Milken Institute School of Public Health THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	**Milken Institute School of Public Health** **MPH@GW** **Master of Public Health** **Climate and Health Concentration** **2026-2027**

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Concentration Mission Statement
The mission of the Climate and Health MPH program is to train individuals to assess environmental exposures and public health risks associated with anthropogenic climate change, and to mitigate these health risks through taking a systems approach that considers crisis phenomena, such as COVID-19, climate-sensitive programming, and public policies**.**

Concentration Description
Our graduates will hold a multidisciplinary knowledge base and skillset that will provide them a

framework for transforming how health issues associated with anthropogenic climate change and global environmental change are addressed. They will understand the scientific foundations of climate change and environmental health, approaches for researching health risks associated with climate change, the policies and practices that can mitigate these health risks, and how to communicate about these subjects. Graduates will be able to:

- Analyze health risks from anthropogenic climate change and global environmental change using methods and research findings from the epidemiological, environmental exposure assessment, and implementation sciences;
- Communicate about the effects of climate change and environmental degradation to varied audiences, including both technical and non-technical audiences; and
- Manage diverse teams to design, implement, and evaluate actions to advance systemic change towards mitigating health risks from climate change and environmental degradation, for example through governmental mitigation and adaptation policies, urban planning, public engagement, corporate action, and finance.

Graduates from this program will be prepared for leadership careers in catalyzing systemic change that mitigates health risks from climate change and environmental degradation. Career paths include government, non-governmental organizations, research and academia, multilateral organizations, media, consulting, and industry – graduates can work wherever solutions to climate change and environmental health happen.

Course Requirements

All Milken Institute School of Public Health (GWSPH) MPH students who select the Climate and Health concentration in the MPH@GW program enroll in core courses (17 credits), MPH@GW program-specific courses (10 credits), Climate & Health concentration courses (12 credits) and elective courses (4 credits). The total 45 credit degree program includes a Culminating Experience (2 credits). Students can choose to select their electives in a particular area of public health and emphasize a public health area (i.e., health policy). Alternatively, students may use their electives to cover a range of domains within public health practice.

The MPH@GW program is taught over four 10-week quarters throughout the calendar year. Each course is designed to be delivered to meet the required workload per credit hour within the 10-week quarter.

Competencies

Upon completion of the program, students should possess the following competencies:

- Develop a programmatic implementation and evaluation plan for a health promotion intervention (PUBH 6500)
- Assess the functions, capacities, management and governance of governmental, international and non-state organizations that comprise health systems (PUBH 6442)
- Apply appropriate theories toward the development, implementation, and evaluation of public health interventions to address health risks at the individual, interpersonal, community, and/or population levels and mitigate population health impact (PUBH 6500)

- Apply commonly employed data management techniques using appropriate software tools (PUBH 6052)
- Describe how health systems performance is affected by various approaches to health care organization, health law, health workforce development and health care financing (PUBH 6442)
- Develop communication campaigns and strategies to disseminate health promotion information through media channels (PUBH 6503)
- Investigate a public health issue through evidence-based methods, including a review of scientific literature (PUBH 6500)
- Evaluate observational studies that examine the relationship between environmental or occupational exposures and health, including biases and study limitations (PUBH 6135, PUBH 6136)
- Assess environmental and/or occupational exposures that are linked with climate change and evaluate health hazards associated with them (PUBH 6128, PUBH 6140)
- Examine scientific approaches for studying the effects of climate change on human health (PUBH 6135)
- Communicate the effects of climate change and sustainability actions on public health to varied audiences using evidence-based effective strategies (PUBH 6140)
- Recommend strategies to prevent and control environmental or occupational exposures that are linked with climate change (PUBH 6128, PUBH 6130, PUBH 6140)

Course Sequence

Students will start the program by enrolling in MPH core courses. Full-time students should plan to take PUBH 6021 and PUBH 6003 in their first quarter and complete all core courses within the first three quarters. Part- time students should consult with their academic advisor to select an appropriate sequence of courses.

Following completion of the MPH core courses, students should complete the MPH@GW program specific courses, and finish with their elective courses. Courses offered in the online format can be found on the GW Schedule of Classes under Online and are designated with a “U” in the section number.

Following completion of the core MPH courses, students who elect the Climate and Health (CH) concentration will take four MPH@GW required courses (PUBH 6442, 6500, 6503 and 6552) and five required CH concentration courses (PUBH 6128, 6136, 6135, 6140, 6130). In addition, they will take at least 4 elective credits.

Course descriptions and registration information can be found in the University Bulletin here.

Program Elective Courses

The following are examples of electives that are currently offered online. New courses are added frequently. Up to 15 credits may be taken on campus in residential courses provided pre-requisites have been met. The list of MPH@GW electives will be updated as new courses become available.

