

# Public Health

IN THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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## Faculty

**Emeritus:** Brodine, Chang, de Peyster, Elder, Gersberg, Hofherr, Hovell, Koch, Lindsay, Macera, Mayer, McTaggart, Noto, Novotny, Peddecord, Seidman, Senn, Slymen, Sorochan, Williams

**Director:** Madanat

**Undergraduate Adviser/Division Head:** Emory

**Professors:** Arredondo, Ayala, Corliss, Finlayson, Hoh, Kiene, Madanat, Quintana, Shaffer, Stoskopf, Valafar, Yu

**Associate Professors:** Alcaraz, Baek, Calzo, Chowdhury, Crespo, Oren, Reed, Wu

**Assistant Professors:** Lipton, Parada, Sant, Schiaffino, Thompson, Yang

**Lecturer:** Emory

## Offered by the School of Public Health

Doctor of Philosophy degree in public health.

- Concentration in epidemiology.
- Concentration in global health.
- Concentration in health behavior.

Master of Public Health degree.

- Concentration in biometry.
- Concentration in environmental health.
- Concentration in epidemiology.
- Concentration in health management and policy.
- Concentration in health promotion and behavioral science.

Master of Science degree in epidemiology.

Master of Science degree in public health.

- Concentration in environmental health sciences.

Master of Public Health and Master of Arts in

Latin American studies degrees (concurrent program).

Master of Social Work and Master of

Public Health degrees (concurrent program).

Major in public health with the B.S. degree in applied arts and sciences.

Minor in public health.

Certificate in preventive medicine residency

(refer to the *Graduate Bulletin*).

Certificate in public health

(refer to the *Graduate Bulletin*).

## The Major

The public health major provides a broad educational opportunity and exposure of undergraduate students to the field of public health and its many disciplines. The major prepares students to develop, implement, and assess public health programs conducted in varied settings, with diverse populations and aimed at reducing threats to public health. The major prepares students for entry-level positions in a variety of settings, including government agencies, private/voluntary agencies, hospitals, clinics, and international programs. Students develop basic competencies in public health concepts, theories, and methods. Students are exposed to the disciplines of epidemiology, environmental health, occupational health, health services administration, and behavioral science. The program of study uses examples of public health problems from all of these disciplines.

## Retention Policy

The College of Health and Human Services expects that all public health majors will make reasonable academic progress towards the degree. Public health premajors who have completed major preparatory courses, earned 60 units, but have less than a 2.9 GPA may be removed from the premajor and placed in undeclared.

## Impacted Program and Standards for Admission

The public health major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the public health major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Receive a grade of B (3.0) or better in Public Health 101 and 292. These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);
- Complete each remaining course in preparation for the major with a minimum grade of C. These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);
- Complete all courses in preparation for the major with a minimum GPA of 2.75;
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.90 or better.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs website was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Public Health Major

With the B.S. Degree in Applied Arts and Sciences

**(Major Code: 12141) (SIMS Code: 557303)**

All candidates for a degree in applied arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

A minor is not required with this major.

**Preparation for the Major.** Public Health 101, 292; Biology 100, 100L, 211, 212; Chemistry 100; Psychology 101; Sociology 101, and either Psychology 280 or Sociology 201. (29 units)

Public Health 101 and 292 may not be taken Cr/NC. The minimum grade for Public Health 101 and 292 is B (3.0) or better. Each remaining course in preparation for the major must be completed with a minimum grade of C (2.0). These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC). Complete all courses in preparation for the major with a minimum GPA of 2.75.

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or Linguistics 305W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**International Experience.** All public health majors are required to participate in a pre-approved international experience to increase awareness of cross-cultural issues, global health, economic, political, cultural, social services, and health challenges experienced by local populations in international environments. Students participate in residence for two or more weeks (exemption from the study abroad portion of the requirement must be approved by the dean of the college based on serious and compelling life events or physical limitations; a relevant course will be substituted). Specific details can be found on the college website at <http://www.chhs.sdsu.edu/international>.

