

Program Director

Wolfgang Munar
950 New Hampshire Ave, NW
4th Floor Room 407
Washington, DC 20052
Email: wolfgangmunar@gwu.edu
Phone: (202)-994-1015

Program Description

Global Health Policy (GHP) addresses health challenges of *interdependent* nations, regions and sectors with *multiple cultures*, development, capacities and coexistent values. GHP is the area of public health concerned with *decisions* that translate *evidence* and *political will* into authoritative *public agreement and intervention*. GHP focuses on global and national health systems, including medical care and the public health services. GHP is concerned with the *allocation* of resources across countries and organizations, and on *implementation* of programs for solutions to achieve health goals. It considers cultural and equity-specific global health policies in the appropriate context for the national, regional, and/or global health system or institutions. Using multidisciplinary perspectives, it addresses institutions, authority, organizations, roles of people within such structures, and service arrangements within diverse global, national, and / or local health systems.

Mission

The mission of the Global Health Policy Program is to prepare professionals to assist in public health decision making related to national, regional and / or worldwide definition of health systems policies to address public health challenges. These professionals define problems, identify and analyze evidence, to design cultural and equity-specific global health policy alternatives, project outcomes, advocate and support the final decision making. They focus on interventions and institutions; to support policy analysis and utilize multidisciplinary perspectives and analytic tools including epidemiology and international comparative policy methods paying attention to culture and equity.

These leaders will integrate scientific knowledge and global evidence to advise decision making and action by diverse global health systems and other sectors and to provide insight on policies and processes that impact cultural and equity-specific population health challenges all with an emphasis on underserved populations and development.

- The professionals will address the global trends that affect health at the *global, regional, national and local* level
- They will be knowledgeable of and capable to analyze worldwide, regional, and national health situations, with special consideration to disparities, culture and equity
- They will understand the centrality of actors driving how policies are made and implemented (individuals, institutions, civil society organizations, research institutions, private sector, philanthropic organizations, governments, managers, health workers,

community-based organizations), as well as understand the different political environments.

- They will base their approach in epidemiology, economics, social science, health systems, health diplomacy, comparative policy, and related disciplines and research methods to support decision making and design, plan and implement strategic and practical public health solutions understanding diverse countries health systems.
- They will understand the cultural differences, identify the organizational opportunities, and value the possibilities and challenges from intercultural activities.
- They will develop critical thinking and use key conceptual frameworks within public health systems and other related sectors, to advance population health at *global and country levels*.

Goals

The goals of the Global Health Policy Program are to prepare students to be policy analysts, designers and implementers who know how to:

- Assess the burden and determinants of health problems, *their social distribution and inequities*, and the *interdependence* of countries.
- Apply common economic, epidemiological, and comparative policy analysis methods and tools, determining the efficacy and effectiveness of interventions for the global control of infectious and chronic disease control.
- Identify and analyze global evidence for local action using systematic reviews of scientific and grey sources, and local facts to better inform health policy decisions. Translate evidence to support program and health systems policy recommendations.
- Work with other disciplines and with sectors beyond health to develop innovative policy options.
- Develop strong cultural sensitivity and cross-cultural competency within diverse health and political systems to effectively interact with other global professionals and pertinent policy recommendations.
- Act in global health diplomacy and in policy-shaping and negotiations to improve health while strengthening relations among nations and global health actors.
- Assume leadership roles in the global health policy development process.
- Work with methodological rigor in international policy design, program priority setting and negotiation.
- Effectively communicate the results of research to a culturally broad set of constituents.
- Advocate for policies and interventions that support the needed innovations for a substantive transformation of the global health conditions.

Global Health Policy MPH Program Competencies

By the end of their MPH program, students should be able to:

1. **Identify and analyze evidence to design cultural and equity-specific global health policies in the appropriate context for the national, regional, and/or global health system or institutions.**

Relevant courses:

- PUBH 6442 Comparative Global Health Systems
- PUBH 6417 Cross-Cultural Approaches to GH Practice
- PUBH 6447 Global Health Policy Analysis
- PUBH 6047 Systematic Reviews to Synthesize Evidence in Public Health Practice

