

# Public Health BS

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## Overview

The **Bachelor of Science in Public Health** is offered by the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) in the College of Public Health. The undergraduate curriculum prepares students for diverse careers in the public health field that focus on creating, implementing and evaluating interventions and programs designed to improve the health status and quality of life for all individuals.

As one of the earliest accredited undergraduate public health programs in the country, the BS in Public Health serves as a national model in which students take a set of common theoretical courses designed to promote an understanding of health, wellness, and disease prevention and health promotion.

Coursework topics include

- Health psychology and human behavior,
- Health communication,
- Biostatistics and epidemiology,
- Health policy and services,
- Research methods,
- Community program planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Students learn to use educational interventions to provide health information, gain experience in assessing the needs of target populations, clarify program goals and objectives, and develop strategies to motivate and involve their clients/patients in educational interventions. Students also participate in 300 hours of fieldwork experience in public health agencies, organizations, or other entities to gain invaluable real-world experience in the field.

The Public Health major trains entry-level public health workers to provide frontline preventive health information, services, and health behavior interventions at the community level, particularly in communities with high-risk populations. Majors receive intensive pre-professional training and direct public health work experience through their internship experience available throughout the city of Philadelphia and surrounding area. There are also opportunities to work alongside faculty members in one of the many research labs and centers in the SBS department and College of Public Health. Graduates typically work in public health departments, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, corporate work sites, community health organizations, nonprofit agencies, family planning clinics, and managed-care facilities.

Some graduates also go on to graduate public health programs (such as the Master of Public Health or Master of Science in Epidemiology) or programs in other health-related professions. Eligible students in the Public Health BS program also can apply for the +1 BSPH-MPH accelerated program, in which they can earn a Master of Public Health degree at Temple typically in one additional year after completing the BS in Public Health.

**Campus Location:** Main

**Program Code:** HP-PBHL-BS

## Accreditation

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health program at Temple University is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

## Accelerated Programs

The College of Public Health has developed a rigorous five-year (4+1) accelerated BS to MPH program in which outstanding Public Health majors can earn a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Public Health and a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree in five years, rather than six.

This combined degree program offers exceptional students an opportunity to work closely with faculty, while developing critical skills in public health and completing graduate work for professional careers in research, policy, administration or real-world public health practice.

The public health curriculum at Temple University is diverse, offering both undergraduate and graduate students access to faculty from a broad range of public health areas. The MPH requirements will be satisfied by the end of the fifth year of study. The accelerated degree program will consist of a minimum of 108 semester hours of undergraduate coursework, a maximum of 12 (twelve) semester hours of graduate coursework to count towards both the undergraduate and the graduate degrees, and a minimum of 30 semester hours of additional graduate coursework to count towards the graduate degree.

The +1 Accelerated BS in Public Health/MPH program is currently available with the following graduate programs:

- MPH in Epidemiology
- MPH in Health Policy and Management
- MPH in Social and Behavioral Sciences

## Contact Information

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Learn more about the Bachelor of Science in Public Health.

*These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2023-2024. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2023 should refer to the Archives to view the requirements for their Bulletin year.*

## Summary of Requirements

### University Requirements

All students are required to complete the university's General Education (GenEd) curriculum.

All Temple students must take a minimum of two writing-intensive courses as part of the major. The specific writing-intensive courses required for this major are SBS 3496 and SBS 3596.

### College Requirement

All College of Public Health undergraduates must successfully complete the College Core Course, HRPR 1001 Public Health: The Way We Live, Work and Play.

### Clearance Requirements

Please note the Public Health program requires students to complete clinical/field education experiences at facilities both on and off the University campus. These placements may require criminal background checks, Act 33/34 clearances and perhaps a drug screen. Placements may also require the student to maintain personal health insurance. The results of these requirements may limit and potentially eliminate placement options which can, in turn, result in an inability to meet graduation requirements. See [www.nchec.org](http://www.nchec.org) for information about credentialing in public health.

### Public Health Program Requirements

Students must complete a set of specific courses in the major, including the College Core course and Public Health Major courses, including one credit-earning internship (SBS 4185). Also required are three public health electives, two Cognate electives and three general (free) electives. The major requires a minimum of 120 total credits.

