

Social and Behavioral Sciences, Ph.D.

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Learn more about the Doctor of Philosophy in Social and Behavioral Sciences.

About the Program

The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences administers the Ph.D. in Social and Behavioral Sciences (PhD-SBS). This program provides advanced training in theory, methods, and research related to social and behavioral influences on population health that prepares students for advanced research and scholarship. The program provides experiences that support interdisciplinary learning; promote critical and theory-based problem-solving skills to address public health threats; and foster the development of professional values and ethics. Heavy emphasis is placed on scientific foundations, research methods, and statistics as well as hands-on research experience.

Coursework and experiential learning emphasize the dynamic interaction of individual difference characteristics, social circumstances, and situational factors influencing health-promoting and health-damaging behavior and behavior change. Required research courses, structured research experiences each academic term, colloquium presentations, and coursework in teaching and grant writing expand students' knowledge and application of research methods and analytic techniques while facilitating professional development and scholarship. Students choose advanced training opportunities in concentration electives with close consultation from a faculty mentor to ensure proper breadth and depth of training in students' emerging areas of expertise. A publishable first-authored paper is required prior to sitting for the preliminary examinations to further facilitate students' focus on scholarship.

Throughout enrollment in the program, students are expected to actively participate in scholarly activities and develop their own line of independent research that will contribute to their area of interest within the social and behavioral sciences. Many opportunities lie in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences for research mentorship with internationally renowned faculty affiliated with dynamic research laboratories and centers, including the Center for Obesity Research and Education, the Health Behavior and Research Clinic, the Health Disparities Research Laboratory, the Risk Communication Laboratory, and the Social and Behavioral Health Interventions Laboratory, as well as the Dean's Research Group. Collectively, centers and labs in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences develop, test, and evaluate interventions aimed at resolving significant public health problems in high-risk and vulnerable populations. Examples of research content areas in which department faculty are actively involved include cancer control (e.g., smoking cessation); cancer prevention and decision-making (e.g., early detection and screening); cancer survivorship (e.g., online and live support groups); ethnic and racial disparities in cancer; health systems research; obesity; and violence. Research mentors in these labs offer opportunities for research placements and developing papers for publication and presentation at conferences; provide professional socialization; help define dissertation projects using existing funded studies; and may provide some funding in the form of Research Assistantships. Students in the PhD-SBS program also are expected to participate in ongoing professional development opportunities, such as the monthly SBS graduate student seminar series, as well as journal clubs, colloquia, and brown-bag research presentations.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 7 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Full-time study is preferred.

Interdisciplinary Study: Students are encouraged to develop programs of study that are interdisciplinary in nature, involving coursework or scholarly activities across departments, schools, and colleges.

Affiliation(s): Students are expected to work in close collaboration with their faculty research mentor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. In addition, students can consider collaborative research projects across affiliated units within the College of Public Health in coordination with their developing line of research and with approval of their research mentor and the Ph.D. Program Director. A list of active research centers can be found on the College of Public Health website at <https://cph.temple.edu/departments-research/research-centers>.

Faculty and doctoral students also are involved in research with affiliates across the University, including the Fox Chase Cancer Center, the Fox School of Business and Management, the Institute on Aging, the Institute on Disabilities, the Lewis Katz School of Medicine, the Lew Klein College of Media and Communication, and the School of Podiatric Medicine. Additional research opportunities at Temple University include the Institute for Survey Research, the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, and the Social Science Data Library.

Job Prospects: Students in the program develop public health content expertise and skills in research, scholarship, teaching, and grant writing. Therefore, graduates of the PhD-SBS program are prepared to become faculty members or researchers in colleges and universities or to hold research-related positions in a wide range of organizations, such as agencies promoting community and public health, consulting firms, foundations, healthcare systems, nonprofits, and research centers. Graduates are employed in health systems, hospitals and clinics, public health departments, public health and other healthcare and human service agencies, and universities.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Doctoral coursework is open only to students enrolled in the program.