2. **Explain the governance, organization, and policy-making of the current global health system architecture.**
Relevant courses:
 - PUBH 6450 Global Health Diplomacy
 - PUBH 6441 Global Health Organizations & Regulations
3. **Interpret and analyze health policies for health diplomacy**
Relevant courses
 - PUBH 6450 Global Health Diplomacy
4. **Evaluate the impact of the economic dimensions (cost, benefits, effectiveness, and financing) of global health policies, particularly in low- and middle-income countries.**
Relevant courses:
 - PUBH 6446 Health Financing in Low and Middle Income Countries
 - PUBH 6440 Global Health Economics
5. **Interpret and critique research and best practices to inform the development of evidence-based solutions for global health challenges.**
Relevant courses:
 - PUBH 6047 Systematic Reviews to Synthesize Evidence in Public Health Practice
6. **Apply relevant quantitative tools to inform different audiences and public health topics**
Relevant courses:
 - PUBH 6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods
7. **Apply multidisciplinary perspectives to identify, analyze, and address global health challenges.**
Relevant courses
 - PUBH 6400 Global Health Frameworks
 - PUBH 6447 Global Health Policy Analysis
8. **Analyze the ethical issues of global health programs, policies and research.**
Relevant courses
 - PUBH 6416 Ethical & Cultural Issues in GH Research Methods
 - PUBH 6423 Ethics in Public Health Practice and Policy

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

(*) Staff on tuition benefits and international students with a fellowship that require presence studies should arrange in advance on this course with the office of the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and the Departmental academic program office to make it residential.

The MPH-GHP experience at the School will be expanded through a set of additional activities:

- DC Area **Global Health Institutions exposure** of students (multilateral, Governmental USA, international, private, social and consulting), through systematic attendance to site visits, special meetings and other opportunities identified by the program director and related faculty.
- **Offer students voluntary participation in GW GHP projects**, to give exposure to the range of experiences currently available from faculty.

- **Integrate students within the GHP research and practice**, positioning the capacities of the department within the global context. This will expand the demand and improve the selection of candidates.

The **MPH-GHP experience will seek to expose** the students to the conditions of other social, economic, historical and cultural contexts, either at their practicum or their culminating experience. This shall include language skills, as stated by the President of the Modern Language Association, “The economic advantages of foreign language study are obvious and have been well documented, but it's the cultural and intellectual formation of global citizens that is really at stake here¹”. Therefore:

- Candidates to the program will be preferred for admission when they have **had an extensive inter-cultural experience**, and if they have **language skills** in other than their native language and the required English competency.
- Using the growing network of institutions in official relation, the program will seek the **linkage with institutions** within USA and in other countries (developed or developing) that could safely host and offer a programmed and structured experience to the students exposing them to work teams and populations of different cultures.
- In these experiences, the program will aim to locate students with **professionals in decision making positions**, to understand the challenges and opportunities represented by them.

¹ <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/11/02/princeton-proposal-would-require-all-students-even-those-already-proficient-study> in reference to <http://www.princeton.edu/strategicplan/files/Task-Force-Report-on-General-Education.pdf>

Milken Institute School of Public Health THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY		Master of Public Health Global Health Policy Program-at-a-Glance 2023-2024		
Course#	Required Core Course	Credits	Semesters Offered	
			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 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 6009	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation (Prerequisite: PUBH 6007)	2	Fall, Sp, Sum	All
PUBH 6021	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership I	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Practice and Leadership II (Prerequisite: PUBH 6021)	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience Prerequisite: all core courses above except PUBH 6009 and 6022	0	Fall, Sp, Sum	
PUBH 6418	GH Culminating Experience I: Proposal Development (Prerequisite: PUBH 6002, 6003, 6400, 6412), (Co-requisite: 6416 OR 6423, 6417, 6441, 6315 OR 6447)	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	
PUBH 6419	GH Culminating Experience II (Prerequisite: PUBH 6418, 6416 OR 6423, 6417, 6441, 6315 OR 6447)	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	
PUBH 6000	MPH Applied Practice Experience (Prerequisite: PUBH 6002, 6003, 6012, 6021, 6400, 6412, 6416 OR 6423, 6417)	0	Fall, Sp, Sum	all
Total	Core Credits	19		
Course #	Required Program Specific Courses	Credits	Semesters Offered	
			Residential	Online

