

# Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Department of Global Health

Masters of Public Health  
Humanitarian Health

Program Guide  
2021-2022

## Program Director:

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## Mission:

The purpose of humanitarian action is to save lives, minimize suffering, and protect the integrity of the people, usually but not always in a short period of time. The mission of the Humanitarian Health Program is to prepare a well-versed corps of global health professionals to address health and related issues in humanitarian settings.

This program will equip students with necessary knowledge, attitudes and self-efficacy/skill-sets to assess needs, design and implement programs, and contribute to better decision-making, performance efficiency, and sound policy making within aid system and in humanitarian settings.

## Goals:

The overarching goals of the program are to train students to be public health practitioners and leaders in design, implementation, and evaluation of humanitarian programs and policies through learning to:

- Understand and assess the fundamental causes of humanitarian situations and their public health challenges
- Understand and analyze the interdependence of health science, socio-political science, economics, and global governance in humanitarian situations
- Identify and apply common healthcare and socio-political tools and policies to assess and address the burden of a wide range of health and social conditions in humanitarian situations
- Produce data and evidence with scientific rigor, and assess the efficacy and effectiveness of wide range of social and health care interventions in humanitarian settings
- Generate and use best local and global level evidence for sound healthcare and socio-political policy formulation and program management, and to translate recommendations into actions that support on-the-ground humanitarian programs
- Develop strong cultural sensitivity and cross- and inter-cultural competencies within diverse health and political systems in humanitarian aid
- Develop understanding of and assume leadership positions in humanitarian aid industry and related disciplines
- Work with methodological rigor in and contribute to international-level priority setting, program design, implementation, and evaluation
- Communicate effectively the results of research and practice to a diverse group of stakeholders in humanitarian settings

## PROGRAM COMPETENCIES

1. **Identify and address the ethical and socio-cultural issues of humanitarian programs, policies and**

research.

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6416 Ethical & Cultural Issues in Global Health Research & Programs

**2. Explain and analyze major problems and challenges, and their multilevel determinants, challenges in humanitarian settings and strategies and interventions to address them.**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6480 Public Health in Humanitarian Settings
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance

**3. Describe the institutional landscape and the governance system in the aid system, and the interrelationship of foreign policy and health outcomes in humanitarian settings**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6480 Public Health in Humanitarian Settings
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance

**4. Communicate public health and medical evidence on humanitarian topics to a variety of audiences including technical experts, lay population, policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders while engaging and working with diverse individuals, organizations, and communities with respect for different values, beliefs and practices**

Relevant courses

- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance

**5. Apply the principles of and select monitoring frameworks and evaluation methods for effective humanitarian interventions.**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance

**6. Understand and apply leadership and management skills to support implementation of humanitarian operations and policy changes at international level.**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance

**7. Describe various context-specific designs and capacity assessment of humanitarian system and programming, analyze major multi-institutional and multi-sectoral challenges and initiatives and partnerships affecting their performance in humanitarian aid system for sound practice recommendations**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6462 Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies

**8. Describe and assess the inter-relationship between the protection, health promotion, and human rights and population outcomes in humanitarian situations.**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6462 Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies

**9. Understand and apply the principles of rigorous researching and critical appraisal of publications and evidence, and writing and presenting the findings of research projects in humanitarian settings**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6480 Public Health in Humanitarian Settings
- PUBH 6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods

**10. Describe and address current main communicable, non-communicable, and other pathologies across the populations, geographic locations, and social and political contexts in the humanitarian field.**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6480 Public Health in Humanitarian Settings

**Program Requirements:**

**Please make sure to follow the program guide for the academic year in which you matriculated into the program.**

MPH students who select the MPH in Humanitarian Health program enroll in Core Courses (19 credits), Program-Specific Courses (13 credits), highly recommended/program selective courses (8 credits) and general electives (5 credits).

