Social and Behavioral Sciences, M.P.H.

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Learn more about the Master of Public Health in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

About the Program

The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences offers the Master of Public Health in Social and Behavioral Sciences (M.P.H.-SBS). The M.P.H. in Social and Behavioral Sciences is a terminal, professional degree that prepares students to design, implement, and evaluate interventions directed toward identified public health problems in communities. This program aims to prepare public health practitioners to identify and assess the needs of populations; plan, implement, and evaluate programs to address those needs; and ensure that the needs of diverse populations are met to improve their overall health status. The program has a strong focus on addressing the behavioral, social, and cultural factors related to individual and population health and health disparities over the life course, as well as the social and behavioral aspects of community health, health communication, program implementation and evaluation, and health education. Research and practice in this area contribute to the development, administration, and evaluation of programs in public health, which promote and sustain healthy lives for individuals and communities.

Applicants to the M.P.H. in Social and Behavioral Sciences can choose between our on-campus or our online program, both of which adhere to the same competency-based curriculum and content. However, the delivery formats differ, as described below:

1. The on-campus format is designed for students who prefer live interaction with instructors and fellow students; access to campus activities; and the opportunity to choose local Philadelphia fieldwork placements with the assistance of our fieldwork coordinator. Students can enroll full-time or part-time. While some courses may be offered online or in hybrid formats, most of the coursework is delivered in person over a full 16-week academic term during evening hours. For more information about the on-campus M.P.H. program, please contact Annemarie Szambelak, Assistant Director of Admissions, at 215-204-5200 or annemarie@temple.edu.

2. The online format is designed for working professionals interested in a part-time program. Courses are structured to include asynchronous assignments plus a once-a-week synchronous class meeting via Zoom. Students in the online program take seven-week courses during the beginning of their program, then move to 16-week courses as they enter their final year. A fieldwork coordinator works with students to find appropriate placement in their preferred geographic location. For more information about the online M.P.H. program, please contact Dr. Anne Frankel, Online Program Coordinator, at anne.frankel@temple.edu or 215-204-9117.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 4 years

Campus Location: Main for the on-campus M.P.H. program; Online

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Full-time students usually complete the program within two academic years. Part-time students usually take three to four years to complete their degree. Online M.P.H. students can complete the program in three years.

Interdisciplinary Study: Interdisciplinary M.P.H. coursework, research, and interactions with students and faculty in other departments are encouraged to give students as broad a perspective as possible to excel in the diverse, dynamic, and multidisciplinary field of public health. Through associations with research laboratories in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, such as the the Center for Obesity Research and Education, the Health Behavior and Research Clinic, the Health Disparities Research Lab, the Risk Communication Laboratory, and the Social and Behavioral Health Interventions Laboratory, as well as other laboratories throughout the College, students have access to dozens of faculty at Temple University and additional regional scholars who are actively involved in programs, research, and teaching in public health. Further, as with the other four M.P.H. degree programs offered by the College of Public Health, the M.P.H. in Social and Behavioral Sciences can be undertaken as part of nine dual M.P.H. degree programs. Eight on-campus dual M.P.H. degree programs are currently offered:

- D.M.D./M.P.H. with Temple University’s Kornberg School of Dentistry
- D.O./M.P.H. with the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- D.P.M./M.P.H. with the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine
- J.D./M.P.H. with Temple University’s Beasley School of Law
- M.D./M.P.H. with the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
- M.H.A./M.P.H. with Temple University’s Fox School of Business and Management
- M.P.P./M.P.H. with Temple University’s College of Liberal Arts
- M.S. Health Informatics/M.P.H. within the Temple University College of Public Health

The ninth dual degree program is offered both online and on campus: the M.S.W./M.P.H. with the Temple University School of Social Work.