PUBH 6447	Global Health Policy Analysis (Prerequisite: PUBH 6012, 6400)	2	Sp	
PUBH 6400	Global Health Frameworks	2	Fall	Fall, Sp
PUBH 6412	Global Health Quantitative Research Methods (Prerequisite: PUBH 6002)	3	Fall, Sp	
PUBH 6416 Or PUBH 6423	Ethical & Cultural Issues in Global Health Research & Programs or Ethics in Public Health Practice and Policy	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	
PUBH 6417	Cross-Cultural Approaches for Global Health Practice	1	Fall	
PUBH 6441	Global Health Organizations and Regulations (Prerequisite: PUBH 6400)	3	Fall	
PUBH 6450	Global Health Diplomacy	2	N/A	Fall, Sp 2
PUBH 6047	Systematic Reviews to Synthesize Evidence in Public Health Practice	1	Fall	
PUBH 6045	National and Global Public Health Systems	1	Spring	
Total	Total Program Required Credits	16		
Course #	Selective Courses	Credits	Semesters Offered	
			Residential	Online
PUBH 6442 Or PUBH 6355	Comparative Global Health Systems Or Comparative Health Policy	2	Fall	All
PUBH 6440 Or PUBH 6399 Or PUBH 6466	Global Health Economics Or Topics in Health Policy (Cost-Benefit Analysis in Healthcare) Or Health Financing in Low- and Middle-Income Countries	2	Spring	
Total	Total Program Selective Credits	4		
Course#	Elective Courses	Credits	Semesters Offered	
			Residential	Online

PUBH 6410	Global Health Study Design	1	Fall, Sp	
PUBH 6411	Global Health Qualitative Research Methods (Prerequisite: PUBH 6410)	2	Spring, summer	
PUBH 6435	Global Health Program Design and Implementation (Prerequisite: PUBH 6400)	2	Sp, Sum	
PUBH 6436	Global Health Program Management and Leadership	2	Fall, Sum	
PUBH 6480	Public Health in Complex Emergencies	2	Fall	Fall, Sp2
PUBH 6482	International Food and Nutrition Policy (Prerequisite: PUBH 6400)	2	Spring	
PUBH 6486	Global Health Programs and Approaches to the Control of Infectious Diseases*	2	Fall	Fall, Sp2
PUBH 6492	Global Health Programs and Approaches to the Control of Chronic Diseases*	2	Fall	
PUBH 6475	Theory Building in Health Systems Research	2	Spring	
PUBH 6575	Communication Skills for Public Health Professionals*	1	Fall, Sp	
PUBH 6262	Introduction to Geographical Information Systems	1	Fall, Sp, Sum	
IAFF 6502 or IAFF 6503 (or other skills course)	Formal Briefing, or Alternative Analysis: The Red Team Approach, or Analyzing International Economic Data, or Non- Profit Management, or Public Speaking, Negotiating Skills, or The role of an Embassy	varies	Fall, Sp (diverse)	
PPPA 6056	Regulatory Comment Clinic	3	Spring	
PPPA 6062	Community Development Policy	3	Fall	
IAFF 6198	International Trade and Investment Policy	3	Fall	
ECON 6284	Survey of International Macroeconomics and Finance Theory and Policy	3	Fall, Sp	

IAFF 6138	Gender, Disaster, and Policy	3	Spring	
IAFF 6158	Policy of Science, Technology and Development	3	Fall	
ORSC 6224.	Persuasion & Negotiation.	3	Fall, Sp	
PMGT 6404	Principled Political Leadership	3	Fall, Sp	
Other electives	Other SPH or GWU graduate level course(s) with advanced advisor's approval via petition	varies	Fall, Sp, Sum	
Total	Elective Credits	6		
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. **Applied Practice Experience (APEX) Requirement:** Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the Applied Practice Experience (Practicum) to receive credit for 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 departments practicum team.
 - Note that before completing the 120 hours practicum experience Global Health Policy students must fulfill the following pre-requisites: 6002, 6003, 6012, 6021, 6400, 6412, 6416 or 6423, 6417
4. **Interprofessional Education Experience (IPE):** Students are required to enroll and participate in an authorized IPE activity (PUBH 6023). All MPH students are required to select an IPE experience from a host of options provided throughout your enrollment as a MPH. The IPE is a one-time, case-based or activity-based learning experience. It requires a 3-hour live session as well as review of materials ahead of time. 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 course (PUBH 6023- *Interprofessional Education Experience*) and will receive credit upon successful completion. Note that students must complete 20 credits of course work before enrolling in the IPE. [More information is available here.](#)
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
Global Health Policy
Course Mapping Example
2023-2024**

The following are advising tips relating to course sequencing:

- All students must take PUBH 6400 Global Health Frameworks, PUBH 6021, PUBH 6417 and PUBH 6002 Biostatistical Applications for Public Health in their first semester. PubH 6400 and PubH 6002 are prerequisites to multiple required and selective courses.
- PUBH 6012 Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare is a prerequisite for PUBH 6447 Global Health Policy Analysis
- PUBH 6002 Biostatistical Applications for Public Health is a prerequisite for PUBH 6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods

The Global Health Policy 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.