Financing Opportunities: Full-time Ph.D. students generally receive financial support through fellowships or assistantships.

University-Wide Fellowships:

University-wide fellowships provide a stipend and tuition for two years of study. The College of Public Health provides assistantships to cover two additional years of study. The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences nominates outstanding applicants for consideration for the following fellowship opportunities:

- Presidential Fellowships are the most prestigious awards. Competition is reserved for only the most outstanding candidates.
- University Fellowships are awarded to outstanding incoming graduate students. These awards are intended to support students who demonstrate outstanding potential for success in their chosen fields.

College of Public Health Graduate Assistantships:

Graduate assistantships sponsored by the College of Public Health include the following:

- Research Assistants (RAs) perform supervised research activities. Research assistantships are frequently supported by faculty grant funding, and it is anticipated RAs will work with faculty members on new and continuing grant proposals and develop both research and grant-writing competencies.
- Teaching Assistants (TAs) support faculty in the teaching of courses, with activities that include grading examinations/papers or teaching occasional lecture sections. One purpose of a TA opportunity is to develop competencies in current pedagogies that prepare students for academic teaching careers.

TAs and RAs provide 20 hours of service per week. Both assistantships carry a stipend and tuition remission for up to 9 credits per term. Consideration for admission with an assistantship requires a description of research and teaching experience; a statement of research and teaching goals; and identification of areas of interest, including identification of potential faculty mentors and articulation of career goals consistent with the mission and purpose of the PhD-SBS program.

Offers of admission are generally accompanied by a fellowship or assistantship offer. Students with full funding from another source (e.g., government funding) are given full consideration in the admission process. Self-funding through external employment is highly discouraged as it can impede progress in the program. The Graduate School website details the types of graduate student support.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: January 2

Admission into the Ph.D. program is highly competitive. Not only must applicants display an exemplary academic record and potential for scholarship, but their research interests and area of emerging expertise must match those of Graduate Faculty who are available to take a new student. All applicants to the PhD-SBS program must apply via the Centralized Application Service for Public Health (SOPHAS). The system can be accessed at <https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/>.

All application materials must be received by the deadline in order to be reviewed by the Ph.D. Admissions Committee. Admission is competitive, and students are admitted only once a year. Applications are evaluated together after the deadline has passed. Applications that are completed after the deadline are held for review the following year. An important component of the admissions decision is the fit between the applicant's goals, experiences, and interests and the expertise of the faculty in the Ph.D. program who are designated as "Graduate Faculty" and available to mentor an incoming student.

Letters of Reference:

Number Required: 3

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from evaluators who can provide insight into the applicant's academic and research experiences and talents, as well as comment on the applicant's aptitude for doctoral-level study and research. Recommendations from college/university faculty members are preferred.

Coursework Required for Admission Consideration: Applicants are expected to have completed coursework in the natural, social, or behavioral sciences related to health. Coursework in statistics and research methods is desirable. The following prerequisites, which do not count toward the Ph.D., must also be satisfied, either through an M.P.H. degree or course equivalency:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ENVH 5103		3
EPBI 5002	Biostatistics	3
EPBI 5101	Fundamentals of Epidemiology	3
HPM 5006 or HPM 8003	Political and Economic Aspects of Health Political-Economic Aspects of Public Health	3
SBS 5002	Program Planning, Theory, and Practice	3

Master's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: Nearly all students admitted to the program have a master's degree. Although a master's degree specifically in Public Health is not required, preference is given to applicants who have a background in the health sciences, including behavioral medicine, environmental health, epidemiology, health communication, health psychology, medicine, or a public health discipline.

Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A baccalaureate degree is required, although it need not be in Public Health. Preference is given to applicants who have a background in the health sciences, including behavioral medicine, environmental health, epidemiology, health communication, health psychology, medicine, or a public health discipline.

Statement of Goals: In no more than 750 words:

- identify the Social and Behavioral Sciences doctorate as the program for which you wish to be considered and why;
- describe important academic and research achievements and interests; and
- specify how your research interests relate to your ultimate career goals and to ongoing work by faculty members affiliated with the PhD-SBS program.