For more information, visit https://cph.temple.edu/mph/dual-degrees or contact Annemarie Szambelak, Assistant Director of Admissions, at annemarie@temple.edu.
Affiliation(s): The MPH-SBS maintains dozens of affiliation agreements with community partners with wide ranging public health foci relevant to public health professionals studying and applying social and behavioral interventions to address public and community health priorities. On-campus M.P.H. students choose community agency fieldwork placement from this array of options throughout Philadelphia. For example, the program has long-standing research and fieldwork affiliations with The Food Trust, Fox Chase Cancer Center, the Health Federation of Philadelphia, the Maternity Care Coalition, NORTH, Inc. (managers of the Philadelphia WIC program), the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, the Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC) and its subsidiaries, the School District of Philadelphia, and many other community health agencies.

The M.P.H. fieldwork coordinator assists online students in finding appropriate placement in their preferred geographic region.

Study Abroad: Depending on faculty availability, study abroad opportunities may be offered during the summer and are open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

Accreditation: The M.P.H. is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Temple's M.P.H. programs first achieved accreditation in 1985 and are among the longest established accredited M.P.H. programs in the region.

Areas of Specialization: The M.P.H. degree program is offered in five specialty fields of study:

- Applied Biostatistics (APBIO)
- Environmental Health (EH)
- Epidemiology (EPI)
- Health Policy and Management (HPM)
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS)

Job Prospects: Graduates with an M.P.H. in Social and Behavioral Sciences have gained employment in a wide range of health-related settings, including state and local public health departments, community-based organizations, voluntary health agencies, health maintenance organizations, hospitals, clinics, schools, and work sites. Graduates are employed as health educators and counselors, evaluation specialists, marketing specialists, prevention specialists, project directors, research and community health program managers, HIV/AIDS coordinators, infection control coordinators, adjunct faculty, and consultants. Virtually all students are placed within three to six months of graduation.

Licensure: Students who complete an M.P.H. at Temple University may be eligible to sit for the Certification in Public Health (CPH) exam and the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam. For information regarding credentialing in public health, see https://www.nchec.org/.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Non-matriculated students are required to speak with an advisor and to obtain permission from the professor before registering for classes, whether the coursework is taken in the on-campus or online format. If accepted to the program, a maximum of three courses may be applied toward the degree program. Exceptions to this policy relate to formal certificate programs.

Financing Opportunities: In both the Fall and Spring terms, the College of Public Health and Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences award a limited number of partial scholarships on a competitive basis to students with an outstanding academic record. No separate application is needed for these awards as outstanding applicants are automatically considered following submission of their application. For more information, contact Annemarie Szambelak, Assistant Director of Admissions, at 215-204-5200 or annemarie@temple.edu.

In the College of Public Health, a limited number of Research Assistantships (RA) are available to on-campus M.P.H. students, while Teaching Assistantships (TA) are available to both on-campus and online M.P.H. students. Both RA and TA positions are assigned on a competitive basis among students who academically excel. The Graduate School website details the types of graduate student support. Assistantships are awarded on a term or annual basis. Students whose Fall applications are complete prior to or at the application deadline are reviewed for eligibility for TA positions. TAs may work up to 20 hours per week in any combination of teaching assignments made by the department and must meet the English Language Proficiency standards set by the University and the College. Students who hold Teaching or Research Assistantships are not permitted to hold other employment without the written prior approval of their advisor, the Director of Graduate Studies, and the Graduate School. To be considered for a RA or TA position, complete an application form that is sent to students upon admission to the M.P.H. program. For more information, contact Annemarie Szambelak, Assistant Director of Admissions, at 215-204-5200 or annemarie@temple.edu.

The College of Public Health has a limited number of scholarship opportunities available for M.P.H. students. Available scholarships are listed at https://cph.temple.edu/admissions/scholarships. Students may also be eligible for financial support through the Office of Student Financial Services.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: March 1
Spring: November 1

All applicants to the M.P.H. program must apply via the Centralized Application Service for Public Health (SOPHAS). The system can be accessed at https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/.
Applicants should check their application status on the SOPHAS portal often and inquire directly of SOPHAS about receipt of materials. For other questions, please contact Annemarie Szambelak, Assistant Director of Admissions, at 215-204-5200 or annemarie@temple.edu.

