergraduate curricula.

Students graduating with a B.S. in public health enter this workforce with greater credentials and training, allowing them to compete for jobs in agencies such as the American Lung Association, the American Red Cross, local and state health departments, health care organizations, and other human service groups.

Graduates with a B.S. in public health are also well equipped to attend graduate school in a variety of disciplines, including public health.

South Africa; obesity and metabolic syndrome; reproductive health choices among adolescents; barriers to health care for vulnerable populations in the U.S.; primary care systems in Brazil; the design and eval-

uation of programs and policies aimed at improving health outcomes for children; and new methods of knowledge and resource acquisition around chronic health conditions.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The B.S. in public health requires 129 points: 63 liberal arts points and 66 points in the major. Liberal arts points include 8 points in expository writing, 12 points in Foundations of

Contemporary Culture, 8 points in foreign language, 11 points in social sciences, 8 points in natural science, 4 points in mathematics, 8 points in unrestricted liberal arts electives, and 4 points in

restrictive liberal arts electives. Points for the major included 40 required points, 10 points in electives by advisement, and 16 points in unrestricted electives. In addition, all students enroll in

their first semester in the department's New Student Seminar. A sample program for four years of study leading to a B.S. in public health appears below:

SAMPLE CURRICULUM WORKSHEET

Freshman Year 32 Points

FALL SEMESTER	MAJOR	SPRING SEMESTER	MAJOR
LIBERAL ARTS	Health and Society. E33.00704	LIBERAL ARTS	Understanding Risk Behavior and Social Context. E33.13254
Writing the Essay. V40.0100 . . .4	New Student Seminar. E03.00010	The Advanced College Essay. E52.01104	
Human Biology. V23.00064	TOTAL <u>16</u>	Mathematics (by advisement) . .4	TOTAL <u>16</u>
Foundations of Contemporary Culture: Texts and Ideas. V55.04••4		The Living Environment. V23.00084	

Sophomore Year 33 Points

FALL SEMESTER	MAJOR	SPRING SEMESTER	MAJOR
LIBERAL ARTS	Medical Care and Health: Comparative Perspectives. P11.00304	LIBERAL ARTS	Elective (by advisement)4
Foundations of Contemporary Culture: Cultures and Contexts. V55.05••4	Elective (by advisement)2	Foundations of Contemporary Culture: Expressive Cultures. V55.07••4	TOTAL <u>16</u>
Foreign Language4	TOTAL <u>17</u>	Foreign Language4	
Basic Statistics. E10.10853		Introductory Social Science (by advisement)4	

Junior Year 32 Points

FALL SEMESTER	MAJOR	SPRING SEMESTER	MAJOR
LIBERAL ARTS	Introduction to Epidemiology. E33.13064	MAJOR	Unrestricted Elective4
Liberal Arts Elective4	Principles of Health Promotion and Education. E33.13214	Public Health Nutrition. E33.13154	Unrestricted Elective4
Advanced Social Science (by advisement)4	TOTAL <u>16</u>	Environmental Health, Social Movements, and Public Policy. E33.13234	TOTAL <u>16</u>

Senior Year 32 Points

FALL SEMESTER	MAJOR	SPRING SEMESTER	MAJOR
LIBERAL ARTS	Unrestricted Elective4	LIBERAL ARTS	Public Health Internship and Seminar. E33.13304
Liberal Arts Elective4	Unrestricted Elective4	Introduction to Global Public Health. E33.13104	Elective (by advisement)4
MAJOR	TOTAL <u>16</u>	MAJOR	TOTAL <u>16</u>
Public Health Profession and Practice. E33.13274		Introduction to Public Health Research. E33.13354	

GRAND TOTAL: 129 Points