The match between faculty and student interests is important in the admissions decision. Be sure to articulate clearly the linkages among your training goals, the expertise of our faculty, and the training emphasis of the Ph.D. program. For a description of faculty interests and active research, visit the Social and Behavioral Sciences Faculty webpage.

Standardized Test Scores:

GRE: Required. The median score of recently admitted applicants is above the 50th percentile on the verbal and quantitative subscales. Official GRE scores should be sent to SOPHAS using code 0151.

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 (send officially to SOPHAS using the SOPHAS-specific TOEFL code 5688)
- IELTS Academic: 6.5
- PTE Academic: 53
- Duolingo: 110

Resume: Current CV required.

Writing Sample: Scholarly articles, technical reports, or academic papers are preferred. Unless it is a published work (e.g., a book chapter or peer-reviewed journal article), the writing sample should be no more than 10 pages.

Advanced Standing: A student enrolled in the PhD-SBS program may apply for advanced standing credits for graduate coursework graded "B" or better from an accredited institution. Credits for courses taken as part of a master's degree are considered. Credits for thesis, fieldwork, clinical practice, or directed projects/readings cannot be used for advanced standing credit. To be approved for advanced standing, the courses must be deemed appropriate as part of the student's training in the PhD-SBS program. The maximum number of advanced standing credits awarded is 9.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:

Number of Credits Required to Earn the Degree: 45

Required Courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Courses		
HRPR 5001	Current and Emerging Issues in Public Health and Health Professions	0
SBS 8005	Health Promotion in Vulnerable Populations	3
SBS 8009	Health Psychology	3
SBS 8105	Health Communication	3
SBS 8112	Concepts and Methods to Improve Public Health Interventions	3
Research and Statistics Courses		
EPBI 8012	Multivariable Biostatistics ¹	3
EPBI 8201	Structural Equation Modeling ¹	3
EPBI 8212	Grantsmanship in Health Research	3
HRPR 5999	Research Experience in Health Professions ²	0
SBS 8001	Research Methods in Public Health	3

Electives

Select five from the following: ³		15
EPBI 5003	Spatial Analysis in Public Health	
GDC 8003	Research Approaches in Communication, Development and Social Change	
HRPR 8002	Qualitative Methods in Health Outcomes Measurement	
SBS 5105	Maternal and Child Health	
SBS 8002		
SBS 8006	Addictions and Dependencies	
SBS 8018	Obesity: From Genes to Junk Food	
SBS 9083	Readings and Conference in Public Health ⁴	
Research Courses ⁵		6
SBS 9994	Preliminary Examinations ⁶	
SBS 9998	Dissertation Proposal Research	
SBS 9999	Dissertation Research	
Total Credit Hours		45

¹ Students may select an alternate advanced statistics course with the approval of the faculty mentor.

² Students discuss gaps in their training or areas for scholarship development with their faculty mentor prior to completing the first four academic terms in the program. Based on this planning, students engage in a project with a research mentor, as approved by the Director of Graduate Studies.

³ With approval from the faculty mentor or Ph.D. Program Director, students may select alternate electives from within the College and across the University. Advising helps students coordinate courses for additional methods training or to satisfy requirements for available certificates, such as the Interdisciplinary Health Communication graduate certificate.

⁴ If selected, SBS 9083 must be taken for 3 credits.

⁵ The Graduate School requires that students complete a minimum of 6 credits that include SBS 9994, SBS 9998, and SBS 9999. Of the 6 credits, at least 2 credits must be earned in SBS 9999.

⁶ Prior to enrolling in SBS 9994, a paper requirement must be fulfilled by the student who, under the advisement of the primary mentor, submits for review a publishable research article to a peer-reviewed journal.