Deposit Deadline for Admitted Applicants:

Fall: April 30
Spring: December 15

Applicants who are accepted to the program must pay a $500 deposit to secure their enrollment. For questions about the deposit and payment process or to request an extension, contact Annemarie Szambelak, Assistant Director of Admissions, at 215-204-5200 or annemarie@temple.edu.

Letters of Reference:

Number Required: 3

From Whom: Letters of recommendation, which are completed electronically through the SOPHAS system, should be obtained from college/university faculty members familiar with academic competence. If the applicant has been out of school for a long time, please ensure that letters are from supervising employers or professional colleagues who can speak to the applicant’s academic abilities, such as writing and research.

Coursework Required for Admission Consideration: Applicants’ files are reviewed for undergraduate coursework in mathematics and/or statistics, social science, and writing.

Bachelor’s Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A baccalaureate degree is required.

Statement of Goals: Within 1,000 words, address the following questions:

• What are your interests in Public Health, and why are you planning to pursue an M.P.H. in Social and Behavioral Sciences?
• What are your future career goals, and what have you done either academically or professionally to guide your interest in Public Health and to begin preparation toward your career goals?
• Are there any exceptional circumstances related to previous academic performance that you would like the Admissions Committee to consider?

Standardized Test Scores:

GRE: Required. While the program takes a portfolio approach to admissions, standardized tests provide important insight into quantitative and verbal abilities. Minimum scores around the 50th percentile on the verbal and quantitative sections are preferred.

Applicants who have a minimum GPA of 3.00 on undergraduate mathematics or statistics courses and have an undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 may request that their GRE scores be waived from consideration in their application portfolio. To request a waiver or if you have other questions, contact Annemarie Szambelak, Assistant Director of Admissions, at 215-204-5200 or annemarie@temple.edu.

Standardized tests considered in lieu of the GRE include DAT, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, OAT, and PCAT.

Applicants who earned their baccalaureate degree from an institution where the language of instruction was other than English, with the exception of those who subsequently earned a master’s degree at a U.S. institution, must report scores for a standardized test of English that meet these minimums:

• TOEFL: iBT: 79
• IELTS Academic: 6.5
• PTE Academic: 53

Clearances: The M.P.H. programs require students to complete clinical/field education experiences at facilities both on and off Temple University’s campuses. These placements may require criminal background checks, Act 33/34 clearances, and perhaps a drug screen. The results of these requirements may limit and potentially eliminate placement options, which can, in turn, result in the student’s inability to meet graduation requirements.

Resume: Current resume required.

Transfer Credit: Graduate credits earned through other M.P.H. programs accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) may be transferred into Temple’s M.P.H. in Social and Behavioral Sciences program. The credits must be equivalent to coursework offered at Temple, and the grade must be a ‘B’ or better in order to transfer. The Director of Graduate Studies approves the transfer of credits based on a review of course materials provided by the student. The maximum number of credits a student may transfer is 9.

Test Waivers: Graduates with a terminal degree from a U.S. medical school, foreign-trained physicians who have obtained licensure to practice in the United States, and those with Ph.D.’s may have the GRE requirement waived.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:

Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 42
Required Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>College Core Course</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HRPR 5001 Current and Emerging Issues in Public Health and Health Professions</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Public Health Core Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVH 5004</td>
<td>Environmental Health</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPBI 5002</td>
<td>Biostatistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPBI 5005</td>
<td>Applied Analysis of Health</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPBI 5101</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Epidemiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPM 5006</td>
<td>Political and Economic Aspects of Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBS 5001</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBS 5002</td>
<td>Program Planning, Theory, and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Social and Behavioral Sciences Core Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 8001</td>
<td>Research Methods in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 8009</td>
<td>Health Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 8105</td>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Social and Behavioral Sciences Electives</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 5004</td>
<td>Understanding Stress and Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 5105</td>
<td>Maternal and Child Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 8005</td>
<td>Health Promotion in Vulnerable Populations</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 8006</td>
<td>Addictions and Dependencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 8018</td>
<td>Obesity: From Genes to Junk Food</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>M.P.H. Fieldwork Experience</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 9289</td>
<td>MPH Fieldwork I</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 9389</td>
<td>MPH Fieldwork II</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours</strong></td>
<td>42</td>
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</table>

1 Students may select as electives any of the courses listed or, with approval, other graduate courses offered by the College of Public Health.

