Program Director
Karina R. Lora PhD, RD
Assistant Professor
950 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20052

Mission
The mission of the MPH program in Public Health Nutrition at GW’s SPH is to develop and train graduate students to integrate nutrition into the core of public health practice. The program encompasses a social ecological perspective to the role of nutrition in the etiology, prevention and treatment of both acute and chronic disease at the individual, community, national and global levels. This program is designed to train students as public health scientists and practitioners in order to assist public and private agencies with program development, implementation and evaluation with regard to nutrition in health promotion and disease prevention.

Goals
The goals of this MPH program in Public Health Nutrition are to that ensure graduates:
  
  • Understand the factors impacting the accessibility, availability, adequacy and safety of the food systems serving a community, and the relationship between community food systems and health outcomes.
  • Develop skills in nutrition assessment of both individuals and communities.
  • Utilize appropriate epidemiologic methods for developing and testing hypotheses relating to nutrition and health outcomes at the population level.
  • Develop skills in designing, implementing, and evaluating nutrition interventions to improve the health of communities.
  • Appreciate the role of public health policy in altering the food environment at the community level.

Prerequisites:
Admitted students who have not: 1) completed an undergraduate degree in nutrition, OR 2) successfully completed (minimum grade of C or higher) one introductory nutrition and one nutritional biochemistry/advanced nutrition course at the undergraduate level (or higher) will be conditionally admitted to the program, and must complete PUBH 6619 Fundamentals of Nutrition Science during their first semester in the program. This course will satisfy both the introductory nutrition and nutritional biochemistry/advanced nutrition requirements in a single course. Students must receive a grade of B or
better to continue in the program. PUBH 6619 will not count towards the 45 credits needed for the MPH degree, but does satisfy the admission requirements. Consult the Program Director for additional information.

**Program Specific Competencies**

Upon completion of the MPH in Public Health Nutrition, students will possess the following functional competencies:

- **Use appropriate nutrition assessment methods at the individual, community, and population levels.** [Relevant Courses: PUBH 6611, 6620, 6241, 6015, EXNS 6242]

- **Design, implement and evaluate food and nutrition programs and policies and their effects on population health outcomes.** [Relevant Courses: PUBH, 6500, 6613, 6620, 6015]

- **Employ systems thinking to identify and address factors impacting the accessibility, availability, adequacy, and safety of the food supply.** [Relevant Courses: PUBH, 6612, 6613, 6620, 6015]

- **Apply a policy, systems and environment approach to creating healthy food environments.** [Relevant Courses: PUBH 6611, 6612, 6021, 6022, 6620, 6015]

- **Utilize appropriate research methods to address public health nutrition issues and support food and nutrition-related policy development.** [Relevant Courses: PUBH 6241, 6613, 6620, 6621, 6015, 6611; EXNS 6242, 6204]
### Required Core MPH Courses – 19 credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Course title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6000</td>
<td>MPH Applied Practice Experience</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6002</td>
<td>Biostatistical Applications for Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6003</td>
<td>Principles and Practice of Epidemiology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6007</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6009</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Program Evaluation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6011</td>
<td>Environmental &amp; Biological Fundamentals of Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6012</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Health Policy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6021</td>
<td>Essentials of Public Health Leadership &amp; Practice 1: Leading Self and Teams in Public Health</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6022</td>
<td>Essentials of Public Health Leadership &amp; Practice 2: Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in Public Health</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6023</td>
<td>Interprofessional Education Experience</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Fall, Spring, Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6015</td>
<td>Culminating Experience</td>
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### Public Health Nutrition Core Courses – 13 credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Course title</th>
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<th>Semester offered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXNS 6242</td>
<td>Nutrition Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6611</td>
<td>Nutrition Assessment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6612</td>
<td>Food Systems in Public Health</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring, Fall online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6613 OR PUBH 6482</td>
<td>US Food Policy and Politics International Food and Nutrition Policy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6620</td>
<td>Designing Healthy Communities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6500</td>
<td>Planning and Implementing Health Promotion Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring</td>
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### Research Methods Courses – 5 credits