To meet the international experience requirement, majors must complete one of the following:

- A CSU Study Abroad Program;
- An SDSU Exchange Program;
- An SDSU Study Abroad Program;
- An SDSU Study Travel Program;

**OR**

## 5. One course selected from:

- Health and Human Services 290 or 350;
- Asian Studies 490;
- Education 450;
- General Studies 450;
- International Security and Conflict Resolution 450;
- Latin American Studies 320, 450, or 550;
- Political Science 450;
- Public Health 550;
- Science 350.

**Major.** A minimum of 51 upper division units to include Public Health 300, 302, 304, 305, 306, 307, 401, 402, 450, 490A, 490B, 490C; and at least 15 units selected from the following:

- Twelve units of electives from Public Health 330, 331, 353, 362, 395, 451, 452, 496 (maximum of three units) or General Studies 340. Other electives as selected and offered by the School of Public Health, with approval of academic adviser.
- Three units from one of the following categories during the fall or spring of the senior year:

**Peer Health Education.** Public Health 480.

**Practice.** Public Health 497 (Supervised Field Experience); internship from a list of selected public health agencies.

**Preprofessional.** Science courses selected with approval of School of Public Health undergraduate academic adviser.

**Research.** Public Health 499 (Special Study) and completion of a senior research paper under guidance of a faculty member. Must receive approval from the undergraduate public health adviser. Senior standing in public health and Public Health 402, 490A, 490B, and credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 490C.

**Time Limitation.** All public health courses taken for the major must have been taken and completed within seven years of the granting of the undergraduate degree. Courses taken prior to the seven year rule must be repeated. This policy applies to courses taken at SDSU or transferred from another four-year college or university or appropriate courses from a community college. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

## Public Health Minor

(SIMS Code: 557304)

The minor in public health consists of a minimum of 18 units, to include Public Health 101, 292, 302, and nine units selected from Public Health 330, 331, 353, 362, 450, 451, 452, 480, 496 (maximum of three units).

Public Health 101 and 292 must be completed with a grade of B (3.0) or better and students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or better to enroll in the required 300-level public health courses.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## Courses (P H)

Refer to *Courses and Curricula and University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

### LOWER DIVISION COURSES

#### P H 101. Introduction to Public Health (3)

Epidemics, environment, and community health challenges, including educational, political, environmental, regulatory, and organizational factors that support health of population groups and communities.

#### P H 250. Infections and Epidemics (3) [GE]

Concepts and impacts of infectious diseases on human populations. Quantitative reasoning to solve epidemiologic mysteries. Case studies and outbreak investigations.

#### P H 292. History of Public Health (3)

Prerequisite: Public Health 101 with a grade of B (3.0) or better. Open only to public health majors.

Historical and contemporary issues surrounding population health. Public health responses, outcomes of those responses, and concerns over time.

#### P H 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

### UPPER DIVISION COURSES

(Intended for Undergraduates)

#### P H 300. Professionalism and Public Health (3)

Prerequisite: Public Health 101 with a grade of B (3.0) or better. Open only to public health majors.

Best practices for healthcare working professionals. Job searches, résumés, statements of purpose, written communications. Organizational behaviors, culture, and structure.

#### P H 302. Communicable and Chronic Disease (3)

Prerequisite: Open to public health majors and minors.

Impact of infectious and chronic diseases on health of the population. Epidemiologic methods, behavioral and biologic determinants, modes of transmission, and risk factors.

#### P H 303. Health Behavior in Community Settings (3)

Prerequisite: Public Health 302.

Behavior change theory, principles, predictive models, and their application to health behavior change programs. Review of research methods related to individuals and communities. Analysis of major health behavior change programs.

#### P H 304. Environment and Public Health (3)

Prerequisite: Public Health 302. Open to public health majors and minors.

Environmental hazards of living and working in both industrialized and lesser developed societies. Chemical, biological, and physical agents in food, air, water, and soil.

#### P H 305. Medical Care Organization and Delivery (3)

Prerequisite: Public Health 302.

Organizational, economic, financial, political, and cultural factors affecting finance and delivery of health and medical services in the U.S. Topics include insurance, managed care, reimbursement, private and public programs, and regulation.

#### P H 306. Public Health Research (3)

Prerequisite: Public Health 101. Open only to public health majors.