**On-Campus Full-Time MPH-SBS**

**Year 1**

**Fall**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPBI 5101</td>
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<td>HPM 5006</td>
<td>Political and Economic Aspects of Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRPR 5001</td>
<td>Current and Emerging Issues in Public Health and Health Professions</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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**Term Credit Hours**

9

**Spring**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SBS 5002</td>
<td>Program Planning, Theory, and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBS 8009</td>
<td>Health Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBS 8105</td>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Term Credit Hours**

9

**Summer**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>ENVH 5004</td>
<td>Environmental Health</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPBI 5002</td>
<td>Biostatistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPBI 5005</td>
<td>Applied Analysis of Health</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBS 5001</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term Credit Hours**

9

**Year 2**

**Fall**
SBS 8001 | Research Methods in Public Health | 3  
SBS 9289 | MPH Fieldwork I | 3  
Elective | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 9

**Spring**

SBS 9389 | MPH Fieldwork II | 3  
Elective | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Total Credit Hours:** 42

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**Online MPH-SBS**

**Year 1**

**Fall**

SBS 5001 | Fundamentals of Public Health | 3  
SBS 5002 | Program Planning, Theory, and Practice | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Spring**

EPBI 5101 | Fundamentals of Epidemiology | 3  
Elective | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Summer**

HPM 5006 | Political and Economic Aspects of Health | 3  
Elective | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Year 2**

**Fall**

SBS 8009 | Health Psychology | 3  
SBS 8105 | Health Communication | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Spring**

EPBI 5002 | Biostatistics | 3  
EPBI 5005 | Applied Analysis of Health | 1.5  
ENVH 5004 | Environmental Health | 1.5  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Summer**

HRPR 5001 | Current and Emerging Issues in Public Health and Health Professions | 0  

**Term Credit Hours:** 0

**Year 3**

**Fall**

SBS 8001 | Research Methods in Public Health | 3  
SBS 9289 | MPH Fieldwork I | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Spring**

SBS 8005 | Health Promotion in Vulnerable Populations | 3  
SBS 9389 | MPH Fieldwork II | 3  

**Term Credit Hours:** 6

**Total Credit Hours:** 42

**Internship:** An internship is required as part of a student's M.P.H. fieldwork.

**Culminating Events:**

*Fieldwork Practicum:*
The M.P.H. fieldwork practicum is the capstone experience of the M.P.H. educational program and takes place over two terms during the student’s final year in the program. The fieldwork practicum requires a student to synthesize and integrate the knowledge acquired in coursework and other learning experiences and to apply theory and principles in a placement that approximates some aspect of professional practice. The internship or practicum experience occurs in a public health agency or under the supervision of a faculty preceptor and in conjunction with two semester courses (SBS 9289 and SBS 9389) taught by department faculty. The M.P.H. fieldwork experience is required by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), the accrediting body of all U.S. schools of public health, for completion of the M.P.H. degree. In addition, this culminating experience provides the student with the opportunity to develop expertise in a topic area and to contribute original and independent observations to a body of knowledge.

For the culminating experience to fulfill the requirements of SBS 9289 and SBS 9389, M.P.H. in Social and Behavioral Sciences students are expected to complete a fieldwork experience, which enables them to:

- Explain the contributions of social and behavioral sciences to public health.
- Describe health problems, including their social, cultural, environmental, and behavioral causes.
- Ensure that social and behavioral science theories and concepts are used in planning and evaluating public health programs.
- Use behavioral science and health promotion methods in planning/evaluating public health programs.
- Apply ethical principles to public health program planning, implementation, and evaluation.
- Identify multiple targets and levels of intervention for social and behavioral science programs and/or policies, including individual, family, network, organizational, community, policy, physical environment, and culture.

