

Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

BS/MPH Dual Degree Program 2019-2020

Note: All curriculum revisions will be updated immediately on the GWSPH website (<http://publichealth.gwu.edu/>).

Program Director

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BACKGROUND:

The George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health (SPH) offers a unique opportunity to a select group of students who not only demonstrate academic excellence, but also demonstrate a strong commitment to public health. The Milken Institute SPH will accept a small number of outstanding students each year to the BS/MPH program. Applicants may apply to any of the MPH programs. Applicants for Global Health programs must apply in their junior year. As incentives to move beyond the traditional undergraduate curriculum, SPH offers participants admission to the MPH program without having to sit for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), as well as the opportunity to complete both the BS and MPH degrees more efficiently than if the degrees been completed separately. This dual degree program strives to matriculate public health leaders who are committed to life-long learning and to improving the health and well-being of our local, national, and international communities. This is an appropriate program for pre-professional students who are interested in public health issues.

The BS/MPH program is a multi-level, dual-degree program, meaning that students are concurrently enrolled in one undergraduate program and one graduate program, and that degrees will be awarded in different semesters.

Admissions Requirements

Students apply directly to the school's [residential MPH programs](#). For most programs, students apply in the summer after their sophomore year. **The department of Global Health will only consider applicants in the summer after their junior year.** Applications are due June 1st (if on a holiday or weekend, submissions are accepted the next business day). Incomplete or late applications will **not** be considered.

Students must be admitted to the BS in Public Health before applying to the BS/MPH program. Students must have a cumulative GPA of at least **3.3** to be considered for admission to the program. In addition, BS/MPH applicants are required to complete at least two public health core or elective classes by the end of that spring semester, receiving a grade of B or better.

Students admitted by their department of choice to the BS/MPH program are considered to be **provisionally admitted**. Admission is conditional upon on earning a grade of **B** or higher in PUBH, 6003, 6007, and 6011. Students who do not obtain a B or higher in all three courses will remain a BSPH major, but they may not be eligible to continue in the BS/MPH program. The decision whether the student may continue with the BS/MPH program resides with the student's MPH department.

It is **strongly** recommended that students receive guidance about the program before submitting an application. Students may receive guidance from BS/MPH Academic Advisor, Kristen Pinto, at kristenp9@gwu.edu. Please email her to schedule an appointment to discuss the program.

The link to the online application form is made available three weeks prior to the admission deadline at <http://publichealth.gwu.edu/programs/public-health-bsmph>. A complete application includes:

1. A personal statement

- a. The statement of purpose should explain how you became interested in your field of choice; the contribution you hope to make to your field; and how you believe GW's program will help you reach your career goals. If there is anything unusual in your transcripts, standardized testing, or resume that you wish to explain to the admissions committee, please include this information in your Statement of Purpose.
2. Two letters of recommendation - faculty members preferred;
3. Your resume;
4. Your unofficial transcript from BanWeb (Admissions will cross-check it against an official copy)
 - a. For students applying to the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics ONLY, you **must** have completed MATH 1200 or higher **OR** STAT 1051, 1053, 1127 or higher.
5. GRE scores, if you choose to submit them. (*GRE or other standardized test scores are not required for admission. However, applicants may submit standardized test scores if they feel that including this information will enhance their application.*)

No student is considered to have declared a BS/MPH until this process is completed and the student has received, and returned signed, the letter of acceptance from the GWSPH Office of Recruitment and Admissions. Thereafter students receive guidance from the Undergraduate Program Advisor **and their MPH faculty advisor**. Students are strongly encouraged to receive academic guidance from the Undergraduate Program Advisor in order to register for all subsequent undergraduate semesters. Students follow the prescribed curriculum effective in the year that he/she matriculates into the BS/MPH in Public Health program. The student, with the assistance of the Program Advisor, is responsible for managing the undergraduate degree requirements and the four crossover graduate courses. The student will work with the MPH faculty advisor to plan the graduate degree coursework beyond the crossover courses.

BS/MPH GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Graduate Credit Requirement.** 120 undergraduate credits are required for the BS degree; 45 graduate credits are required for the MPH degree.
2. **Course Requirements.** Successful completion of the undergraduate program is required for the BS degree, and completion of the remaining graduate Core Courses and the Program-Specific Courses are required for the MPH degree.
3. **Grade Point Requirement.** A 3.0 (B average) overall grade point average is required for graduate courses.
4. **Time Limit Requirement.** Both degrees must be completed within six years of the date accepted to the School of Public Health.
5. **Transfer Credit Policy.** In concordance with undergraduate and graduate established policies.
6. **Comply with policies and procedures** as outlined in the University and SPH requirements. After completing the BS degree, students will follow all graduate policies outlined in the University Bulletin and the SPH Student Handbook. Pay particular attention to the SPH requirements to complete human research training (CITI training), to complete 16 hours of professional enhancement (8 hours *before* completing the BSPH and *another* 8 hours before completing the MPH) activities, and to pass the Academic Integrity Quiz.