*All Public Health College and Major Core course work (those courses with an ENVH, EPBI, HPM, or SBS designation and courses approved as a cognate elective) must be completed with a grade of C or higher.*

| Code                                                                | Title                                         | Credit Hours |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>General Electives</b>                                            |                                               |              |
| Three courses are required. These may be the choice of the student. |                                               | 9            |
| <b>College Core Requirement</b>                                     |                                               |              |
| HRPR 1001                                                           | Public Health: The Way We Live, Work and Play | 3            |
| <b>Public Health Major Core</b>                                     |                                               |              |
| <b>Lower-Division Public Health Coursework</b>                      |                                               |              |
| <b>1000 Level Courses</b>                                           |                                               |              |
| SBS 1003                                                            | Public Health Careers                         | 1            |
| HIM 1055                                                            | IT Applications for Health                    | 3            |
| Select two of the following:                                        |                                               | 6            |
| SBS 1104                                                            | Nutrition and Health                          |              |
| SBS 1105                                                            | Substance Use and Society                     |              |
| SBS 1106                                                            | Human Sexuality                               |              |
| <b>2000 Level Courses</b>                                           |                                               |              |
| SBS 2001                                                            | Biological Foundations of Population Health   | 3            |
| SBS 2003                                                            | Introduction to Public Health Writing         | 1            |
| SBS 2101                                                            | Disease Prevention and Control                | 3            |
| ENVH 2102                                                           | Environmental Health                          | 3            |

|           |                                               |   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|---|
| SBS 2103  | Health Psychology and Human Behavior          | 3 |
| SBS 2201  | Health Communication                          | 3 |
| HPM 2214  | Politics and Payments in US Healthcare System | 3 |
| SBS 2216  | Ethnicity, Culture and Health                 | 3 |
| EPBI 2219 | Biostatistics and Public Health               | 3 |

### Upper-Division Public Health Coursework

#### 3000+ Level Courses

|           |                                                 |   |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|---|
| EPBI 3101 | Introduction to Epidemiology                    | 3 |
| EPBI 3102 | Introduction to Research Methods                | 3 |
| SBS 3104  | Professional Seminar                            | 2 |
| SBS 3105  | Fundamentals of Health Education                | 3 |
| SBS 3496  | Community-Based Health Program Planning I (WI)  | 3 |
| SBS 3596  | Community-Based Health Program Planning II (WI) | 3 |
| SBS 4185  | Public Health Internship                        | 6 |

#### Public Health Electives

Select three of the following: <sup>1</sup> 9

|              |                                                                     |  |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| SBS 1114     | Cultural Nutrition                                                  |  |
| SBS 1201     | Contemporary Health Issues                                          |  |
| SBS 2104     | Nutrition in the Lifecycle                                          |  |
| SBS 2203     | AIDS and Society                                                    |  |
| SBS 2204     | Diet and Weight Management                                          |  |
| SBS 2205     | Coping with Life Stress Workshop                                    |  |
| SBS 2301     | Contemporary Slavery and Public Health                              |  |
| SBS 2302     | Maternal and Child Health                                           |  |
| SBS 2304     | HEART Peer Educator Training                                        |  |
| SBS 3001     | Community-Based Participatory Research I                            |  |
| SBS 3103     | Counseling Techniques for Health Professionals                      |  |
| ENVH 1103    | International Health                                                |  |
| or ENVH 1903 | Honors International Health                                         |  |
| EPBI 2301    | Public Health Beyond Borders                                        |  |
| EPBI 2361    | Epidemiology 360: Determinants, Disease and Health-related Outcomes |  |
| EPBI 3203    | Applied Survey Methods                                              |  |
| EPBI 3205    | Introduction to Statistical Computing                               |  |
| HPM 2202     | Man-Made Disasters: Radiological, Chemical & Biological Terrorism   |  |
| HPM 2208     | Natural Disasters: Response and Recovery                            |  |
| HPM 3207     | Principles of Emergency Management: A Public Health Perspective     |  |
| HPM 3215     | Special Populations: Strategic Community Outreach                   |  |
| HRPR 1005    | Introduction to Mindfulness                                         |  |