A final paper is the required deliverable for the M.P.H. fieldwork requirement. Students must demonstrate their proficiency and the application of theory and principles in the paper and demonstrate mastery of the required competencies during the oral defense. The evaluation of the M.P.H. fieldwork practicum experience, therefore, is integrated into the culminating experience requirement.

Contacts

Program Web Address:

Department Information:
Dept. of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Ritter Hall Annex, 9th Floor (004-09)
1301 Cecil B. Moore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6005
publichealth@temple.edu
215-204-8726

Submission Address for Application Materials:
https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/

Department Contacts:

Admissions:
Annemarie Szambelak
CPH Office of Admissions
annemarie@temple.edu
215-204-5200

Director of Graduate Studies:
Bradley N. Collins, Ph.D.
collinsb@temple.edu
215-204-2849

Chairperson:
Stephen Lepore, Ph.D.
stephen.lepore@temple.edu
215-204-8726
Courses

**SBS 5001. Fundamentals of Public Health. 3 Credit Hours.**
This course encompasses historical and sociocultural approaches to understanding public health and bioethics. Emphasis is on understanding public health systems from the dawn of history to the 21st century and the evolution of bioethical issues including the application of bioethical principles, regulations, and strategies in research and health practice. This seminar emphasizes the integration of conceptual and experiential learning. This is reflected in the course design and in teaching and learning processes.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: College of Public Health, Social Work.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**SBS 5002. Program Planning, Theory, and Practice. 3 Credit Hours.**
Program Planning, Theory, and Practice is a core course in the MPH curriculum that includes content critical to the development of public health practitioners and researchers. It covers all aspects of the public health program planning cycle: (1) the identification of community stakeholders and conducting needs assessments; (2) using scientific literature and best practices to inform program development; and (3) implementation and evaluation of community programs. The course will introduce major models of human health behavior and use theory and evidence to guide students as they develop a public health program. Final program proposals include measurable goals and objectives, activities, and an evaluation plan, with a focus on cultural competence and tailoring to meet the needs of the community. Upon completion of the course, students will have the tools to design and evaluate public health programs in the community.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**SBS 5004. Understanding Stress and Change. 3 Credit Hours.**
This course focuses on the impact of stress on physical and emotional health and quality of life. It focuses on the causes, types, and physiology of stress and stress reduction methods, including relaxation, biofeedback, fear control, cognitive restructuring, and social psychological interventions in community settings.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**SBS 5005. International Health Studies Abroad. 6 Credit Hours.**
Students learn to articulate a historical and cultural understanding of the Costa Rican approach to health and medical care, to identify the major health concerns of the Costa Rican population in rural and urban settings and the major strides taken to improve health, to conduct limited fieldwork with rural communities in teams of 3 to 4 persons or conduct community health field research among the graduate students, and to write a professional paper and presentation on one of the health issues in Costa Rica based on their experience there. While previous Spanish language proficiency is not required, some Spanish language ability is essential for students to gain the maximum understanding during the program. Therefore, students during the first two weeks of the program take intensive Spanish language training in Costa Rica at the Institute for Central American Development Studies (ICADS). The third week involves travel to other regions within Costa Rica to examine different health conditions depending on the year's topics. During the fourth and fifth weeks, students live and work in rural communities and help to facilitate health education workshops on different activities such as: diabetes, nutrition, HIV/AIDS prevention education, women's health, child health care issues, first aid education, fitness and exercise, and backyard gardening.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**SBS 5009. Risk Communication and Public Health. 3 Credit Hours.**
The goal of this course is to demonstrate how health communication professionals can create and implement risk communication plans related to either possible or actual public health hazards (anything that can cause morbidity or mortality). This course focuses on risk communication within the context of terrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and health problems that occur because of natural disasters. It will include core principles of risk communication, examine special challenges of risk communication with diverse audiences, and prepare students to create a crisis and emergency risk communication plan.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SBS 5015. Public Health Nutrition. 3 Credit Hours.
This seminar course explores nutrition as a science and platform for public health promotion and disease prevention. The fundamental contribution of nutrition to public health as well as the potential of food and nutrition policy, programs, and interventions to reduce risk and promote health are examined.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 5102. Theoretical Foundations of Health Behavior. 3 Credit Hours.
Theories of decision-making related to health behavior. Emphasis on the dynamic interaction of attitudes, values, situational factors and other factors that influence health promoting and health damaging behavior.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: College of Public Health, Social Work.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 5104. Models for Teaching Health and Patient Education. 3 Credit Hours.
