Mission
The DrPH degree is the terminal degree in the professional discipline of public health. Consistent with this advanced professional orientation, the DrPH Program will prepare future public health leaders to apply critical thinking and rigorous research methods to the complex practical problems facing practitioners and policymakers in public health practice. The DrPH Program is designed to both follow and promote the principles of academic public health practice. As noted in a recent ASPH publication, public health practice is the strategic, organized, and interdisciplinary application of knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to perform essential public health services and other activities to improve the populations’ health. Academic public health practice is the applied, interdisciplinary pursuit of scholarship in the field of public health. Recent events sharply illustrate the need for public health professionals who can provide the leadership to expand and strengthen the US and global public health systems. The DrPH program is designed to prepare professionals with skills to provide this leadership.

From the combination of course work and the implementation of the knowledge in the context of a thesis project in outstanding international placements, the DrPH degree in Global Health will enable professionals to develop innovative approaches to and ability to negotiate the complex interrelationship between health and political, economic, and human development.

Goals
The DrPH graduate will be prepared to assume an advanced level of leadership in global health, in the context of health research as well as implementation programs in an international setting.

Admissions Requirements
The Doctor of Public Health Program is designed for mid-career professionals seeking to become public health leaders. Applicants who have completed an MPH degree from a Council of Education for Public Health (CEPH) accredited program are strongly preferred for admission to the DrPH Program. Alternatively, applicants with a master’s degree in another field may indicate their relevant training, research experience, or educational background comparable to the MPH. Doctoral applicants admitted without an MPH will be required to take additional course work at the graduate level that does not apply toward the minimum 48 credits required for the DrPH. Qualified applicants with degrees from institutions in foreign countries are also eligible for admission. All applicants must submit scores from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) taken within five years of the date of application. Because admission to this program is highly selective, successful applicants have competitive academic credentials and substantial prior public health professional work experience related to the specialty field to which they are applying.

Competencies
The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Program prepares professionals to assume national and international leadership positions in environmental and occupational health, global health, health behavior, and health policy. The field of public health provides unique insights into the complex interrelationships between health, politics, and human development. It enables professionals to address public health issues by marshalling research and analytic skills to develop innovative approaches to understand health and to promote and advocate for improved health outcomes. Upon completion of the DrPH, students in all program areas will demonstrate ability in the core competencies listed at the end of this document.

Updated March 2014
Program-Specific Competencies

On completion of the DrPH Program in Global Health, students will possess the following functional competencies and subject area knowledge:

- **Apply the theories and principles of epidemiology, economic and social development, and policy analysis to the identification, classification and elaboration of global health threats and opportunities at the community, national and international levels.** Relevant Courses: PubH 8402, 8406, 8407, 8414, 8416, 8417, 8418, 8419, 8420, 8422, 8423

- **Critically assess the functions, capacities, management and governance of governmental, international and non-state organizations in the translation of evidence and the application of scientific research to inform public health policy making and strategy development.** Relevant Courses: PubH 8402, 8406, 8407, 8414, 8416, 8422, 8423

- **Critically analyze complex global health trends, differentiating determinants that can be effectively addressed through technical, behavioral, social and economic interventions and prioritizing approaches based on economic affordability and political feasibility.** Relevant Courses: PubH 8406, 8416, 8417, 8418, 8419, 8420, 8422, 8423

- **Successfully apply public health theory and experiential evidence in the development and management of project, program and institutional strategies capable of reducing risks, addressing underlying vulnerabilities, and mitigating the impacts of the global burden of disease.** Relevant Courses: PubH 8402, 8413, 8414, 8416, 8422, 8423

- **Effectively synthesize health research findings with economic and social arguments to formulate communication strategies in global health action in various professional, institutional, political and cultural settings.** Relevant Courses: PubH 8402, 8407, 8414, 8416, 8422, 8423

- **Evaluate the benefits, costs and effectiveness of global health project, program and policy approaches and interventions through the appropriate choice and application of qualitative and quantitative survey and analysis methods.** Relevant Courses: PubH 8406, 8416, 8417, 8418, 8420, 8422, 8423

Program Policies and Procedures

For program policies and procedures, please refer to the Doctor of Public Health Handbook and other resources, located on the School’s website: [http://publichealth.gwu.edu/](http://publichealth.gwu.edu/).