#### Cognate Electives

Select two courses with approval of a departmental academic advisor: 6

|           |                                               |  |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|--|
| AAAS 2248 | Public Policy and the Black Community         |  |
| AOD 1016  | Introduction to Adult Learning and Training   |  |
| AOD 1166  | Interpersonal Processes through the Life Span |  |
| CDEV 2255 | Environmental Justice in Communities          |  |
| CDEV 3113 | Nonprofit Management                          |  |
| CDEV 3155 | Healthy Community Design and Development      |  |
| CJ 3406   | Youth and Crime                               |  |
| CSCD 1002 | American Sign Language II                     |  |
| CSCD 1003 | American Sign Language III                    |  |
| CSCD 2011 | American Deaf Culture                         |  |
| CTRP 2251 | Sustainable Food Systems Planning             |  |
| EES 2096  | Climate Change: Oceans To Atmosphere          |  |

|              |                                                              |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| ENST 2051    | The Urban Environment                                        |
| ENST 2157    | Environmental Ethics                                         |
| GUS 1021     | Urban Society: Race, Class, and Community                    |
| GUS 1025     | World Urban Patterns                                         |
| or GUS 1961  | Honors World Urban Patterns                                  |
| GUS 1961     | Honors World Urban Patterns                                  |
| GUS 3062     | Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems               |
| GSWS 3259    | Women and Poverty                                            |
| GSWS 3722    | Women and Political Violence                                 |
| HCM 3502     | Healthcare Financing and Information Technology              |
| HCM 4596     | Healthcare Quality and Risk Management                       |
| HIM 1101     | Medical Terminology                                          |
| HRPR 1101    | Contemporary Aspects of Disability                           |
| HRPR 1444    | Movement Injuries: Prevention and Care                       |
| KINS 2203    | Physiology of Physical Activity                              |
| KINS 2362    |                                                              |
| LGBT 2400    | Topics in LGBT Studies                                       |
| PHIL 2157    | Environmental Ethics                                         |
| or PHIL 2957 | Honors Environmental Ethics                                  |
| PHIL 3249    | Ethics in Medicine                                           |
| POLS 3124    | Politics of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity           |
| PSY 2301     | Foundations of Developmental Psychology                      |
| REL 2006     | Death and Dying                                              |
| or REL 2996  | Honors Death and Dying                                       |
| SSWU 4302    | Emotional Disorders in Children and Adolescents              |
| SSWU 4309    | Societal Responses to Aging                                  |
| SSWU 4312    | Loss and Grief                                               |
| SOC 2553     |                                                              |
| SOC 2565     | Race, Science, Health, and Medicine                          |
| SOC 3249     | Social Inequality                                            |
| SOC 3511     | Environmental Sociology: The End of the World as We Know It? |
| SOC 3525     | Urban Health                                                 |
| SPAN 3601    | Spanish for Health Professions                               |
| RCTH 1102    | Inclusive Recreation and Sports Services                     |
| RCTH 2103    | Foundations of Recreational Therapy Practice                 |
| ARBC 1002    | Arabic Elements II                                           |
| CHI 1002     | Chinese Elements II                                          |
| FREN 1003    | Introduction to French III                                   |
| GER 1002     | Introduction to German II                                    |
| HEBR 1002    | Elements II                                                  |
| HIN 1002     | Hindi Elements II                                            |
| ITAL 1002    | Italian Language II                                          |
| JPNS 1002    | Japanese Elements II                                         |
| KRN 1002     | Korean Elements II                                           |
| LAT 1002     | Latin 2                                                      |
| PORT 1002    | Basic II                                                     |
| RUS 1002     | First-Year Russian II                                        |
| SPAN 1003    | Intermediate                                                 |
| VTNM 1002    |                                                              |

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Additional listings may be obtained from the academic advisor and approved for elective credit.