Minimum Grade to be Earned for All Required Courses: B-**Culminating Events:***Area Paper:*

Prior to sitting for the preliminary examinations, students must have successfully published or written a publishable paper in their chosen area of research interest. The purpose of the paper requirement is to demonstrate critical and interpretive knowledge in specialized areas of one's chosen program, as well as a high proficiency in written communication and a capacity to contribute to generalizable knowledge in the field. The student must be the lead or sole author. For students who enter the program without already having published a first-authored, peer-reviewed article, they typically initiate efforts toward this requirement during their first term of residency.

A student cannot advance to the preliminary examinations without passing the paper requirement. Failure to satisfactorily complete the area paper requirement within the specified time frame can result in dismissal from the Ph.D. program. Students who are entering the Ph.D. program and have already published a peer-reviewed paper related to their programmatic subdiscipline can request to waive this requirement by completing a waiver application and submitting it along with the published document to the Director of Graduate Studies.

Preliminary Examinations:

Students typically take their preliminary examinations during their third year of residency in the program, after completing the paper requirement. All students are required to take the preliminary examinations prior to completing and defending their dissertation research proposal. The exams should be taken within one term of completing all coursework. Students are required to meet with their mentor and Director of Graduate Studies before the beginning of the term in which they plan to take the examinations to establish eligibility.

The preliminary examinations are designed to test fundamental core competencies of the students' training. The student must register for 1 credit of SBS 9994 in the term in which the examinations are taken. To register for SBS 9994, the student must have completed all coursework or be enrolled in final courses in the term in which the examinations are taken. Note that all Incomplete and/or "NR" grades must have been removed, and the area paper requirement must have been satisfied. Special authorization is required to register.

The preliminary examinations consist of the following components:

- A comprehensive one-week take-home written examination, with an emphasis on the student's concentration, about the scientific foundations as well as social and behavioral sciences underpinnings of public health; and
- A methods exam, which is a four-hour in-class examination on research methods and statistics.

Students who fail these exams may have one opportunity to take the examinations again. A second failure results in automatic dismissal from the Ph.D. program.

Dissertation Proposal:

After passing the preliminary examinations, students may enroll in SBS 9998. Students must be enrolled for 1 credit of SBS 9998 each term until they file their dissertation proposal with the Graduate School.

All students must form a Doctoral Advisory Committee (DAC) with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies. The DAC is composed of at least three Graduate Faculty members: two members, including the chair, must be from the Ph.D. program faculty of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The DAC Chair must be approved as Doctoral Graduate Faculty by the Dean of the College of Public Health and by the Graduate School. The chair is responsible for overseeing and guiding the student's progress; coordinating the responses of the Committee members; and informing the student and the Director of Graduate Studies annually of the student's academic progress. A fourth, external reader is also required at the time of the final dissertation defense. This person must be a member of the Graduate Faculty at Temple or approved by the Dean of the College to take part in the final dissertation examination. This fourth member is not required to be present at the defense of the proposal.

To fulfill the requirements of SBS 9998, students must submit a dissertation proposal, successfully defend it orally before their Committee, apply for IRB approval for the proposed research, and submit the proposal to the Graduate School. Students have a maximum of one year from the time of completing their preliminary examinations to develop and defend their dissertation proposal. Thus, students may enroll in SBS 9998 for only two terms without permission. Students needing more time may, with the support of their mentor, formally petition the Director of Graduate Studies for an extension, although an extension is not guaranteed. Failure to meet these requirements can result in dismissal from the program.

Dissertation:

The doctoral dissertation is an original theory-based research study that makes a significant contribution to the field of Public Health. It should expand existing knowledge and demonstrate the student's mastery of theory and research methods, particularly within a concentration or specialty area. The research should be rigorous, while upholding the ethics and standards of the field. Students are expected to submit their dissertation study for publication and presentation to professional audiences.

To fulfill the dissertation requirement, students must prepare and orally defend the final dissertation in a public meeting. Students should present their plans for publishing their dissertation as part of their defense. Students must be enrolled continuously for at least 3 credits of dissertation research until their dissertation is successfully defended. The Graduate School requires a minimum of 2 credits of SBS 9999. Students must be enrolled in the course in the term that they graduate.

