

College of Public Health

Overview

Since its inception in 1966, the College of Public Health has prepared well-rounded practitioners who are sensitive to patient/client needs and whose professional competence is built on a solid foundation of theory, laboratory practice, and clinical fieldwork/internships with a focus in interprofessional engagement. The college offers undergraduate programs that include Exercise and Sport Science; Health Information Management; Health Professions; Health Studies; Kinesiology; Nursing; Public Health; Social Work; Speech, Language and Hearing Science; and Recreational Therapy. Students graduating with a bachelor's degree in Health Information Management, Kinesiology, Nursing, Public Health, or Recreational Therapy meet the entry-level requirements of their professions and are qualified to take state and/or national examinations leading to certification or licensure in their fields. The college also offers an exploratory undeclared major for lower-division students as well as accelerated undergraduate-plus-graduate degree programs, including a 3+3 Doctor of Physical Therapy degree program and a Direct Entry 5-year program leading to the Master of Science degree in Athletic Training.

Vision Statement

Solving health's complexities for a better tomorrow.

Mission Statement

The mission of Temple University's College of Public Health is to prepare our students to become researchers, practitioners and educators. Collaborating across health-related disciplines, we address community needs, create evidence-based solutions, and deliver effective, compassionate care.

Academic Departments

- The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders seeks to enhance the theoretical and applied knowledge in the fields of speech, language and hearing sciences, speech-language pathology, and theoretical linguistics.
- The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics strives to enhance population health and train the next generation of public health scholars and professionals.
- The Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences is committed to both preventing injury and disability and helping those who have illnesses, short-term injuries, or long-term physical or psychological disabilities lead full, satisfying and meaningful lives.
- The Department of Health Services Administration and Policy is focused on improving population health through research on the role and effectiveness of health services, health information and informatics, leadership/management and policy.
- The Department of Nursing prepares graduates for the practice of professional nursing through rigorous academic and clinical coursework grounded in nursing science and related biological sciences, social sciences and the arts.
- The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences strives to promote healthy communities and train those who excel in public health practice and research.
- The School of Social Work is an integral part of Temple's College of Public Health, sharing a home with other professions that seek healing and opportunities to bolster human capacities.

Accelerated Programs

Accelerated programs provide a pathway for students to pursue both an undergraduate degree and an advanced degree in a shorter amount of time. Below is a list of available accelerated programs for students in the College of Public Health.

- **3+3 Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Health Professions / Doctor of Physical Therapy:** Exceptional freshman undergraduate students can maximize their academic investment and shorten the path to a DPT through this accelerated degree option, which allows them to earn both an undergraduate and a DPT degree in six years instead of seven. Learn more about the benefits of the College of Public Health's 3+3 Accelerated DPT Admissions Option.
- **Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Public Health / Master of Public Health:** The College of Public Health offers a rigorous five-year (4+1) program in which outstanding public health majors can earn a bachelor of science in public health and a master of public health 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 undergraduate program consists of 110 undergraduate credits and the graduate program consists of 39 graduate credits, for a total of 149 credits. The +1 Accelerated BS in Public Health/ MPH program is currently available with the MPH in Applied Biostatistics, MPH in Epidemiology, MPH in Health Policy and Management and MPH in Social and Behavioral Sciences programs.
- **Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Recreational Therapy / Master of Science in Recreational Therapy:** The College of Public Health offers a rigorous five-year (4+1) program in which high-performing undergraduate recreational therapy students can earn a BS in Recreational Therapy and MS in Recreational Therapy in five years, rather than six. This combined degree program offers exceptional students an opportunity to develop

critical skills in recreational therapy and complete graduate work for professional careers in diverse settings, including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, schools and community recreation agencies. Students can apply for admission to this accelerated program at the beginning of their junior year. They begin taking graduate-level courses the semester after they are admitted. Students will complete the requirements for the undergraduate degree within two years after entering the +1 program, and the MS requirements will be satisfied by the end of the fifth year of study.

- **Direct Entry Master of Science in Athletic Training:** For undergraduate students interested in a career in athletic training, the College of Public Health offers a direct entry program combining our BS in Health Professions and our MS in Athletic Training. More than 70 percent of athletic trainers hold at least a master's degree—and within the next few years, a master's degree will be required in order to become eligible for national certification. This program provides you with a direct path into our accredited Master of Science in Athletic Training program, allowing you to earn both a bachelor's and master's degree in five years and preparing you to begin practicing as an athletic trainer. Admitted students are granted direct acceptance into both programs—meaning you do not have to apply separately to the MS program. During the program, you will work with an advisor on academic planning to make sure you are on track and remain in good academic standing to satisfy academic requirements for both programs. View a sample academic plan.