Updated March 2014
# Doctor of Public Health

## Global Health

### Program at A Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Distribution Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Total Credits = Minimum 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Required Foundation Courses and Research Methods = 20 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Required Specialty Field Courses = 6 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Specialty Field Electives = 7 to 10 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Professional Leadership = 4 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Dissertation Preparation and Dissertation = 8 to 11 credits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### REQUIRED FOUNDATIONAL AND RESEARCH METHODS COURSES

**20 CREDITS**

All DRPH students follow this core. Under certain circumstances and with advance approval of the Program Director, another methods course may be substituted for 8417, 8418, or 8420.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8401</td>
<td>Foundations of Public Health Leadership and Practice – Doctoral Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8402</td>
<td>Leadership in Public Health Practice and Policy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8416</td>
<td>Study Design and Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8417</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis Prereq: PubH 8416</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring Year 1 or Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8418</td>
<td>Applied Statistical Analysis Prereq: PubH 8416</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8419</td>
<td>Measurement in Public Health and Health Services Research Prereq: PubH 8418</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8420</td>
<td>Advanced Analysis and Dissemination Prereq: PubH 8418</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall Year 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### REQUIRED SPECIALTY FIELD COURSES

**6 CREDITS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8406</td>
<td>Advanced Topics – Health Research in the Global Arena – Doctoral Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SPECIALTY FIELD ELECTIVE COURSES

**7 to 10 CREDITS**

Sample courses below – other courses may be taken with advisor’s approval

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubH 6123</td>
<td>Toxicology: Applic’s for Public Hlth Policy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 6128</td>
<td>Global Environmental and Occupational Health</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 6242</td>
<td>Clinical Epidemiology and Decision Analysis</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>Semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6244</td>
<td>Cancer Epidemiology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6245</td>
<td>Infectious Disease Epidemiology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 6250</td>
<td>Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6259</td>
<td>Epidemiologic Surveillance in Public Health</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 6262</td>
<td>Introduction to GIS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6263</td>
<td>Advanced GIS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 6270</td>
<td>HIV/AIDS Surveillance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6430</td>
<td>Theories for Global Health Communication Interventions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6431</td>
<td>Global Health Communication Strategies &amp; Skills</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6432</td>
<td>Global Health Communication Interventions: Social Marketing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6435</td>
<td>Global Health Program Devel &amp; Implementation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6440</td>
<td>Global Health Economics &amp; Finance</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6441</td>
<td>International Health Organizations</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6442</td>
<td>Comparative Health Systems</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6443</td>
<td>Global Health Agreements &amp; Conventions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6482</td>
<td>International Food &amp; Nutrition Programs &amp; Policy</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PubH 6481</td>
<td>Global Mental Health</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP COURSES**

4 CREDITS (MINIMUM 2 CREDITS MUST BE INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8413</td>
<td>Research Leadership</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8415</td>
<td>Instructional Leadership</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION**

**DISSERTATION PREPARATION AND DISSERTATION**

8 TO 11 CREDITS (PubH 8422 is required)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8422</td>
<td>Advanced Health Care and Public Health Research Design</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multiple – may be taken in increments of 1 to 9 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prerequisites: Passing Comprehensive Exams, Approval of the Program Director, and a page-long abstract. Grade = Credit/No Credit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PubH 8423</td>
<td>Dissertation Research DrPH Degree Dissertation Research</td>
<td>6 to 9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prereq: PubH 8422</td>
<td>credits</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Global Health Doctoral students interested in electives offered by other departments within Milken Institute SPH should access the Program Guides for those department doctoral programs, or the Schedule of Classes, to identify other electives offered.

Course Descriptions may be found here: [http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/courses](http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/courses)
• Analyze a public health problem and determine appropriate sources of data and methods for problem identification, program planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Relevant courses: PubH 6249, 6260, 8417, 8419, 8422.

• Develop and analyze hypotheses that can be tested by appropriate quantitative or qualitative research designs and methodologies. Relevant courses: PubH 6247, 6252, 8416, 8417, 8422.

• Synthesize and evaluate research conducted by others. Relevant courses: PubH 8402, 8416, 8417, 8422.

• Design strategies to accurately and effectively describe public health, economic, administrative, legal, social, political, and cultural implications of different health policy options. Relevant courses: PubH 6247, 8402, 8417, 8419.

• Design grant proposals to address public health problems. Relevant courses: PubH 48416, 8422.

• Present public health data and research syntheses to scientific and professional audiences and the public. Relevant courses: PubH 8407, 8422.

• Defend the feasibility and expected outcomes of different policy options and transform them into organizations, plans, processes, and programs. Relevant courses: PubH 6247, 8402, 8417, 8422.

• Appraise the dynamic forces that contribute to cultural diversity and develop responsive plans and programs. Relevant courses: PubH 6247, 6252, 8402, 8417.

• Assess the determinants of health and illness, factors that contribute to health promotion and disease prevention, and factors that influence the use and cost of public health services in a population. Relevant courses: 6249, 6252, 6260, 8419, 8422.

• Develop and defend a budget statement that presents programmatic fiscal requirements to achieve stated objectives. Relevant courses: PubH 8402.

• Describe the theory of organizational structure and its relation to professional practice. Relevant courses: PubH 6001, 6247, 8416.

• Support a culture of ethical standards of conduct in the research process and within organizations and communities. Relevant courses: PubH 8402, 8416, 8422.

• Lead a team of diverse professionals reflecting shared values and vision to achieve specific objectives. Relevant courses: PubH 8402.