Methodological, ethical, topical issues in current public health research. Basic principles and different approaches to research designs and methods applicable to writing proposals and other documents in academic and professional settings. (Formerly numbered Public Health 295.)

## Public Health

### **P H 307. Applied Biostatistics in Public Health (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 101, 302, Psychology 280 or Sociology 201. Open only to public health majors.

Data analysis and statistical inference in medical and health sciences to include data description and exploratory analysis, screening tests for disease, and statistical methods for evaluating association of factors with health outcomes.

### **P H 330. Plagues Through the Ages (3) [GE]**

Political, economic, religious, and cultural effects of disease. Significant role epidemics and disease have played in development of civilizations from beginning of recorded history to present. (Formerly numbered General Studies 330.)

### **P H 331. Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 302.

Roles and responsibilities of public health in disaster preparation, mitigation, planning, and response to epidemics, pandemics, natural disasters and bioterrorism, includes disaster assessment, surveillance, risk management, and principles of disaster planning.

### **P H 332. Public Health Nutrition (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 101.

Importance of nutrition to the health of populations throughout the life-course.

### **P H 353. Human Sexuality and Disease (3) [GE]**

Development of sexual values, attitudes, and behaviors across ages, including evolution and occurrence of sexually transmitted infections worldwide. Focus on biological, medical, psychological, sociocultural, and political factors.

### **P H 362. International Health (3) [GE]**

Population dynamics, vital statistics, global disease patterns, and analysis of variations among nations and cultures with respect to health problems and health care services.

### **P H 395. Emerging Topics in Public Health (3)**

Prerequisite: Open only to public health majors.

Emergent topics that may include global warming, gun violence, health disparities, LGBTQ+ health, and the penal system.

### **P H 401. Biological Basis of Disease (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 304.

Prevalent health issues, problems, and social consequences surrounding conditions such as alcoholism, cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, and stroke. Disease protective factors, risks, and screening processes.

### **P H 402. Public Health Communications (3)**

Prerequisites: Public Health 304. Open only to public health majors.

Effective communication techniques used in public health campaigns, social marketing, and risk communication. Use of technology to design and conduct public health campaigns which focus on recognizing and overcoming communication barriers, including cross-cultural issues.

### **P H 450. Public Health Policy (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 302. Recommended: Public Health 305.

Political, economic, cultural, institutional, and social factors influencing development and implementation of policy. U.S. and international private and public health organizations and their roles in shaping health policy. Public health advocacy by organizations.

### **P H 451. Public Health and Food Safety (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Risk factors for foodborne illness, to include case studies of domestic and international outbreaks. Food safety, foodborne illness, food safety measures and prevention, management and regulation, sustainability.

### **P H 452. Health Impacts of Climate Change (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 304.

Biological, chemical, physical, and social factors contributing to climate change and human health. Greenhouse effect, health impacts and adaptation, climate change projections, and climate mitigation.

### **P H 480. Peer Health Education (2-3)**

Communicating health information to peers. Health issues relevant to university population. Health promotion strategies and tactics.

### **P H 490A. Health Data Analysis (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 302.

Identifying, retrieving, and using health data, with emphasis on statistical applications and interpretation of results for changing policy and health programs.

### **P H 490B. Planning Public Health Programs (3)**

Prerequisites: Public Health 304 and 490A.

Public health programming models, including community needs assessment, goals, objectives, and strategies for effective public health interventions. Preparation of grant proposals.

### **P H 490C. Public Health Program Evaluation (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 490B.

Quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods in public health programs.

### **P H 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

### **P H 497. Supervised Specialization in Public Health (1-6)**

Prerequisites: Senior standing in public health and Public Health 304, 305, 402, 490B, and credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 490C.

Placement in a public health environment. Maximum credit six units.

### **P H 499. Special Study (1-3)**

Prerequisite: Consent of special study adviser.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

## UPPER DIVISION COURSE

(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

### **P H 550. Applied International Public Health (3)**

Prerequisite: Public Health 101 or graduate standing.

Global cultural, economic, health, political, and social challenges of different countries. Application of public health concepts in a particular country.

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## GRADUATE COURSES

Refer to the *Graduate Bulletin*.