Revised June 2021
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course number</th>
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<th>Semester offered</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6241</td>
<td>Nutrition Epidemiology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXNS 6204</td>
<td>Research Methods and Biostatistics in EXNS</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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**Additional Research Methods Courses – 2 credits (selected from the options listed below)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course number</th>
<th>Course title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6236</td>
<td>Systematic Review of the Literature for Public Health</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6247</td>
<td>Design of Health Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6260</td>
<td>Advanced Data Analysis in Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6262</td>
<td>Introduction to Geographic Information</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Summer, Fall, Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6263</td>
<td>Advanced Geographic Information Systems</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Summer, Fall, Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6273</td>
<td>Ethnographic Methods As Applied in Public Health</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Summer, Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6281</td>
<td>Analysis of Complex Surveys using SAS/STATA</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6299</td>
<td>Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6310</td>
<td>Statistical Analysis in Health Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6410</td>
<td>Global Health Study Design</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fall, Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6411</td>
<td>Global Health Qualitative Research Methods</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6412</td>
<td>Global Health Quantitative Research</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring, Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6488</td>
<td>Cost-effectiveness Analysis in Public Health and Healthcare</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6489</td>
<td>Evaluation of Food and Nutrition Programs</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6504</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral Science Research</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6530</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods in Health Promotion</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6533</td>
<td>Design &amp; Conduct of Community Health Surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6534</td>
<td>Community Based Participatory Research</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6572</td>
<td>Marketing Research for Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6599</td>
<td>Economic Evaluation for Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Online: Fall and Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6853</td>
<td>Use of Statistical Packages</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fall, Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6856</td>
<td>Advanced SAS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Summer</td>
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**Elective Courses – 6 credits**

Must be graduate level (6000 level) courses. Meet with your academic advisor for guidance. Students interested in working in the field of Nutrition Epidemiology after graduation, or those who plan to go on to a doctoral degree program in the future are encouraged to use their elective credits to take additional Advanced Research Methods courses, especially those offered by the Department of Epidemiology (6200 series course numbers).

**TOTAL** 45 credits

Revised June 2021
Course Descriptions and Registration information can be found on the website:
http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics

Advising Tips

Always see your advisor for course scheduling and sequencing strategies, but remember that proper course selection, fulfilling requirements, and on-time graduation are your responsibilities.

The Master of Public Health (MPH) curriculum consists of four types of courses (45 credits):

1. Required Core Courses (PUBH 6000, 6002, 6003, 6007, 6009, 6011, 6012, 6015, 6021, 6022 and 6023) (19 credits)
2. Required Program-specific courses (13 credits)
3. Research Methods courses (7 credits)
4. Electives (6 credits)

As an accredited School of Public Health, students in all GWSPH MPH programs are also required to fulfill both an interprofessional team experience and an applied practice experience. GWSPH has incorporated these requirements into the curriculum as follows:

Interprofessional Education (IPE) Experience:
Following (or simultaneous to) enrollment in PUBH 6021 Essentials in Public Health Practice & Leadership 1: Leading Self and Teams (1-credit), students will be required to select an IPE experience from a host of options provided throughout your enrollment as a MPH student to participate in a one-time, case-based or activity-based learning experience. The IPE experience is a way to experience working with people from other professions/programs outside of public health. Students will have many opportunities to register for this zero-credit (no fee) IPE ‘class’ (PUBH 6023- Interprofessional Education Experience) and will receive credit upon successful completion.

Applied Practice Experience (Practicum):
The applied practice experience allows each student to individually demonstrate attainment of public health competencies. Information about the Practicum will be introduced in PUBH 6021 so students may begin planning for their practice experience. Detailed information and an introduction to the necessary tools will be provided by the department practicum staff and faculty. Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the 120 hour Practicum experience to receive credit for PUBH 60000.

Students are strongly encouraged to consult the GWU Schedule of Classes before finalizing their class schedule.