Prerequisite Requirements: Please note that these are prerequisites for required core courses, rather than prerequisites to apply to the program.

Required Course	Prerequisite(s)
PUBH 2110	BISC 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1115 (with 1120/1125 lab), 1116 (with 1126 lab), or HONR 1033 (Scientific Reasoning & Discovery: Biology Only)
PUBH 2112 & PUBH 3135W	PUBH 1101- Introduction to Public Health
PUBH 3130	ECON 1011- Principles of Economics I (Microeconomics)
PUBH 4140 and 4141	PUBH 3130 & PUBH 3135W; no more than 1 other core course can be taken concurrently. Students accepted in Fall 2019 and after must also satisfy the Research Methods Selective prior to enrolling in 4140W or 4141.

Students are responsible for reviewing and understanding the policies and requirements as outlined in the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Handbooks, which can be found here: <https://publichealth.gwu.edu/content/services-students> and the University's Bulletin. The Bulletin is available online at www.gwu.edu/~bulletin/.

BS/MPH Credit Distribution Chart

Category	Non Premed Credits	Premedical Credits
BS General Education Requirements (minimum)*	19	19 + 38 pre-med Cr*
BS Public Health Core Course Requirements/Research Selective (Includes 10 graduate crossover credits)	34	34
BS SPH Electives	9	9
BS Additional Electives	58	20
BS Total Credits	120	120
MPH additional Credits (<i>program-specific + graduate electives</i>)	35	35
BS/MPH Total Credits (120 credits plus 35 credits = 155 total credits)	155	155

**Gen Ed's credit total = Gen Ed's plus premedical concentration curricular requirements.*

***General Curriculum Courses**

Note: See Bulletin for most up-to-date version of the University General Education Requirements and approved courses: <http://bulletin.gwu.edu/university-regulations/> Consult with your Advisor. Courses may count toward more than one requirement as noted below.

****BS Public Health Core Course Requirements and Graduate Substitutions**

Public Health Core Courses (21 credits)

Required Courses	Credits	Title
PUBH 1101	3	Introduction to Public Health and Health Services
PUBH 1102	3	History in Public Health
PUBH 2110	3	Public Health Biology
PUBH 3130	3	Health Services Management and Economics
PUBH 3133	3	Global Health and Development
PUBH 3135 W	3	Health Policy
PUBH 4140 W or PUBH 4141	3	Senior Seminar: Grant Proposal or Senior Seminar: Community Needs Assessment

Research Methods Selective* (3 credits)- Must choose 1 course from list below:

Choose 1 Course	Credits	Course Title
PUBH 3152	3	Qualitative Methods in Public Health
EXNS 3111	3	Nutrition Science Research Methods
EHS 2107	3	Theory and Practice of Research in a Clinical Setting
SOC 2101	3	Social Research Methods
PSC 2101	3	Scope and Methods of Political Science
PSYC 2101	3	Research Methods in Psychology
ANTH 3531	3	Methods in Sociocultural Anthropology

**Additional research methods courses as approved by the Program Director may fulfill Research Methods Selective.*

**Total Undergraduate
Core Credits**

24

Graduate Level Course Substitutions		
PUBH 6007	2	Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health (Replaces PUBH 2112 Principles of Health Education and Health Promotion [3 credits] in the BS Public Health Program)
PUBH 6003	3	Principles and Practice of Epidemiology (Replaces PUBH 3131 Epidemiology: Measuring Health and Disease [3 credits] in the BS Public Health Program)
PUBH 6011	3	Environmental & Biological Fundamentals of Public Health (Replaces PUBH 3132 Health and Environment [3 credits] in the BS Public Health Program)
Graduate Elective	2	An approved graduate elective [2 credits] replaces an undergraduate elective [3 credits] in the BS Public Health Program
Total Graduate Cross Over Credits	10	
Total Core Credits	34	