## Suggested Academic Plan

### Bachelor of Science in Public Health

#### Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2023-2024 Academic Year

| Year 1                                              |                                                                                                                |  |              |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Fall                                                |                                                                                                                |  | Credit Hours |
| ENG 0802<br>or ENG 0812<br>or ENG 0902              | Analytical Reading and Writing<br>or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL<br>or Honors Writing About Literature |  | 4            |
| GenEd Breadth Course                                |                                                                                                                |  | 3            |
| HRPR 1001                                           | Public Health: The Way We Live, Work and Play                                                                  |  | 3            |
| HIM 1055                                            | IT Applications for Health                                                                                     |  | 3            |
| Select one of the following 1000 level SBS courses: |                                                                                                                |  | 3            |
| SBS 1104                                            | Nutrition and Health                                                                                           |  |              |
| SBS 1105                                            | Substance Use and Society                                                                                      |  |              |
| SBS 1106                                            | Human Sexuality                                                                                                |  |              |
| Credit Hours                                        |                                                                                                                |  | 16           |
| Spring                                              |                                                                                                                |  |              |
| IH 0851<br>or IH 0951                               | Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life<br>or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life                     |  | 3            |
| GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course <sup>GQ</sup>    |                                                                                                                |  | 4            |
| GenEd Breadth Course                                |                                                                                                                |  | 3            |
| SBS 1003                                            | Public Health Careers                                                                                          |  | 1            |
| Select one of the following 1000 level SBS courses: |                                                                                                                |  | 3            |
| SBS 1104                                            | Nutrition and Health                                                                                           |  |              |
| SBS 1105                                            | Substance Use and Society                                                                                      |  |              |
| SBS 1106                                            | Human Sexuality                                                                                                |  |              |
| ENVH 2102                                           | Environmental Health                                                                                           |  | 3            |
| Credit Hours                                        |                                                                                                                |  | 17           |
| Year 2                                              |                                                                                                                |  |              |
| Fall                                                |                                                                                                                |  |              |
| IH 0852<br>or IH 0952                               | Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good<br>or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good               |  | 3            |
| SBS 2001                                            | Biological Foundations of Population Health                                                                    |  | 3            |
| SBS 2003                                            | Introduction to Public Health Writing                                                                          |  | 1            |
| SBS 2201                                            | Health Communication                                                                                           |  | 3            |
| HPM 2214                                            | Politics and Payments in US Healthcare System                                                                  |  | 3            |
| General Elective                                    |                                                                                                                |  | 3            |
| Credit Hours                                        |                                                                                                                |  | 16           |
| Spring                                              |                                                                                                                |  |              |
| EPBI 2219                                           | Biostatistics and Public Health                                                                                |  | 3            |
| SBS 2101                                            | Disease Prevention and Control                                                                                 |  | 3            |
| SBS 2103                                            | Health Psychology and Human Behavior                                                                           |  | 3            |
| SBS 2216                                            | Ethnicity, Culture and Health                                                                                  |  | 3            |
| GenEd Breadth Course                                |                                                                                                                |  | 3            |
| Credit Hours                                        |                                                                                                                |  | 15           |
| Year 3                                              |                                                                                                                |  |              |
| Fall                                                |                                                                                                                |  |              |
| SBS 3105                                            | Fundamentals of Health Education                                                                               |  | 3            |

|                                |                                            |                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| SBS 3496                       | Community-Based Health Program Planning I  | 3              |
| EPBI 3102                      | Introduction to Research Methods           | 3              |
| GenEd Breadth Course           |                                            | 3              |
| General Elective               |                                            | 3              |
| <b>Credit Hours</b>            |                                            | <b>15</b>      |
| <b>Spring</b>                  |                                            |                |
| EPBI 3101                      | Introduction to Epidemiology               | 3              |
| SBS 3596                       | Community-Based Health Program Planning II | 3              |
| Public Health Elective         |                                            | 3              |
| Public Health Cognate Elective |                                            | 3              |
| GenEd Breadth Course           |                                            | 3-4            |
| <b>Credit Hours</b>            |                                            | <b>15-16</b>   |
| <b>Year 4</b>                  |                                            |                |
| <b>Fall</b>                    |                                            |                |
| SBS 3104                       | Professional Seminar                       | 2              |
| Public Health Elective         |                                            | 3              |
| Public Health Cognate Elective |                                            | 3              |
| General Elective               |                                            | 3              |
| GenEd Breadth Course           |                                            | 3              |
| <b>Credit Hours</b>            |                                            | <b>14</b>      |
| <b>Spring</b>                  |                                            |                |
| SBS 4185                       | Public Health Internship                   | 6              |
| GenEd Breadth Course           |                                            | 3              |
| Public Health Elective         |                                            | 3              |
| <b>Credit Hours</b>            |                                            | <b>12</b>      |
| <b>Total Credit Hours</b>      |                                            | <b>120-121</b> |