For a complete list, see Accelerated Degree Programs in the *Undergraduate Bulletin*.

College Accreditation

Temple University's College of Public Health is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). The college is one of only two CEPH-accredited schools of public health in the Philadelphia region, and one of three in the state of Pennsylvania. The college's accreditation is in addition to its 24 program-specific accreditations.

Student Organizations

The College of Public Health houses many student organizations within its departments and organized by area of study.

Contact Information

Undergraduate students with general questions should contact the College's Dean's Office at 215-204-5440.

For questions about academic requirements, students should contact the departmental academic advisor. A list of advisors is available at Academic Advising.

Contact information for specific departments is available at the College of Public Health web site. Please select the program tab at the top of the college page and follow the links for additional program information.

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Undergraduate Programs

- American Sign Language Certificate
- Applied Epidemiology Minor
- Emergency and Sports Injury Management Certificate
- Exercise and Sport Science BS
- Global Health Minor
- Health Information Management BSHIM
- Health Information Management Minor
- Health Policy and Management Minor
- Health Professions BS
- Health Studies BA
- Kinesiology BS
- Linguistics Certificate
- Nursing Accelerated BSN
- Nursing BSN
- Nutrition Minor
- Public Health BS

- Public Health Minor
- Recreational Therapy BS
- Speech, Language and Hearing Science BA

Academic Policies and Regulations

Students are responsible for complying with all university-wide academic policies that apply to their individual academic status (Please see Undergraduate Academic Policies). Additional and unique policies, or exceptions for the College of Public Health (CPH), appear below.

Attendance

The College of Public Health desires to promote professional responsibility among its students. It is therefore the policy of the college to place the responsibility for class attendance upon the students. Students are accountable for all work missed due to absence. Instructors are generally not required to make special arrangements or examinations for students who are absent. There are certain courses that require a minimum number of hours of student participation in laboratory or clinical experiences, as established by the professional accrediting agency and/or the academic department concerned. At the beginning of each such course, the department shall make the attendance requirement clearly known to the enrolled students. Excessive absences may, at the option of the department, jeopardize the student's grade and/or continuance in the course.

Grade Grievances

Temple University students have the right to appeal any academic matter in which they feel they have been treated unfairly, including grade grievances. Learn about the College of Public Health's grade grievance appeals procedure.

Change of Major (CPH students)

In order to add or change majors or minors within CPH, a CPH student must meet with the academic advisor for their intended major. The advisor will evaluate the student's record in accordance with the following policy:

1. CPH students in their first semester at Temple University who wish to add or change majors or minors may be approved, but a discussion with the academic advisor in your intended major may be required.
2. Continuing CPH students who wish to add or change majors or minors within CPH must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 or higher. Continuing CPH students who wish to change their major may be required to have an additional meeting with the academic advisor of their intended major.

Change of Major (Non-CPH Temple Students)

To transfer into CPH from another school or college within Temple University, a non-CPH student must complete the following steps:

Step One: Review a brief College of Public Health Change of Program presentation (pdf), which covers important information about academic advising and college/university requirements.

Step Two: Complete a brief online assessment, which will test your knowledge of the information covered in the presentation. You must answer each question correctly in order to complete the process. You may take the test more than once.

Step Three: Within a week, you will receive an official College of Public Health Change of Program form **via email**. It is the student's responsibility to get that form to the advisor of their intended major. Your change of program will not be complete until you submit this form. Please note that this form is **NOT available online**. Once the change is complete, you will then be able to make an appointment with your advisor if you need to register/revise your schedule for the upcoming semester.

After submitting your form, your request to transfer to the College of Public Health will then be reviewed to ensure that you are eligible for transfer. If you have completed all the steps above and have a cumulative and previous semester GPA of 2.0 or higher, your request will be forwarded to the Office of the University Registrar for processing. You will receive e-mail notifications from the Office of the University Registrar once your Change of Program is complete.

Please note the following:

- Students also must be aware that there may be a tuition increase for transferring to CPH (with the exception of intended Social Work majors).
- Students interested in transferring into Nursing are not eligible for the Change of Program process. Information about the application process and access to the application itself can be found on the page for each program.