- PUBH 6054 Community Engagement & Advocacy (2 credits)

- PUBH 6058 Researching Violence Against Women and Girls (2 credits)
- PUBH 6128 Global Environmental & Occupational Health (2 credits)
- PUBH 6130 Sustainable Energy & the Environment (2 Credits)
- PUBH 6132 Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (WASH) in Low-Income Countries (2 credits)
- PUBH 6133 Social Dimensions in Climate Change & Change (3 credits)
- PUBH 6135 Researching Climate Change & Human Health (3 credits)
- PUBH 6136 Introduction to Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology (3 credits)
- PUBH 6140 Global Climate Change & Air Pollution (2 credits)
- PUBH 6146 Microbiomes & Microbial Ecology in Public Health (2 credits)
- PUBH 6335 Public Health & Law (3 credits)
- PUBH 6368 Law, Medicine, & Ethics (3 credits)
- PUBH 6390 Prescription Drugs, Policy, & Public Health (3 credits)
- PUBH 6400 Global Health Frameworks (2 credits)
- PUBH 6450 Global Health Diplomacy (2 credits)
- PUBH 6451 Sexual & Reproductive Health Monitoring (2 credits)
- PUBH 6452 Social & Behavior Change Communication in Middle-to Low-Income Countries (2 credits)
- PUBH 6455 Global Vaccinology (3 credits)
- PUBH 6480 Public Health in Humanitarian Settings (2 credits)
- PUBH 6486 Global Health Programs & Approaches to the Control of Infectious Diseases (2 credits)
- PUBH 6489 Evaluation of Nutrition Program (1 credit)
- PUBH 6508 Cost Effectiveness Analysis of Health Promotion Interventions (3 credits)
- PUBH 6514 Preventing Health Disparities (2 credits)
- PUBH 6530 Qualitative Methods in Health Promotion (2 credits)
- PUBH 6550 Maternal & Child Health I (3 credits)
- PUBH 6552 Women's Health (2 credits)
- PUBH 6563 Global Child Health (2 credits)
- PUBH 6571 Social Marketing (3 credits)
- PUBH 6572 Marketing & Research for Public Health (3 credits)
- PUBH 6612 Food Systems in Public Health (2 credits)
- PUBH 6619 Fundamentals of Nutrition Science (3 credits)
- PUBH 6703 Health Care Delivery & Health IT (2 credits)
- PUBH 6704 Health IT, Informatics, & Decision Making (3 credits)
- PUBH 6705 Health Law & Health IT (3 credits)
- PUBH 6706 Population & Community Health Analytics (3 credits)
- PUBH 6717 Predictive Analytics (3 credits)
- PUBH 6730 Health Systems & Health IT Applied Analysis Immersion (2 credits)
- PUBH 6894 Research Analytics (3 credits)

Graduation Requirements

All students accepted to this MPH program must follow the policies and regulations outlined in the GW Bulletin and the GWSPH Student Handbook. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Minimum Course Grades
- Continuous Enrollment
- Maximum Time to Degree
- Required Minimum Degree Credits
- Transfer Credit Policy
- CITI Training
- Integrity Quiz and Plagiarism
- Professional Enhancement (PE) Hours
- Interprofessional Education (IPE) Experience
- Applied Practice Experience (Practicum)
- Culminating Experience (e.g., CE)

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Program-at-a-Glance
2026-2027

Required Core Courses (17 credits)		**Credits**	**Quarter**
PUBH 6000	Applied Practice Experience (APEx)	0	All
PUBH 6002	Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	All
PUBH 6003	Principles & Practice of Epidemiology	3	All
PUBH 6007	Social & Behavioral Approaches to Public Health	2	All
PUBH 6009	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	2	
PUBH 6011	Environmental & Biological Foundations of Public Health	3	All
PUBH 6012	Fundamentals of Health Policy	2	All
PUBH 6021	Essentials of Public Health Leadership & Practice 1	1	All
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Leadership & Practice 2	1	All
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience (IPE)	0	All
Required MPH@GW Program-Specific Courses (10 credits)		**Credits**	**Quarter**
PUBH 6052	Practical Data Management & Analysis for Public Health	2	All
PUBH 6442	Comparative Global Health Systems	2	All
PUBH 6500	Planning & Implementation of Health Promotion Programs	3	All
PUBH 6503	Introduction to Public Health Communications & Marketing	3	All
Required Climate and Health Concentration Courses (12 credits)		**Credits**	**Quarter**
PUBH 6136	Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology	3	F, Sp II
PUBH 6128	Global Environmental & Occupational Health	2	Sp I, Su
PUBH 6135	Researching Climate Change & Human Health	3	F, Sp II
PUBH 6140	Global Climate Change & Air Pollution	2	F, Sp II
PUBH 6130	Sustainable Energy & the Environment	2	Sp I, Su
Electives (4 credits)		**Credits**	**Quarter**
Any PUBH 6XXX	MPH@GW electives or on-campus^ electives where applicable	4	Varies
MPH@GW Culminating Experience Courses (2 credits)		**Credits**	**Quarter**
PUBH 6060	MPH@GW Culminating Experience 1	1	All
PUBH 6061	MPH@GW Culminating Experience 2	1	All
	Course Distribution	**Credits**	
	Public Health Core Courses	17	
	Required MPH@GW Program-Specific Courses	10	

Climate and Health Concentration Courses	12
Electives	4
Culminating Experience	2
Total Degree Credits	**45**

^ MPH@GW students may take up to 15 credits on-campus.