College of Public Health

The College of Public Health is a global leader in the discovery, dissemination and integration of health-related research and practice. We prepare future generations of professionals through an intellectual environment that incorporates interdisciplinary collaboration, critical thinking and innovation to instill a commitment to ethical practice and lifelong learning. Exemplary research, teaching and service are informed by our engagement with professional and community, regional, national and global partners.

The College of Public Health engages in exciting, innovative research and supports talented, committed researchers. Investigations focus on medical interventions, social and behavioral inquiries, and animal and basic science. Inquiries are frequently interdisciplinary, crossing departmental and collegial lines, and draw on resources from across the University. The college's research mission entails:

- increasing faculty productivity in grants and published research;
- encouraging faculty to seek research funds creatively from such non-governmental sources as corporations and foundations;
- promoting collaborative research;
- developing a research infrastructure supported by best practices and outstanding staff;
- creating students’ awareness of faculty research and opportunities for research assistantships;
- providing research opportunities for students; and
- ensuring sufficient support to train faculty, students, administrators and staff in the uses of new technologies.

The College of Public Health is also committed to excellence in fieldwork and clinical education. We believe that academic preparation must be complemented with a well-designed and mentored real-world experience that transforms classroom and laboratory learning into a dynamic, field-based demonstration of professional attitudes, skills and abilities. Our students benefit from the college’s location in a metropolitan area filled with diverse and highly regarded healthcare, human services and other non-medical agencies promoting health of individuals and communities. Our network of partnering agencies includes top-rated hospitals and rehabilitation centers, wellness clinics, state and federal government agencies, public and private schools, community health and human services agencies, research centers and private practice offices. Field/clinical education can also begin on campus at clinics and research centers operated by departments in the College of Public Health, through placements with intercollegiate athletics, and at Temple University Hospital. To learn more about the integral role of clinical and field education in the College of Public Health, click to explore your area of interest:

- Athletic Training MSAT Clinical Education
- Epidemiology MPH Field Education
- Health Policy and Management MPH Field Education
- Nursing DNP Clinical Education
- Nutrition MPH Field Education
- Physical Therapy DPT Clinical Education
- Social and Behavioral Sciences MPH Field Education
- Social Work MSW Clinical Education
- Speech, Language and Hearing Science MA Clinical Education

As noted, graduate students in many of the College of Public Health's degree programs engage in required clinical/field education experiences at facilities both on and off the University's campuses. Many of these placements may require the student to have personal health insurance. Additionally, many require a criminal background check, Act 33/34 clearances, and perhaps a drug screen. Failure to maintain personal health insurance or the results of background clearances may limit and potentially eliminate placement options for students. This, in turn, can result in an inability to meet graduation requirements. The college cannot ensure clinical field placements if a student fails to meet the requirements or maintain health insurance. Additionally, conviction of a misdemeanor, felony, or felonious or illegal act may prevent a student from becoming credentialed and/or licensed to practice in certain professions. Applicants are encouraged to review the requirements for the particular program in which they are interested, as well as the licensure/credentialing rules in the state(s) in which they are interested in working to review their eligibility.

In Fall 2015, the College of Public Health introduced a common College Core course requirement for all incoming graduate students. The course, HRPR 5001 Current and Emerging Issues in Public Health and Health Professions, is completely online and designed such that students can complete the modules at their own pace over the course of their degree program. Tuition is not charged for the course since it carries no credit. However, it is a required pass/fail course, and students will not be eligible for graduation unless the course is completed. The course requires graduate students to complete a set of six learning modules that address core elements of health, including guiding principles, practices and guidelines. Students then have the option to select an additional six modules from a menu of modules. Each module includes a video presentation, PowerPoint slides, additional resources and a short quiz. A minimum grade of 80% on each module is required to pass the course. Program directors and faculty advisors work closely with students to explain the modules, discuss appropriate timing for their completion, and monitor progress toward completion before graduation.

Beginning in Fall 2020, all incoming students in the College of Public Health 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 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.

Ultimately, the goal of our diverse population of students and highly recognized faculty is to enhance the quality of life for all.

**Graduate Programs and Certificates**

- Applied Biostatistics MPH
- Applied Physical Activity and Health Promotion MS
- Athletic Training MSAT
- Athletic Training DAT
- Communication Sciences and Disorders PhD
- Environmental Health MPH
- Environmental Health MS
- Epidemiology MPH
- Epidemiology MS
- Epidemiology PhD
- Health Informatics MS
- Health Informatics PhD
- Health Policy and Health Services Research PhD
- Health Policy and Management MPH
- Neuromotor Science MS
- Neuromotor Science PhD
- Nursing DNP
- Nutrition MPH
- Occupational Therapy OTD
- Occupational Therapy Transitional Program OTD
- Physical Therapy DPT
- Public Health Data Science MS
- Recreational Therapy MS
- Social and Behavioral Sciences MPH
- Social and Behavioral Sciences PhD
- Social Work MSW
- Speech, Language and Hearing Science MA
- Graduate Certificate: Clinical Health Services Research
- Graduate Certificate: Global Health
- Graduate Certificate: Health Informatics
- Graduate Certificate: Interdisciplinary Health Communication
- Graduate Certificate: Maternal and Child Health
- Graduate Certificate: Nutrition
- Graduate Certificate: Public Health Law Research
- Graduate Certificate: Public Health Preparedness and Response

**Graduate Faculty**

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*Janet P. Bettger,* Professor, Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Public Health; ScD, Boston University.

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