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.