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Master of Public Health  
Humanitarian Health  
Program-at-a-Glance  
2021-2022

## Required Core Courses (19 credits)

Course#	Required Core Course	Credits	Semesters Offered		Grade
			Residential	Online	
PUBH 6002	Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6003	Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6007	Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health	2	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6009	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation (prerequisite: PUBH 6007)	2	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6011	Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	3	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6012	Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare	2	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6021	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I: Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II: Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in PH	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience (prerequisites: all core courses)	0	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
PUBH 6418	GH Culminating Experience I: Proposal Development	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	n/a	
PUBH 6419	GH Culminating Experience II Prerequisite 6418	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	n/a	
PUBH 6000	MPH Applied Practice Experience	0	Fall, Sp, Sum	n/a	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Core Credits</b>	<b>19</b>			

## Required Program Specific Courses (13 credits)

Course #	Required Departmental Courses	Credits	Semesters Offered		Grade
			Residential	Online	
PUBH 6480	Public Health in Humanitarian Settings	2	Fall	Sp1, Sum	
PUBH 6400	Global Health Frameworks	2	Fall	Fall, Sp2	
PUBH 6410	Global Health Study Design	1	Fall, Sp		
PUBH 6412	Global Health Quantitative Research Methods (prerequisite: PUBH 6002)	3	Sp, Sum		

PUBH 6416	Ethical & Cultural Issues in Global Health Research & Programs	1	Fall, Sp		
PUBH 6467	Ethics, Accountability, and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance (Pre or corequisite: PUBH 6480)	3	Fall		
PUBH 6462	Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies (Pre or corequisite: PUBH 6480)	1	Spring		
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total Program Required Credits</b>	<b>13</b>			
<b>Choose Selective Courses (Choose 8 credits from below)</b> <i>Note: All courses can be taken. Credits exceeding 8 will apply to electives</i>					
Course #	Selective Courses	Credits	Semesters Offered		Grade
			Residential	Online	
PUBH 6468	Prep & Response: Epi, Pandemic, Emergency, Disaster	2	Fall		
PUBH 6132	WASH/Disaster Relief Management and Development	2	N/A	Fall, Sp2	
PUBH 6492	Global Health Programs and Approaches to the Control of Chronic Diseases	2	Fall		
PUBH 6463	Communication Strategies and Planning in Humanitarian Settings (Prerequisite: PUBH 6480)	2	Fall		
PUBH 6464	Mental Health Humanitarian Settings (Pre or corequisite: PUBH 6480)	1	Spring		
PUBH 6465	Reproductive Health and Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Settings (Pre or corequisite: PUBH 6480)	1	Fall		
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total Program Selective/Highly Recommended Credits</b>	<b>8</b>			
<b>Elective Courses (5 Credits)</b> <b>Sample list below.</b> Highly recommend selecting courses from Selective list above that have not yet been chosen. If additional credits are taken from selective list, elective credit requirement will be reduced accordingly.					
PUBH 6262	Introduction to Geographical Information Systems	1	Fall, Sp, Sum		
PUBH 6435	Global Health Program Design and Implementation (Prerequisite: PUBH 6400)	2	Sp, Sum		
PUBH 6853 (Old# 6249)	Stat Packages/Data Management & Data Analysis	3	Fall, Sp		
PUBH 6563	Global Child Health	2	Fall	online	
PUBH 6411	Global Health Qualitative Research Methods	2	Sp, Sum		
PUBH 6484	Prevention and Control of Vector Borne Diseases	2	Spring		
PUBH 6441	Global Health Organizations and Regulations	2	Fall		
PUBH 6442	Comparative Global Health Systems	2	Fall	All	
PUBH 6486	Global Health Programs and Approaches to the Control of Infectious Diseases	2	Fall	Fall, Sp2	
PUBH 6263	Advanced Geographical Information Systems	1	Fall, Sp, Sum		

PUBH 6455	Global Vaccinology	3	Summer	Sp1, Sum	
PUBH 6440	Global Health Economics	2	Spring		
PUBH 6501	Evaluation of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Programs	3	Fall, Sp		
PUBH 6445	Quantitative Methods for Impact Evaluation Prerequisites: (6002, 6412, 6501)	3	Fall		
PUBH 6493	Supply Chain Management	2	Spring		
PUBH 6436	Global Health Program Management and Leadership	2	Fall, Sum		
PUBH 6850	Introduction to SAS for Public Health Research	1	Fall		
PUBH 6851	Introduction to R for Public Health Research	1	Fall		
PUBH 6852	Introduction to Python for Public Health Research	1	Fall		
PUBH 6xxx	Any PUBH graduate level course may be substituted for an elective course above. Other course(s) with advisor's advanced approval	1--3	Fall, Sp, Sum	All	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Elective Credits</b>	<b>5</b>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>Degree Credits</b>	<b>45</b>			

## 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):

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 I: 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. Note that students need to complete all core courses before completing IPE.