Revised June 2021
Graduation Requirements

1. **Graduate Credit Requirement**: 45 graduate credits are required.
2. **Course Requirements**: Successful completion of the Core Courses and the Program-Specific Courses are required.
3. **Practicum Requirement**: Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the Applied Practice Experience (Practicum).
4. **Interprofessional Education Experience (IPE)**: Students are required to enroll and participate in an authorized IPE activity (PUBH 6023).
5. **Grade Point Requirement**: A 3.0 (B average) overall grade point average is required.
6. **Time Limit Requirement**: The degree must be completed within five years.
7. **Transfer Credit Policy**: Up to 12 graduate credits that have not been applied to a previous graduate degree may be transferred to the MPH upon approval. Credits must have been earned from an accredited institution in the last 3 years with a grade point of 3.0 or better.
8. **CITI Training requirement**: All students are required to complete training regarding human subject protection regulation and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). To fulfill this requirement, you must complete the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) Course in The Protection of Human Research Subjects.
9. **Integrity Quiz & Plagiarism requirement**: All students are required to review the George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity and take the quiz within their first semester of study. The Code of Integrity and step-by-step instructions can be found here: http://publichealth.gwu.edu/integrity
10. **Professional Enhancement requirement**: Students must participate in 8 hours per degree program of advisor pre-approved Public Health-related lectures, seminars, and symposia, related to your field of study. Professional Enhancement activities supplement the academic curriculum and help prepare students to participate actively in the professional community. Opportunities for professional enhancement are regularly publicized via the Milken Institute SPH Listserv and through your department or advisor. Students must submit documentation of Professional Enhancement activities to the Office of Student Records. The documentation consists of the Professional Enhancement Form http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/forms (which includes a prior approval signature from the student’s advisor, a description of the program agenda, and proof of attendance. Remember to submit your documentation before you apply to graduate!
11. **“Additional Course” Requirements**: “Additional Course(s)” are determined at the time of admission to the Exercise and Nutrition Sciences Department, and do not count toward the 45 credit program requirement. Admitted students who have not: 1) completed an undergraduate degree in nutrition, OR 2) successfully completed (minimum grade of C or higher) one introductory nutrition and one nutritional biochemistry/advanced nutrition course at the undergraduate level (or higher) will be conditionally admitted to the program. If conditionally admitted, students must complete PUBH 6619 Fundamentals of Nutrition Science (which is designed to satisfy both the introductory nutrition and nutritional biochemistry/advanced nutrition requirements in a single course) during their first semester in the program with a grade of B or better to continue in the program.
# Sample Public Health Nutrition MPH Course Schedule – Full-Time Student

## Fall – Year 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6003</td>
<td>Principles and Practice of Epidemiology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6007</td>
<td>Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6011</td>
<td>Principles of Environmental Health Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXNS 6242</td>
<td>Nutrition Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6021</td>
<td>Essentials of Public Health Leadership &amp; Practice 1: Leading Self and Teams in Public Health</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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## Spring – Year 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6002</td>
<td>Biostatistical Applications for Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6009</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Program Evaluation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6012</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6611</td>
<td>Nutrition Assessment</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Research Methods/Electives</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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## Summer – Year 1:

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 6022</td>
<td>Essentials of Public Health Leadership &amp; Practice 2: Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in Public Health</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Research Methods/Electives</td>
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## Fall – Year 2 *:

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<td>PUBH 6241</td>
<td>Nutrition Epidemiology</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>PUBH 6612</td>
<td>Food Systems in Public Health</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6500</td>
<td>Planning and Administration of Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6023</td>
<td>Interprofessional Education Experience</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXNS 6204</td>
<td>Research Methods and Biostatistics in EXNS</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</table>

* Students should plan to work on their Culminating Experience project (with their advisor’s approval) according to the Culminating Experience calendar found in the PUBH 6015 syllabus. Students should register for the Culminating Experience in semester in which they plan to complete the project (usually Spring semester of Year 2).

## Spring – Year 2:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6613</td>
<td>US Food Policy and Politics (OR PUBH 6482)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6620</td>
<td>Designing Healthy Communities</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6015</td>
<td>Public Health Nutrition Culminating Experience *</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Research Methods/Electives</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Total: 45 credits**

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Sample Public Health Nutrition MPH Course Schedule – Full-time student who needs to take PUBH 6619

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall – Year 1:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6003  Principles and Practice of Epidemiology</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6011  Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6619  Fundamentals of Nutrition Science</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXNS 6242  Nutrition Throughout the Life Cycle</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6021  Essentials of Public Health Practice &amp; Leadership I: Leading Self and Teams in Public Health</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring – Year 1:</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6002  Biostatistical Applications for Public Health</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6009  Fundamentals of Public Health Program Evaluation</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6012  Fundamentals of Health Policy</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6611  Nutrition Assessment</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6022  Essentials of Public Health Practice &amp; Leadership II: Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in Public Health*</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer – Year 1:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6007  Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6023  Interprofessional Education Experience</td>
<td>0 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Research Methods/Electives</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5 credits</strong></td>
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**Students should plan to work on their Culminating Experience project (with their advisor’s approval) according to the Culminating Experience calendar found in the PUBH 6015 syllabus. Students should register for the Culminating Experience in semester in which they plan to complete the project (usually Spring semester of Year 2).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall – Year 2:</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6241  Nutrition Epidemiology</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXNS 6204  Biostatistical Methods and Research Design</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6612  Food Systems in Public Health</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6500  Planning and Implementing Health Promotion Programs</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Research Methods/Electives</strong></td>
<td><strong>2 credits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring – Year 2:</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6613  US Food Policy and Politics</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(OR PUBH 6482 – International Food and Nutrition Policy)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6620  Designing Healthy Communities</td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBH 6015  <strong>Culminating Experience - Public Health Nutrition</strong></td>
<td>2 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Additional Research Methods/Electives</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 credits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**Total: 48 credits**

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