Join us at Baylor and earn a **PhD in Public Health** with specialization in
- Epidemiology or
- Social & Behavioral Health Science

**Build a career in public health research.**

- 3-year program (62 credit hours)
- Mentored instructor training
- Research assistantship (full tuition + stipend)
- Grant-writing & manuscript development
- Experiential course projects
- Enjoyable campus community

**Examine sweeping public health issues.**

- Analyze and inform public health approaches.
- Use your research to make a difference.

**Strong job marketability**

- Student-nurturing faculty
We are Baylor!

Check out our mission, campus, community, traditions, and accomplishments at About Baylor

Note Baylor’s points of pride

Explore the Baylor graduate experience

Join our dynamic Department of Public Health

Improving health and quality of life

Learn More about the Department of Public Health

What is Public Health?
PhD in Public Health
Degree Program Highlights

Doctoral students in our PhD in Public Health Degree program choose one of two areas of specialization (concentration) in public health research. Researchers in both specializations apply scientific, systematic, data-driven methods relevant to public health research.

Epidemiology
Researchers in this specialization examine the incidence and prevalence of health problems, health risk, and factors contributing to population health.

Social & Behavioral Health Science
Researchers in this specialization examine how contributing factors at multiple social-ecological levels impact health-related behavior, health status, and quality of life of individuals and populations.

This three-year (62-credit hour) degree includes:

- **Concentration Courses** (9*): Advanced research/grant-writing in specialization, co-authored proposal w/faculty mentor.
- **Interdisciplinary Area** (9): Selected from various disciplines to complement student research interests and needed skill sets.
- **Applied Research and Statistical Methods** (15): Methods courses specific to student research goals/skill needs.
- **Mentored Public Health Research** (9): Experiences in mentor-guided research activities designed to build research skills.
- **Teaching Development** (5): Training /teaching experiences guided by a teaching mentor.
- **Professional Writing in Public Health** (3): Training in writing/manuscript development, co-authored manuscript w/faculty mentor.
- **Doctoral Qualifying Examination** (0): Written & oral exam guided by committee to demonstrate mastery/advance to dissertation.
- **Dissertation in Public Health** (12): Design, implement, analyze, interpret findings, and defend an approved study. Dissertation chapters also include two research manuscripts that must also be approved and submitted to approved journals.

*Total number of required credit hours.

Work as a research assistant for your faculty mentor.

Receive a stipend and full tuition remission.

Engage in experiential learning throughout the program.

Gain real-world experience in research, writing, and teaching.

Use your former practice-based MPH training to inform your PhD research training.

Impact lives through your public health research.
The Baylor Department of Public Health is a team of scientists committed to measuring health, promoting health equity, improving the well-being of vulnerable and underserved populations in every community, and training the next generation of public health researchers and practitioners.

We value the diversity of students, faculty, communities, and ideas; and collaborate to serve and support the health of vulnerable and underserved populations.

We are pursuing a healthier world through:

**Ground-breaking research.** We use innovative, multidisciplinary qualitative and quantitative methods to measure health, behaviors, and environments.

**Implementation science.** We translate scientific discovery into evidence-based practice to maximize the impact of research and confront complex health challenges.

**Excellence in teaching.** We facilitate learning opportunities by connecting students, communities, and researchers to develop practical skill sets and strengthen community capacity.

**Service-minded practice.** We partner with individuals and communities to achieve their health goals and foster equitable, community-engaged health opportunities.
Dr. Matt Asare researches cervical cancer prevention (HPV vaccination and self-screening behaviors) among medically underserved women in the USA and in Ghana.

Bio & Contact Info

Dr. Emeka Okafor researches substance use among those with and without HIV.

Bio & Contact Info

Dr. Liang Wang studies obesity, nutrition epidemiology, health education and promotion, and global health.

Bio & Contact Info

Dr. Rodney Bowden examines metabolic health, including social determinants, nutritional and lifestyle factors associated with metabolic syndrome, and conducts secondary data analyses of federal health databases regarding metabolic health.

Bio & Contact Info

Dr. Beth Lanning studies global health, sexual health, sexual violence prevention, and human-animal interventions.

Bio & Contact Info

Dr. Renée Umstattd Meyer addresses health equity through physical activity in low-income and underserved rural communities.

Bio & Contact Info

*Additional research-active faculty members anticipated by fall 2022.*
ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

1. A completed MPH or MSPH degree that matches your chosen specialization area in our PhD program:
   - **Epidemiology** matches considered: MPH in Epidemiology, Population Health, Global Epidemiology, or related area.
   - **Social & Behavioral Health Science** matches considered: MPH in Social/Behavioral Health, Community Health, Global Health, or related area.

2. A GPA in the master’s degree that demonstrates strong graduate-level academic success, which is normally 3.0 or higher.

3. GRE scores that indicate strong graduate-level academic abilities. The scores of most successful applicants are at least 300 (quant+verb) and 3.5 (writing).

4. Non-native English speakers must meet Baylor’s English proficiency requirements.

5. Two letters of recommendation from former/current professors who can describe your academic abilities, work ethic, and professional maturity.

6. Resume or CV.

7. Research interest that matches one of our research-active faculty members in the chosen specialization.
   - Review faculty bios (see previous page) and name those with whom you’d like to work in your statement of purpose (#9 below).
   - You may be invited to interview with interested faculty members to discuss a possible graduate assistantship position with them. They will need to be able to see your application materials in the SOPHAS system and may ask you to send writing samples to them.
   - You must complete a full application (and meet all criteria) and secure a commitment from a willing faculty mentor to be offered program admission.
   - Evidence of experience in research and/or scholarly writing is preferred, but not required.

8. Statement of Purpose that addresses the following.
   a. Why do you want to pursue this degree? How is your rationale supported by current literature?
   b. With which members of our public health faculty would you like to work? Explain why. (See previous page of this flyer.)
   c. Describe academic and/or personal experiences that have led you to pursue doctoral study in public health, and specifically social and behavioral health science or epidemiology.
   d. What are your professional goals and career aspirations?
   e. Which faculty member(s) at Baylor do you wish to work with as your academic mentor(s) and why?
   f. Why is Baylor University the best institution for you to pursue your PhD study?

For information about the…

**Application process**
Dr. Beth Lanning  
*Beth_Lanning@baylor.edu*

**Degree program, admissions, interviews, etc.**
Dr. Eva Doyle  
*Eva_Doyle@baylor.edu*