**Public Health program**

**Master of Science in Public Health (M.S.P.H.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Program Admission Deadlines:**

Domestic Applicants:

Fall: May 1\*

Spring: August 1

International Applicants:

Fall: May 1\*

Spring August 1

*\* Global Communicable Disease and Genetic Counseling admits in fall term only.*

**Minimum Total Hours:** 42

**Program Level:** Masters

**CIP Code:** 51.2299

**Dept Code:** DEA

**Program (Major/College):** MSP PH

**Approved** 2002

**Concentrations and total hours for the Program with that concentration:**

Behavioral Health (PBH) – 44

Bioinformatics (PBF) – 42 -

Biostatistics (PBC) – 45

Environmental Health (PEH) – 42

Epidemiology (PEY) – 48

Genetic Counseling (MGC) - 42

Global Communicable Disease (PGD) – 42

Industrial Hygiene (PIH) – 47

International Public Health Research, Policy and Planning (PIP) – 42

Maternal and Child Health (PMH) – 44

Occupational Health (POH)[[1]](#footnote-1) – 46

Occupational Medicine Residency (POM) – 46

Occupational Safety (POS) – 46

Public Health Education (PPD) – 44

Socio-Health Sciences (PSH) – 44

Toxicology and Risk Assessment (PTX) – 44

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Public Health

**Contact Information:** [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu/)

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**Program Information**

The base of knowledge for public health comes from a variety of disciplines, ranging from social sciences to biological sciences and business, brought together by a commitment to improve the public's health. Thus, the field of public health is broad and is open to students from diverse academic disciplines including Health Sciences, Education, Engineering, Business, Communications, Mathematics, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences. Graduates are prepared for interdisciplinary focused public health professional careers as administrators, managers, educators, researchers, and direct service providers.

The College’s five departments are: Community and Family Health, Environmental and Occupational Health, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Global Health, and Health Policy and Management. Public Health Practice is a college-wide program. Core content is directly related to addressing and meeting public health issues.

The College accommodates the working professional as well as the full-time student by offering late afternoon and evening classes, online course delivery, partnerships with international schools to expand options, a variety of graduate certificate programs, and a professional M.P.H. for experienced Health Care professionals.

**Accreditation:**

Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of College and Schools. The College is fully accredited by the Council on Education in Public Health and the Applied Science Accreditation Commission of ABET, [http://www.abet.org](http://www.abet.org/)..

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements listed below.

**Program Admission Requirements**

All Applicants must take the Graduate Record Exam (except as noted below) or an equivalent taken within five years preceding application unless noted as exceptions and must meet the following criteria:

* shall have earned an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution;
* shall have earned a "B" average (3.00 on a 4 point scale) or better in all work attempted while registered as an upper division student working toward a baccalaureate degree; AND
* Prefer Graduate Record Exam (GRE) minimums of 44th Verbal percentile, 25th Quantitative percentile.\*\*
* In lieu of the GRE, only applicants to the Department of Health Policy and Management may submit a minimum GMAT score of 500 for the M.S.P.H.
* An MCAT score may be submitted in lieu of the GRE. A mean of 8 is required. The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Department of Health Policy and Management do not accept MCAT scores for M.S.P.H. degrees.

Meeting of these criteria per se shall not be the only basis for admission.

\*\* NOTE: Some Concentrations may prefer higher GRE subscores.

**DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

**Total Minimum Program Hours: 42 credit hours**

Core Requirements – 9 hours

Concentration Course Requirements – 27 hours (varies by concentration, includes research courses and electives)

Thesis – 6 hours minimum

**Program Core Requirements – 9 credit hours**

PHC 6600 1 History and Systems of Public Health

PHC 6080 5 Population Assessment I

PHC 6082 3 Population Assessment II

**Concentrations – 27 credit hours minimum (including Research Hours and Electives)**

Students select from one of the concentrations listed on the following pages. The Concentration section includes Concentration Course Requirements, any required Research courses, Electives, and any concentration specific requirements for the Comprehensive Exam.

**Research Courses**

S*pecific course requirements are listed with the Concentration. Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Medicine Residency are practice-based and do not have specific research hours required.*

**Electives**

*Elective options are listed with the Concentration*.

**Thesis – 6 credit hours**

PHC 6971 6 Thesis

**Comprehensive Exam**

Must be registered for at least 2 credit hours of coursework. Comprehensive exam or thesis proposal defense may be used in lieu of the comprehensive exam

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**MSPH in Public Health CONCENTRATION OPTIONS**

Students select from the Concentrations listed on the following pages.

**GENETIC COUNSELING (MGC)**

**Program Information**

This Master's degree program is a unique combination of public health, medical genetics/genomics and clinical training in patient centered medicine that provides the technology and counseling training to compete in the rapidly emerging fields of precision medicine.

Graduates of this program will have job opportunities in clinical genetic counseling practice, public health genetics/genomics, industry and academic genomics research.  The program curriculum and clinical rotation requirements meet or exceed the required competencies and standards needed to apply for and achieve program accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling (ACGC).  Accreditation of the MSPH program will be sought in 2016.

**Pre-requisites and Admissions Information**

In addition to meeting the Program admission requirements for the Master of Science in Public Health, applicants should also meet these concentration prerequisites:

* Suggested/Preferred Undergraduate Majors: We encourage applicants from any undergraduate major, however the following undergraduate courses/experiences are preferred for the MSPH Genetic Counseling program:
  + - 1-2 semesters of biology (this would include any molecular biology course)
    - 1 semester of statistics
    - 1 semester of genetics
    - Prior counseling or advocacy experience: Work or volunteer experience(s) in a counseling or advocacy setting is not required, although this will be considered in applications to the program. A few examples include: peer counseling, crisis hotlines, a pregnancy counseling center, or working with individuals who have a genetic condition or disability.
* Minimum undergraduate GPA 3.0.
* GRE minimum: 50th percentile in verbal and quantitative or equivalent.
* Substitutions: Applicants may substitute an MCAT mean score of 8 for the required GRE scores.
* Special Admission Requirements
  + - This concentration area only admits students during fall semester
    - Previous experience in counseling, advocacy, or genetic counseling settings would be advantageous
    - Three letters of recommendation from academic and/or related professional sources.

**Total Program Requirements with this concentration - 42 hours minimum**

In addition to the 15 hours minimum required for the Program Core Requirements and the thesis/practice-based clinical research, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Course Requirements – 24 credit hours

Research Courses – 3 credit hours

**Concentration Course Requirements – 24 credit hours**

Required Concentration Courses

PHC 6030 1 Introduction to Genetic Counseling

PHC 6432 3 Patient Centered Communication and Professionalism

PHC 6570 3 Human Genetics/Genomics in Medicine and Public Health

PHC 6434 3 Health Education and Counseling

GMS 6604 3 Embryology

GMS 6520 3 Applied Clinical Genetics

GMS 6521 1 Clinical Genetics Case Conference

PHC 6438 1 Profesional Development in Genetic Counseling

PHC 6572 3 Quantitative Genetics and Genomics

PHC 6574 3 min Practice Based Clinical Research

**Research Courses – 3 credit hours**

PHC 6911 1 Clinical Research I

PHC 6913 1 Clinical Research II

PHC 6915 1 Clinical Research III

**Comprehensive Exam**

Must be registered for at least 2 credit hours of coursework. Comprehensive exam or thesis proposal defense may be used in lieu of the comprehensive exam

1. Only for health professionals [↑](#footnote-ref-1)