Laptop

All incoming students in the College of Public Health and the School of Social Work are required to have a laptop. Academic programs in the college are technology intensive. They incorporate statistical and database analyses; utilize specialized tools for athletic training, kinesiology and physical therapy; stream audio and video for communication sciences; facilitate online interactive counseling for social work; and foster clinical experiences and online assessments. The laptop requirement enables the College of Public Health and the School of Social Work to improve

opportunities for active learning and provide greater access to specialized software and required tools in and out of the classroom, better preparing students for the workforce. Learn more about device specifications and suggested vendors. Students can use excess financial aid (i.e., funds that are reimbursed after all tuition and fees are paid) to meet student needs, including the purchase of a laptop. Scholarships may also provide funding.

Standards of Scholarship

The grading system is in accordance with the system adopted by Temple University. For students enrolled in this college, a grade of C is the lowest acceptable final grade in major courses, as these are defined in the description of each major. Students not achieving a grade of C or better are required to repeat those courses in which they have failed to demonstrate acceptable performance.

Student Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct

Since students of the College of Public Health are enrolled in professional programs, they are expected to abide by standards of professional conduct and behavior at all times.

The College of Public Health prepares practitioners to fulfill their ideals of service in health or social service settings. In attaining these goals, practitioners must demonstrate exemplary professional behavior, as this is the keystone of the professional associations of the disciplines within this college. The Code of Conduct of Temple University's College of Public Health is intended to contribute to an environment in which excellence in learning and conduct may be fostered.

Terms of the Temple University Student Rights, the Student Conduct Code, and disciplinary procedures described in that code apply to students within the College of Public Health. In addition to the major violations noted by the University code, another action has been identified by the faculty of the college as constituting a major infraction of the code: "Unethical conduct or intentional neglect of duty on clinical practice."

Clinical Training and Field Education

Most College of Public Health programs prepare students for careers that involve close examination of a person's background before being employed or even engaged in clinical training and field education. *Thus, students are strongly encouraged to begin gathering required documentation and clearances immediately after admission into their program so that they have sufficient time to assemble their portfolio well before it is required for field-based learning, including internships.* Gathering required background information early also provides sufficient time to address any issues that might postpone or prevent fieldwork. Each program publishes more detailed information on health screenings and background clearances that are used for clinical training and field education.

Military Science Courses

Undergraduate students in CPH whose degree programs allow for free electives may apply up to 12 credits of military science courses at the 3000 and 4000 levels in Aerospace Studies (Air Force ROTC), Military Science (Army ROTC), and Naval Science (Navy ROTC).

College Graduation Requirements

Specific graduation requirements for undergraduate programs in the College of Public Health (CPH) are available on the individual program pages within this *Bulletin* as well as at CPH Academics.

College Core Course

A key requirement for entering undergraduates is the College Core Course, HRPR 1001 Public Health: The Way We Live, Work and Play. For all students who enrolled in the college prior to fall 2015, this course is strongly recommended, but it will not be required. The course was integrated into existing programs and does not extend time to graduation or increase tuition costs. Students should consult individual program descriptions in this *Bulletin* to see how the course fits into their programs—replacing either an elective or an existing course requirement—and consult with their program advisors about whether they should or must take the course.

The course is designed to help students think about contemporary health issues from an interdisciplinary perspective. The course includes an introduction to the five core areas of public health—biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health, health services administration, and social and behavioral sciences—and how these areas relate to various health, health care, and human service professions. Public health helps inform decisions that shape the behavior of individuals and communities. Students will analyze health issues such as health promotion, disease prevention, and health care policy from a variety of perspectives. As part of the course, students will work in small interdisciplinary teams to access and evaluate information about a particular individual or population-level health issue, and learn to argue persuasively, both orally and in writing, for interdisciplinary approaches to that health issue. An aim of the course is to engage students' curiosity about how the discipline of public health and interdisciplinary approaches apply to issues students may confront in their future professional work.

Academic Advising

The College of Public Health has an extensive system of academic advising provided by professional and faculty advisors. Professional advisors, coordinated by the Associate Director for Advisement, are available for each department, where they provide assistance with such topics as registration, course scheduling, and transfer credits, as well as referral to other resources. For a complete listing of our professional advising staff and more information on academic advising in the College of Public Health, visit CPH Academic Advising.

In most departments, when students reach junior or senior standing, they are assigned to faculty advisors who assist with mentoring as students progress in their professional training.

Academic advisors strive to avoid errors when advising students about program requirements; however, the college cannot assume liability for errors in advising. Students must, therefore, assume primary responsibility for knowing the requirements for their degree and for acquiring current information about their academic status.

Faculty

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