The Dissertation Examining Committee (DEC) consists of the DAC plus at least one additional external reviewer. The external reviewer must be doctorally prepared. If this person is not a member of the Temple University Graduate Faculty, s/he must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies, the Dean of the College, and the Graduate School to take part in the final dissertation examination. The DEC evaluates the student's written dissertation and oral defense, including the student's ability to articulate orally the research question; methodological approach; primary findings; interpretation of the findings; and implications for theory, research, and practice. The DEC votes to pass or fail the dissertation and the defense at the conclusion of the public presentation.

If a student needs to change a member of a committee, the new member must be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies and registered with the Graduate School.

Students who are preparing to defend their dissertation should confirm a time and date with their DEC and work with their department's administrative assistant to secure a room. This should be done at least one month in advance of the proposed date. The administrative assistant arranges the time, date, and room within two working days. After the time, date, and room are secured, the student must send to the Graduate School a completed "Announcement of Dissertation Defense" form, found in TUportal under the Tools tab within "University Forms." This must be submitted at least 10 working days before the defense. The Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences posts flyers announcing the defense, and the Graduate School lists the defense on its website.

Contacts

Program Web Address:

<https://www.temple.edu/academics/degree-programs/social-and-behavioral-sciences-phd-hp-sbsc-phd>

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:

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215-204-5200

Interim Ph.D. Program Director:

Jennifer Fisher, Ph.D.
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215-707-0921

Chairperson:

Stephen Lepore, Ph.D.
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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 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 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 5201. Nutritional Biochemistry. 3 Credit Hours.

SBS 5201 examines the roles of the carbohydrate, lipid, protein, vitamin, minerals, and water in human metabolism. The course begins with an overview of the structure and function of the human cellular and digestion components. It then explores the normal primary biochemical pathways of each nutrient after ingestion. Disease pathogenesis is touched upon, but not the crux emphasized. The course is lecture intensive without a lab, with required weekly textbook readings, and subsequent graded lecture and reading assessments.

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

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

SBS 5204. Nutrition in the Life Cycle. 3 Credit Hours.

Nutrition in the Life Cycle will build on students' existing knowledge of the biological processes and nutritional needs at the different stages of the life cycle. Students will discuss evidence based nutrition and the application of these principles. As students move through each stage in the life cycle, they will complete a part of a longitudinal case study, following an individual from infancy to older adulthood. These assignments will require critical thinking and inter-professional practice skills.

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

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

SBS 5211. Medical Nutrition Therapy. 3 Credit Hours.

SBS 5211 is designed for MPH/RD students to gain preparatory knowledge required for proficient work in the clinical setting. The course is intensive. We will move quickly through the key components of the Nutrition Care Plan (NCP), that includes specific food-related or enteral/parental nutrition plans. The latter half of the course involves specific application of the NCP in differing disorders or diseases involving energy balance, organ systems, metabolic stress, and more. Each lecture will have required textbook readings, classwork case studies, and homework assignments related to the readings and lecture material. Successful completion of exams throughout the semester will also be expected.

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:

(KINS 1223|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

AND (SBS 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

SBS 5214. Cultural and Community Nutrition. 3 Credit Hours.

In Cultural and Community Nutrition students will develop a deep understanding of the way culture and environment influence health and nutrition. After discussing the guidelines for a healthy diet, students will dive into activities that promote cultural humility. Students will spend time in the community assessing the food environment and identifying barriers to healthy eating. Students will leave this course with a better sense of self and a deeper understanding of others.

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

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

SBS 5216. Nutrition Education and Counseling. 3 Credit Hours.

Nutrition Education and Counseling will provide students with the skills to develop nutrition education groups and provide individual nutrition counseling. Students will work on developing theory and evidence-based nutrition education session that will be delivered in a community setting. In the second half of the semester, students will learn about individual counseling theory and techniques. This section of the course will culminate with a simulated nutrition counseling session.

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

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

SBS 5217. Food Preparation and Management. 3 Credit Hours.

