

## Concentration - Community Hlth & Epidem

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### **M.P.H. in Public Health Description**

#### **MPH Program Description (On Campus & Online):**

The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree prepares future public health professionals for roles in health policy, research, education, and administration. Courses such as our health equity class will prepare students to work with diverse populations, and applied learning experiences ensure MPH graduates are ready to join the workforce to promote health and tackle pressing public health issues. Our on-campus MPH is 42 total credit hours, including a practicum experience, and our curriculum will prepare graduates for both the Certified in Public Health (CPH) and Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exams.

#### **MPH Admission Requirements (On Campus):**

##### **Official Transcripts**

A cumulative grade-point average (last 60 hours) of 3.0 for admission into the MPH program is recommended.

##### **GRE**

The GRE must have been taken within five years of applying for the graduate program. Scores equal to or greater than 146 on the verbal, 140 on the quantitative, and 3.0 on writing divisions are recommended for admission. The GRE requirement is waived for applicants who have at least one year of public health work experience. A variety of backgrounds can fulfill this requirement, including but not limited to health-related Peace Corps work, working in a research lab, or working on health-related policy as a journalist. Paid and unpaid work will be considered.

##### **Statement of Career Goals**

Applicants must submit (via the online application) a one-to-two-page, single-spaced statement of career goals, objectives, motivation, and readiness to pursue graduate study.

##### **Online Application**

Complete the online application form found at UM's Graduate School website [www.olemiss.edu/gradschool/](http://www.olemiss.edu/gradschool/)

#### **Minimum Total Credit Hours: 42**

#### **Course Requirements**

##### **MPH Program - 42 credit hours**

###### **Public Health Core (15 hours)**

- PH 505 - Health Program Planning (3 hours)
- PH 528 - Public Health Policy (3 hours)
- Jour/IMC 585 - Health Communication (3 hours)
- PH 610 - Biostatistics for Public Health Practice (3 hours)
- PH 646 - Epidemiology (3 hours)

###### **Public Health Practicum (6 hours)**

- PH 698 - Public Health Practicum (1-6 hours)

###### **Electives (3-12 hours)**

- PH 600 - Foundations of Public Health (3 hours)
- Required in the first semester for students without an undergraduate degree in public health
- PH 515 - Motivational Interviewing (3 hours)
- PH 595 - Human Health and Illness (3 hours)
- PH 620 - Emerging Issues in Public Health (3 hours)
- PH 665 - Special Topics in Health Behavior (3 hours)
- Other courses across campus in areas of interest

###### **Concentrations (9-18 hours)**

Students will select one concentration in community health or epidemiology or a combined community health and epidemiology concentration which would require 9 credits from each of epidemiology and community health.

###### **Community Health Concentration (9 hours)**

- PH 555: Health Equity (3 hours)
- PH 635: Theories in Health (3 hours)
- PH 685: Health Program Evaluation (3 hours)

###### **Epidemiology Concentration (9 hours)**

- PH 670: Applied Epidemiology (3 hours)
- PH 674: Chronic Disease Epidemiology (3 hours)
- PH 680: Infectious Disease Epidemiology (3 hours)

#### **Other Academic Requirements**



**Integrative Learning Experience (ILE)**

In the last semester of their degree, students will complete a comprehensive exam to satisfy the CEPH requirement for an integrative learning experience (ILE).

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The concentrations in community health and epidemiology, which consists of 18 of the total 42 MPH credit hours, allow students to complete an emphasis in the application of public health theory and an emphasis in the science with the study of trends, patterns, exposures, and causes related to chronic and infectious diseases. This reduces the number of remaining hours completed as electives (the total number of required hours for the degree remains the same).

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