### 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 departmental practicum staff and faculty. Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the 120 hour Practicum experience to receive credit for this PUBH 6000. **Note: 6021 is a pre-requisite for 6022.** Note that before completing the 120 hours practicum experience students must fulfill the following pre-requisites: 6002, 6003, 6400, 6416, 6480, 6021 and 6022
- Electives: There is a list of suggested electives but students are welcome to take any PUBH courses with advisor's approval. Also, students are encouraged to look at and take courses at the Elliott School of International Affairs related to humanitarian practice.

## 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) to receive credit for PUBH 6000.
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 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. 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>



**The Department of Global Health  
Humanitarian Health MPH  
Course Mapping Example  
2020-2021**

The following are advising tips relating to course sequencing:

- All students must take PUBH 6400 Global Health Frameworks, PUBH 6480 Public Health in Complex Emergencies, and PUBH 6003 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology during their first fall semester.

The Humanitarian Health program contains a total of 6 elective credits that must be chosen from the list of elective courses provided in the program guide or approved by your advisor. Elective courses are often offered once per year, so students should plan which courses to take in advance. The ‘Elective Course(s)’ credits listed in the below course maps indicate the suggested distribution of these elective credits, but students can choose to distribute them however they feel fit. Students are advised to work with their advisor when deciding on electives.

Proposed course map 1: Allowing students to complete the program in 5 semesters.

<b>1<sup>st</sup> year Fall</b>		<b>1<sup>st</sup> year Spring</b>		<b>1<sup>st</sup> year Summer</b>	
	<b>Credits</b>		<b>Credits</b>		<b>Credits</b>
6480 Public Health in Complex Emergencies	2	6011 Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	3	6009 Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	2
6400 Global Health Frameworks	2	6002 Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods	3
6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Aid	3	6464 Mental Health in Humanitarian Settings (Selective)	1	Elective course	3
6003 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3	6462 Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies	1		
6021 Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1	6007 Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health	2		
6416 Ethical and Cultural Issues in GH Research	1	6012 Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare	2		
<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> year fall</b>					
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> year fall</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> year spring</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> year Summer</b>	
6463 Communication Strategies and Planning in Humanitarian Settings (Selective)	2	6419 Culminating Experience Part II	1	Students often opt to work on their Culminating Experience over the summer	
6465 Reproductive Health and Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Settings	1	6023 Interprofessional Education Experience	0		
6132 WASH/Disaster Relief Management and Development (Selective)	2				
6410 Global Health Study Design	1				

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6492 Global Health Programs and Control of Chronic Diseases (Selective)	2			
6022 Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in PH	1			
6468 Prep & Response: Epi, Pandemic, Emergency, Disaster (selective)	2			
6418 Culminating Experience Part I	1			
<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>12</b>		1	
				<b>Total semester credits 0</b>

Proposed course map 2: Slower speed, allowing students to continue into their second summer. Most students will probably follow this.

1 <sup>st</sup> year Fall		1 <sup>st</sup> year Spring		1 <sup>st</sup> year Summer	
	Credits		Credits		Credits
6480 Public Health in Complex Emergencies	2	6007 Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health	2	6011 Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	3
6400 Global Health Frameworks	2	6012 Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare	2	Elective(s)	2
6003 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3	6002 Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3		
6467 Ethics, Accountability, and Current Topics in Humanitarian Settings	3	6462 Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies	1		
6021 Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1	6464 Mental Health in Humanitarian Settings (Selective)	1		
		6416 Ethical and Cultural Issues in GH Research and Programs	1		
<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>5</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> year Fall		2 <sup>nd</sup> year Spring		2 <sup>nd</sup> year Summer	
	Credits		Credits		Credits
6492 Global Health Programs and Control of Chronic Diseases (Selective)	2	6412 GH Quantitative Research Methods	3	6023 Interprofessional Education Experience	0
6463 Communication Strategies and Planning in Humanitarian Settings (Selective)	2	6418 Culminating Experience Part I	1		
6465 Reproductive Health and Gender-Based Violence in Humanitarian Settings	1	6009 Fundamentals of Public Health Program Evaluation	2	6419 Culminating Experience Part II	1
6022 Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in PH	1	Elective(s)	1		
6468 Prep & Response: Epi, Pandemic,	2	6132 WASH/Disaster Relief Management and	2		

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Emergency, Disaster (Selective/elective)		Development (Selective)			
6410 Global Health Study Design	1				
<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Total semester credits</b>	<b>1</b>