This course deals with the description and application of teaching models used in health and patient education in communities, health care systems, and schools. There is an emphasis on creating learning environments, communication skills, tailoring for diverse populations, and teaching techniques.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 5105. Maternal and Child Health. 3 Credit Hours.
This seminar on maternal and child health (MCH) focuses on health problems and diseases affecting pregnant and postpartum women and their children from the individual, community, and national perspectives. The course highlights the impact of common health problems and their functional outcomes in terms of morbidity, mortality, psychological well being, reproduction and growth. Students will examine social, behavioral, systems and broader population determinants of maternal and childhood diseases, as well as interventions and programs designed to address MCH problems.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 5500. Seminar in Current Issues in Public Health. 3 Credit Hours.
Seminar topics rotate to address current issues in public health research, policy and practice.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: College of Public Health, Social Work.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SBS 8001. Research Methods in Public Health. 3 Credit Hours.
This course examines how to develop and test models, formulate research problem statements and hypotheses, and implement and evaluate research designs and methods of data collection in public health research. It concentrates on fundamental concepts in research design and measurement that help prepare the student to plan and implement theoretically informed and methodologically sound scientific studies in public health and to critically evaluate and discuss public health research. The course emphasizes ethical and practical methods of studying and evaluating causal relations (efficacy and internal validity); determining generalizability of observations (effectiveness, external and ecological validity); and accurate and reliable measuring and conceptualizing of variables (construct validity). In addition, it covers systematic literature searches and randomized controlled trials, which are both increasingly important methods for conducting research in public health.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: College of Public Health, Social Work.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 8002. Research Seminar in Public Health. 3 Credit Hours.
This is a research seminar on linkages between theory and research in social and behavioral health studies. It is required for Ph.D. students prior to taking the preliminary examinations.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SBS 8005. Health Promotion in Vulnerable Populations. 3 Credit Hours.  
This course is designed to help students develop a deep understanding of the potential causes of and solutions to health disparities. Health disparities are defined as unequal, unfair, and preventable differences in the burden of disease, injury, violence, or opportunities to achieve optimal health. Health disparities experienced by vulnerable populations are well documented in the United States. This course will review, critically appraise and discuss social and behavioral sciences theory and research on the physical, mental, and social vulnerabilities contributing to the poor health of subgroups of the American populace. Readings and discussions will also focus on challenges as well as approaches to engaging vulnerable and hard-to-reach populations in social and behavioral intervention research aimed at improving health outcomes. Specifically, this course will cover social and behavioral science theories; methodological and recruitment challenges and strategies; approaches to intervening at the individual, community, and system levels; and approaches to developing and adapting interventions.  
**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.  
**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 8006. Addictions and Dependencies. 3 Credit Hours.  
Social, psychological, cultural, clinical, and biological factors associated with addictions and dependencies, including the use of psychoactive drugs and lifestyle behaviors, are covered. Reviewed are prevention and treatment approaches based on the causes and correlates of addictions and dependencies.  
**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.  
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: College of Public Health, Social Work.  
**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 8009. Health Psychology. 3 Credit Hours.  
Through class lecture, readings, and discussions, students will learn how characteristics of persons (e.g., personality, behavior, coping, and biological reactivity) and their environments (e.g., stress and social support) influence health outcomes at the individual and population level. In addition, the course examines the potential of health psychology to explain population-level health problems and to ameliorate public health problems through behavioral and community-based interventions.  
**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.  
**College Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: College of Public Health, Social Work.  
**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 8018. Obesity: From Genes to Junk Food. 3 Credit Hours.  
The course will broadly explore the etiology, treatment, and prevention of obesity from a multilevel systems perspective. Genetic, epigenetic, physiological, and psycho-social influences will be considered at the level of the individual. These influences will also be considered within family, school, and work-site contexts. Macro-level influences include government policies and programs, media, food industry influences, and community resources. Critical thinking skills and scholarly exchange will be emphasized through classroom discussion and weekly presentations/critiques of emerging science in each topic area.  
**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.  
**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

