

Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Department of Global Health

Masters of Public Health
Humanitarian Health

Program Guide
2022-2023

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 health professionals to address health and related issues in humanitarian and disaster settings and public health emergencies. 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 in humanitarian settings and during mass health emergencies.

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 and disaster response programs and policies through learning to:

- Understand and assess the fundamental causes of humanitarian situations and mass health emergencies and their public health challenges
- Understand and analyze the interdependence of health science, socio-political science, economics, and global governance in humanitarian and disaster 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 and emergency 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 and health emergency settings
- Generate and use best local and global level evidence for sound healthcare and socio-political policy formulation and program management, and translate recommendations into actions that support on- the-ground humanitarian and disaster response 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 and disaster response 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 and health emergency settings

Program Competencies:

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

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6410 Global Health Study Design
- PUBH 6416 Ethical & Cultural Issues in Global Health Research & Programs
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance

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

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6400 Global Health Frameworks
- PUBH 6480 Public Health in Humanitarian Settings
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6468 Preparation & Response to Epidemics, Pandemics, Mass Health Emergencies, Disasters

3. Describe the institutional landscape and the governance 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 and health emergency 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
- PUBH 6468 Preparation & Response to Epidemics, Pandemics, Mass Health Emergencies, Disasters

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

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6410 Global Health Study Design
- PUBH 6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6468 Preparation & Response to Epidemics, Pandemics, Mass Health Emergencies, Disasters

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 and emergency response system and programming and analyze major multi-institutional and multi-sectoral challenges and initiatives and partnerships affecting their performance in humanitarian aid and disaster response systems for sound practice recommendations

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6462 Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6468 Prep & Response: Epi, Pandemic, Emergency, Disaster

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

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6462 Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies

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

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 and public health emergency settings

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods
- PUBH 6467 Ethics, Accountability and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance
- PUBH 6468 Preparation & Response to Epidemics, Pandemics, Mass Health Emergencies, Disasters
- PUBH 6480 Public Health in Humanitarian Settings

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 and disaster settings.

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6468 Preparation & Response to Epidemics, Pandemics, Mass Health Emergencies, Disasters
- 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 (15 credits), highly recommended/program selective courses (6 credits) and general electives (5 credits).

IPE/APEx

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 (PUBH 6023):

MPH students are required to select an IPE experience from a host of options provided throughout enrollment to participate in a one-time, case-based or activity-based learning experience. The IPE experience is a way to actively participate in a supervised environment to work with people from other professions/programs outside of public health. Students are eligible to enroll in the IPE upon successful completion of most of the MPH core coursework including: PUBH 6002, 6003, 6007, 6011, 6012 and 6021. Students will have many opportunities to register for this zero-credit (no fee) IPE course (PUBH 6023- Interprofessional Education Experience) and will receive credit upon successful completion. See <https://publichealth.gwu.edu/content/interprofessional-education-gwsph>.

Applied Practice Experience (Practicum & EPR) (PUBH 6000):

The Applied Practice Experience (APEx) may be satisfied with either a practicum or, for experienced public health professionals, through an expedited portfolio review (EPR). The practicum is a planned, supervised, and evaluated practice experience that aims to provide students with an opportunity to synthesize, integrate, and apply practical skills, knowledge, and training learned through courses, to gain applied experience in a professional public health work environment, and to work on public health practice projects that are of particular interest to you.

Information about the Practicum will be introduced through school-wide Practicum Information Sessions held by the Office of Applied Public Health and through meetings with your department practicum staff and faculty. During the practicum, you will work at least 120 hours in the field under the supervision of the site preceptor who has agreed to directly supervise the work you are conducting. Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the 120-hour practicum to receive credit for PUBH 6000.

If you have had prior work experience, then you will find that the practicum provides the opportunity to hone skills or to gain new experience in a different area. However, if you have substantial public health experience

relevant to your department/track, including 5+ years of full-time public health work for students after receiving your undergraduate degree, or 3+ years of full-time work for students who already have a graduate degree prior to beginning the MPH, then you may be able to satisfy the APEx requirement through an EPR instead of doing the practicum, with advanced approval by your department's practicum team.

- Note: before completing the 120 hours practicum experience Humanitarian Health students must fulfill the following pre-requisites: 6002, 6003, 6400, 6416, 6480, 6021 and 6022

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Department of Global Health

Master of Public Health

Humanitarian Health

Program-at-a-Glance

2022-2023

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	
Total	Core Credits	19			

Required Program Specific Courses (15 credits)

Course #	Required Departmental Courses	Credits	Semesters Offered		Grade
			Residential	Online	
PUBH 6480	Public Health in Humanitarian Settings	2	Fall	Sp1, Sum	
PUBH 6467	Ethics, Accountability, and Current Topics in Humanitarian Assistance (Pre or corequisite: PUBH 6480)	3	Fall		
PUBH 6468	Preparation & Response to Epidemics, Pandemics, Mass Health Emergencies, and Disasters	2	Fall		

PUBH 6462	Nutrition and Food in Large Humanitarian Emergencies (Pre or corequisite: PUBH 6480)	1	Spring		
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		
Total	Total Program Required Credits	15			
Choose Selective Courses (Choose 6 credits from below) <i>Note: All courses can be taken. Credits exceeding 6 will apply to electives</i>					
Course #	Selective Courses	Credits	Semesters Offered		Grade
			Residential	Online	
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		
Total	Total Program Selective/Highly Recommended Credits	6			
Elective Courses (5 Credits) Sample list below. 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	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 6047	Systematic reviews to synthesize evidence in public health practice	1	Fall (2 nd ses)		
PUBH 6484	Prevention and Control of Vector Borne Diseases	2	Spring		
IAFF 6118-82	Global Justice	3	Fall	Elliott	

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 6423	Ethics in Public Health Practice and Policy	1	Summer	online	
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	
Total	Elective Credits	5			
Total	Total Degree Credits	45			

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 to receive credit for PUBH 6000.
4. **Interprofessional Education Experience (IPE):** Students are required to enroll, participate, and complete 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 Examples
2022--2023**

The following are advising tips relating to course sequencing:

- All full-time students must take PUBH 6400 Global Health Frameworks, PUBH 6021 Leading Self and Teams in Public Health PUBH 6480 Public Health in Complex Emergencies, and PUBH 6003 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology during their first fall semester. These are prerequisites to many required and elective courses.

The Humanitarian Health program contains a total of 5 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.

1 st year Fall		1 st year Spring		1 st year Summer	
	Credits		Credits		Credits
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 & Programs	1	6012 Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare	2		
Total semester credits	12	Total semester credits	12	Total semester credits	8
2 nd year fall		2 nd year spring		2 nd year Summer	
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 (Selective)	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	2			
6418 Culminating Experience Part I	1			
Total semester credits	12	Total semester credits	1	

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

1 st year Fall		1 st year Spring		1 st 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		
Total semester credits	11	Total semester credits	10	Total semester credits	5
2 nd year Fall		2 nd year Spring		2 nd 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 (Selective)	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, Emergency, Disaster	2	6132 WASH/Disaster Relief Management and Development (Selective)	2		

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6410 Global Health Study Design	1				
Total semester credits	9	Total semester credits	9	Total semester credits	1