Example 1: This schedule is fast paced and suggested for students that are confident in their academic and quantitative abilities. This schedule allows for students to spend their final spring semester working domestically or abroad.

1 st year Fall		1 st year Spring		1 st year Summer	
	Credits		Credits		Credits
6400 Global Health Frameworks	2	6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods	3	6003 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3
6002 Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	6447 Global Health Policy Analysis	2	6022 Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in PH	1
6012 Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare	2	6450 Global Health Diplomacy	2		
6007 Social & Behavioral Approaches to Health	2	Selective	2	6009 Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	2
Ethics requirement (6416 or 6423)	1	Elective(s)	2		
6417 Cross-Cultural Approaches for Global Health Practice	1	6045 National and Global Public Health Systems	1		
6021 Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1				
Total semester credits	12	Total semester credits	12	Total semester credits	6
2 nd year Fall		2 nd year Spring		2 nd year Summer	
6011 Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	3	6419 GH Culminating Experience II	1	Many students choose to finish their CE or practical hours over the summer.	
6441 Global Health Organizations and Regulations	3	6023 Interprofessional Education Experience	0		
6047 Systematic Reviews to Synthesize Evidence in Public Health Practice	1	Elective(s)	2		
6418 GH Culminating Experience I: Proposal Development	1				
Elective(s)	2				

Selective(s)	2				
**Eligible to do your MPH Applied Practice Experience					
Total semester credits	12	Total semester credits	3	Total semester credits	

Example 2: This schedule is slower paced and recommended for students that are working more, just returning to school, or would generally enjoy a slower paced program.

1 st year Fall		1 st year Spring		1 st year Summer	
	Credits		Credits		Credits
6400 Global Health Frameworks	2	6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods	3	6011 Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	3
6002 Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	6447 Global Health Policy Analysis	2	6003 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3
6012 Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare	2	6450 Global Health Diplomacy	2		
Ethics requirement (6416 or 6423)	1	6007 Social & Behavioral Approaches to Health	2		
6417 Cross-Cultural Approaches for Global Health Practice	1	6045 National and Global Public Health Systems	1		
6021 Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1				
Total semester credits	10	Total semester credits	10	Total semester credits	6
2 nd year Fall		2 nd year Spring		2 nd year Summer	
6022 Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in PH	1	6009 Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	2	6419 GH Culminating Experience II	1
6441 International Health Organizations and Regulations	3	Selective(s)	2		
Selective(s)	2	Elective(s)	4		
Elective(s)	2	6023 Interprofessional Education Experience	0		
6047 Systematic Reviews to Synthesize Evidence in Public Health Practice	1	6418 GH Culminating Experience I: Proposal Development	1		
**Eligible to do your MPH Applied Practice Experience					

Total semester credits	9	Total semester credits	9	Total semester credits	1

Example 3: Part-time student schedule. This schedule is recommended for part-time students. We recommend that students who will be working full-time attend the program part-time.

1st year Fall		1st year Spring		1st year Summer	
	Credits		Credits		Credits
6400 Global Health Frameworks	2	6412 Global Health Quantitative Research Methods	3	6007 Social & Behavioral Approaches to Health	2
6002 Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	6012 Fundamentals of Health Policy: Public Health and Healthcare	2	6003 Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3
6021 Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1	Ethics requirement (6416 or 6423)	1		
		6045 National and Global Public Health Systems	1		
Total semester credits	6	Total semester credits	7	Total semester credits	5
2nd year Fall		2nd year Spring		2nd year Summer	
6450 Global Health Diplomacy	2	6447 Global Health Policy Analysis	2	6011 Environmental and Biological Foundations of Public Health	3
6417 Cross-Cultural Approaches for Global Health Practice	1	6009 Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	2	6022 Managing Organizations and Influencing Systems in PH	1
6441 Global Health Organizations and Regulations	3	Selective(s)	2	Elective(s)	2
		**Eligible to do your MPH Applied Practice Experience			
Total semester credits	6	Total semester credits	6	Total semester credits	6
3rd year Fall		3rd year Spring		3rd year Summer	

6047 Systematic Reviews to Synthesize Evidence in Public Health Practice	1	6419 GH Culminating Experience II	1		
Elective(s)	2	Elective(s)	2		
Selective(s)	2				
6418 GH Culminating Experience I: Proposal Development	1	6023 Interprofessional Education Experience	0		
Total semester credits	6	Total semester credits	3		