**Pre-requisites:**  
EPBI 5101|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently  
OR PBHL 5101|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently  
OR EPBI 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently  
OR PBHL 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

SBS 8105. Health Communication. 3 Credit Hours.  
This course examines levels of communication processes and effects in 1) intrapersonal health communication related to personality, attitudes, cognitive style, and quality of life; 2) interpersonal communication in the patient-caregiver relationships, including dynamics of stress, conflict, and social support; 3) organizational communication in health-care settings; 4) mass communication processes, including media campaigns to promote good health and disease prevention; and 5) risk communication across settings and strategies.  
**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.  
**Repeatability:** This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
SBS 8111. Public Health Program Planning. 3 Credit Hours.
This course covers program planning in public health practice. It analyzes national health objectives and their applications at the state and community levels. One emphasis is on program planning as a change strategy to alter knowledge, attitudes, and health behavior to achieve positive health outcomes.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites:
(EPBI 5101|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently
OR PBHL 5101|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently
OR EPBI 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently
OR PBHL 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently
AND (EPBI 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently
OR PBHL 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently
AND (SBS 5102|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently
OR PBHL 5102|Minimum Grade of B-|May be taken concurrently

SBS 9083. Readings and Conference in Public Health. 1 to 3 Credit Hours.
This is an advanced tutorial in public health with an appropriate faculty member. Note: Registration requires a written contract with the supervising faculty member and approval of the student's advisor and of the Director of Graduate Programs.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SBS 9189. MPH Capstone Seminar. 3 Credit Hours.
This seminar is required of M.P.H. students during final year of study. The seminar includes integration of coursework and practice skills to develop a fieldwork project or internship in a public health agency.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

SBS 9289. MPH Fieldwork I. 3 Credit Hours.
This course entails a fieldwork project or internship in a public health agency. It includes seminars, oral and written reports of progress, and joint supervision by a preceptor and faculty member.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 9389. MPH Fieldwork II. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is an evaluation of the fieldwork project or internship using a full range of research methodologies. Data are collected, analyzed, and reported in a comprehensive final report. Oral and/or poster presentations are presented to public health organizations. The course includes a final oral defense of the project or internship.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

SBS 9994. Preliminary Examinations. 1 Credit Hour.
This course supports preparation for taking the preliminary examinations in the Health Policy and Social and Behavioral Sciences Ph.D. programs. To enroll, students must have completed all required coursework for the Ph.D. and obtain the approval of the Ph.D. Program Director. Students must be enrolled to take the required preliminary examinations.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be enrolled for additional credit.

SBS 9996. Masters Res in Pub Hlth. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is limited to students who have chosen to fulfill the master's degree by writing a thesis.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.
SBS 9998. Dissertation Proposal Research. 2 Credit Hours.
This course supports preparation of the dissertation proposal. The course is required for students who have passed the preliminary examinations for their PhD program and who have not yet defended the dissertation proposal.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**Degree Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Degrees: Doctor of Philosophy.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.

**Pre-requisites:**
SBS 9994|Minimum Grade of P|May not be taken concurrently.

SBS 9999. Dissertation Research. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
This course is limited to Ph.D. candidates who have completed and defended a dissertation proposal that is filed with the Graduate School by the last day to add a course in the semester. Continuous registration in 9999 fall and spring is required until the dissertation is successfully defended.

**Level Registration Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
**Student Attribute Restrictions:** Must be enrolled in one of the following Student Attributes: Dissertation Writing Student.

**Repeatability:** This course may be repeated for additional credit.