Approved Public Health Elective Courses (9 credits)		
Elective Courses	Credits	Course Title
AMST 3950	3	Topics: Narrative Medicine in American History <i>only</i>
ANTH 3504	3	Illness, Healing and Culture
ANTH 3513	3	Anthropology of Human Rights
ANTH 6302	3	Issues in Development
BADM 4101	3	Business Law and Ethics
BIOC 3560	3	Diet, Health, and Longevity
BISC 3450/3450W	3	Evolutionary Medicine
EHS 2107	4	Theory and Practice of Research in a Clinical Setting
EXNS 1114	3	Community Nutrition
EXNS 1199	3	Topics: Nutrition & Disease <i>only</i>
EXNS 2119	3	Introduction to Nutrition Science
EXNS 2122	3	Food Systems in Public Health
GEOG 1003	3	Society and Environment
GEOG 2104	3	Introduction to Cartography and GIS
GEOG 2127	3	Population Geography
GEOG 2137	3	Environmental Hazards
HIST 3363	3	Race, Medicine, and Public Health
HLWL 1106	3	Drug Awareness
HLWL 1109	3	Human Sexuality
HONR 2047	3	Special Topics- Medicine and Society <i>only</i>
HONR 2047	3	Special Topics- Gender, Race, and Science <i>only</i>
HSCI 2101	3	Psychosocial Aspects of Health and Illness (<i>residential delivery only</i>)
HSCI 2105	3	Current Issues in Bioethics (<i>residential delivery only</i>)
IAFF 2190W	3	Topics: Science, Policy and Tech <i>only</i>
PHIL 2124	3	Philosophies of Disability
PHIL 2281	3	Philosophy of the Environment
PSYC 3128	3	Health Psychology
PSYC 3199	3	Topics: Substance Abuse and Addiction <i>only</i>
PSYC 4202W	3	Applied Social Psychology Research Lab: Discrimination and Health <i>only</i>
PUBH 2113	3	Impact of Culture Upon Health
PUBH 2114	3	Environment, Health and Development

PUBH 2117	3	Service Learning in Public Health
PUBH 3115	3	Global Health and Human Rights
PUBH 3116	3	Global Health Systems Performance
PUBH 3136	3	Health Law
PUBH 3137	3	Global Public Health Nutrition
PUBH 3150	3	Sustainable Energy and Environmental Health
PUBH 3151W	3	Current Issues in Bioethics
PUBH 3199	1-3	Various Topics in Public Health
PUBH 3201	3	Introduction to Bioinformatics
PUBH 4201	3	Practical Computing
PUBH 4202	3	Bioinformatics, Algorithms, and Data Structures
STAT 2118	3	Regression Analysis
STAT 2183/2183W	3	Intermediate Statistics Lab/Packages

Additional courses approved in advance by the Program Director may fulfill Electives requirements.

MPH Core Course Requirements (beyond the crossover courses)

Begin Planning Your Practicum after Completing the First Half of Your Program

		Credits	Semester Offered
PUBH 6002	Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	Summer, Fall, Spring
PUBH 6009 [^]	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation [^]	2	Summer, Fall, Spring
PUBH 6012 ^{^^}	Fundamentals of Health Policy ^{^^}	2	Summer, Fall, Spring
PUBH 6021 ^{^^^}	Essentials in Public Health Practice and Leadership 1: Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1	Summer, Fall, Spring
PUBH 6022 ^{**}	Essentials in Public Health Practice and Leadership II: Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in Public Health ^{**}	1	Summer, Fall, Spring
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience	0	Summer, Fall, Spring
PUBH 6015	Culminating Experience/Capstone (may be different course # in certain MPH programs)	2	Summer, Fall, Spring
Total	Additional MPH Core Credits	11	

[^]BS/MPH students in PCH programs will take Evaluation of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs (PUBH 6501) instead of Fundamentals of Program Evaluation (PUBH 6009).

^{^^} BS/MPH students who receive an A or A- in Health Policy (PUBH 3135W) may waive and replaced PUBH 6012 and take an additional elective with approval of their graduate advisor

^{^^^} BS/MPH students are strongly encouraged to take PUBH 6021 in Fall of their senior year

For MPH program guides, course descriptions and registration information, please go to the website:

<http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics>. Please refer to the relevant MPH Program Guide for your program-specific curricular and graduation requirements.

^{**} Note: In PUBH 6021 and PUBH 6022, the Applied Practice Experience (Practicum) will be introduced and guidelines and tools for fulfilling this requirement will be provided. Upon completion of the 120 hour required Practicum, students will receive credit for PUBH 6022. Students may not begin Practicum until the MPH Core has been completed without advanced approval.