Food Preparation and Management will provide students with the skills to prepare food and manage large scale food production. Students will spend the first half of the semester in the kitchen learning about food safety and developing food preparation skills (graduate students will also complete servesafe training). The second half of the semester will focus on food procurement, storage and serving practice and help students develop management skills. The final project will be a formal dinner that students advertise, organize, prepare and serve.

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 provides fundamental graduate-level research methods training germane to the social and behavioral sciences. Students will examine how to formulate research problem statements and hypotheses, select appropriate and sound methods for data collection, and critically evaluate research designs in social and behavioral science research. It concentrates on fundamental concepts in research design and measurement that help prepare students to plan and implement theoretically-informed and methodologically-sound scientific studies and to critically evaluate and discuss social and behavioral science 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 measurement and conceptualization of variables (construct validity).

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.

Pre-requisites:

(SBS 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

OR SBS 5102|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

AND (EPBI 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

AND (EPBI 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

OR EPBI 5101|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

SBS 8005. Health Promotion in Vulnerable Populations. 3 Credit Hours.

Health inequities - unequal, unfair, and preventable differences in the burden of disease, injury, violence, or opportunities to achieve optimal health experienced by vulnerable populations - are well documented in the United States. This course will review, critically appraise and discuss theory and research on the physical, mental, and social vulnerabilities contributing to the poor health of subgroups of the American populace, with a focus on challenges and approaches to engaging hard-to-reach populations in intervention research aimed at improving health outcomes. Specifically, this course will cover theoretical frameworks, methodological and recruitment challenges and strategies, approaches to intervening at the individual, community, and system levels, and approaches to developing and adapting interventions. Students will develop a deep understanding of the potential causes of and solutions to health inequities in the US.

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 multiple communication levels, channels, media, and communication technologies as they relate to developing and implementing public health communication interventions. Levels of communication processes and effects in the following will be covered: 1) intrapersonal health communication related to personality, attitudes, cognitive style, and culture; 2) interpersonal communication in the patient-caregiver relationship including communication style, decision making, and dynamics of stress and conflict; 3) mass communication processes including media campaigns and social marketing to promote good health and disease prevention; and 4) risk and crisis 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 8112. Concepts and Methods to Improve Public Health Interventions. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is a core course in the PhD in Social and Behavioral Sciences curriculum and an elective available to MPH and other graduate students in the College of Public Health. This course will guide students' efforts to build a stronger foundational knowledge of empirical evidence about a public health problem, and to synthesize that evidence with public health theories and principles of behavior change to understand how to improve strategies to address the problem. Students will use inductive strategies and deductive logic to develop and defend conceptual models that (a) represent risk and protective factors influencing a chosen problem and (b) exemplify the potential efficacy of an intervention strategy that either highlights current state-of-art practice (masters students) or that advances (doctoral students) the current state-of-art approaches to that problem. The culmination of sequential assignments includes student presentations highlighting current public health challenges in their topical areas and a testable intervention strategy framed conceptually by health behavior theory. Students are expected to prepare for each class and participate actively.

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:

SBS 8009|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently
OR SBS 8105|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently
OR SBS 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently.

SBS 9083. Readings and Conference in Public Health. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.

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 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.

Pre-requisites:

(SBS 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
OR SBS 5102|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EPBI 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EPBI 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
OR EPBI 5101|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

SBS 9291. Dietetics Experiential Learning. 3 Credit Hours.

Students will complete three assignments that draw on their experiences in the clinical and food service setting and present their work to the class. In addition, students will participate in journal clubs and role play activities that help develop management and ethical practice skills. Preceptors will evaluate the application of these skills in a real life setting and provide feedback that does not impact the student's grade. This course will give students the space to reflect on their experiences, and tie academic learning to experiential learning and learn from each other.

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:

(SBS 5214|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (SBS 5211|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

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.

Pre-requisites:

(SBS 9289|Minimum Grade of C-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (SBS 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
OR SBS 5102|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EPBI 5002|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
AND (EPBI 5201|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)
OR EPBI 5101|Minimum Grade of B-|May not be taken concurrently)

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 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.