**Public Health program**

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Program Admission Deadlines:**

**Fall:** November 15

Annually

**Minimum Total Hours:** 90

**Program Level:** Doctoral

**CIP Code:** 51.2201

**Dept Code:** DEA

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

**Approved:** 1987

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

Biostatistics (BST)

Community and Family Health (CFH)

Environmental Health (EVH)

Environmental and Occupational Health (EOH)

Epidemiology (EPY)

Global Communicable Disease (TCD)

Health Services Research (HPM)

Industrial Hygiene (IHY)

Occupational Health for Health Professionals (OHP)

Toxicology and Risk Assessment (TXY)

. **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 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. 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.

**Major Research Areas:**

Faculty major research areas are listed at: <http://publichealth.usf.edu/facultyaffairs/facultyprofile.html>

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

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

**Program Admission Requirements**

Applicants to the doctoral program in Public Health must meet the following minimum criteria in order to be considered for admission. However, the meeting of these criteria per se, shall not be the only basis for admission.

* Applicants to the Ph.D. program are required to complete both a SOPHAS application and a USF Graduate Studies Application (applicants will receive a request for the $30 fee once the SOPHAS application enters the USF system).
* USF Graduate School application fee
* Required Documentation (all items are required regardless of GPA or GRE scores):
* Completed SOPHAS application (requires the following):
  + GRE Scores. A preferred minimum verbal of 53rd percentile and quantitative of 39th percentile taken within 5 years preceding the application and a grade point average of 3.0 are needed to be considered. Note:some concentration may prefer higher GRE scores (e.g. Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Health Services Research). A score of 600 or higher on the GMAT for applicants to only the Health Policy and Management Department will be considered.
  + Transcripts
  + Resume or curriculum vitae
  + Each applicant must submit at least two formal Letters of Recommendation. The Department of Community and Family Health requires three Letters of Recommendation.
  + Each applicant must submit evidence of written/analytical skills to the College of Public Health which will take two-forms:
    - A graduate level term paper, thesis, or research paper of which the student is the sole author, publication on which the student is the first author; and
    - A detailed personal statement of less than five pages that describes why the applicant wishes to obtain a Ph.D. degree in Public Health.
* Applicants seeking consideration to the doctoral program must possess the M.P.H., M.S.P.H., or equivalent. Those who hold other graduate degrees will be considered, but as a prerequisite, they may be required to complete courses as approved by their advisory committee.
* In order to be considered for admission to the Ph.D. Program in Public Health, applicants must be fully prepared to register as full-time students for at least one full academic year (consecutive Fall and Spring semesters).
* Applicants whose native language is not English or who have not earned a degree in the United States must also submit TOEFL scores earned within two (2) years of the desired term of entry. A minimum total score of 79 on the internet-based test, 213 on the computer-based test, or 550 on the paper-based test are required. Applications submitted with TOEFL scores that do not meet the minimum requirements will be denied with no exceptions.

**DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

**Total Minimum Program Hours: 90 hours post-bachelor’s**

**Prerequisites**

The doctoral committee or the department may require prerequisites. These courses are not included in the minimum number of hours a student needs to complete the Ph.D. and are expected to be completed early in the course of study.

**Public Health Core Courses - 9 credit hours**

PHC 6000 Epidemiology

PHC 6050 Biostatistics I

One (1) of the following\*:

PHC 6410 Social and Behavioral Sciences applied to health

PHC 6357 Environmental and Occupational Health

PHC 6102 Principles of Health Policy and Management

*\*Students should check with their advisor to determine which of these should be taken.*

**Seminar** **- 3 credit hours**

PHC 7931 1 Advanced Interdisciplinary Seminar in Public Health

A minimum of three semesters (one credit each semester).

**Concentrations –**

Students select one of the concentrations listed on the following pages and must complete requirements as listed in addition to the general program requirements.

**Concentration Coursework – 12 credit hours minimum**

See individual concentrations for specific requirements.

**Additional Coursework - 13 credit hours**

A minimum of 13 credits at the 7000 level. The courses and number of credit hours required are defined by the department and the doctoral committee and include coursework from another department or college. Generally, the doctoral degree requires a minimum of 90 credits beyond the bachelor's degree. Departments determine the number of credits accepted from previous master(s) degree. There is a mandatory doctoral student orientation that all new doctoral students must attend in the fall semester of their first academic year.

**Tools of Research**

Departmental Guidelines will address whether tools of research are required for doctoral students within that department (consistency within the department required). The student must complete a minimum of two of the "Tools of Research" options designated by the Department, and approved by the doctoral committee before the student is eligible to take the doctoral qualifying examination.

**Teaching**

All doctoral students will demonstrate or document proficiency in teaching academic courses at the university level.

**Qualifying Exam**

When all required coursework is satisfactorily completed (including tools of research and prerequisites), the student must pass a comprehensive qualifying examination covering the subject matter in the major and related fields. The Department will set the specific criteria.

The qualifying exam will comprise of a written portion and may include an oral component. The exam will cover at least three major areas including: a) Broad area of public health; b) Focus area of study; c) Research methods. The student may have no longer than 10 weeks to complete the exam upon receipt of the exam from the Doctoral Supervisory Committee. The format and duration of the qualifying exam is the responsibility of the Doctoral Supervisory Committee following consultation with the student and consistent with departmental, college and university guidelines. The Doctoral Supervisory Committee will have up to three weeks to review the exam and determine the outcome of either Pass or Fail. No more than two attempts will be allowed for the student to take the qualifying exam and earn a Pass. If the student reeives a Fail on the qualifying exam on the first attempt and the Doctoral Supervisory Committee recommends that the student complete remedial work, the second attempt at the qualifying exam must be initation within three- months of completion of remedial work. If the student earns a Fail on the first attempt, and the Commttee dtermines that no remedial work is needed, the student will have a second attempt to pass which must be initiated within three-months. If the student does not earn a Pass on the qualifying exam on his/her second attempt, the student will not be admitted into doctoral candidacy. After successful completion of the qualfying exam and appropraite paperwork is submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies, the student is admitted to candidacy and may register for dissertation hours.

**Dissertation**

All students must follow the University's "Guidelines for Dissertations and Theses" found at <http://www.grad.usf.edu/thesis.php>. The Dissertation must conform to one of the following two available options per USF degree requirements. For details, consult the USF Graduate Catalog Degree Requirements Section.

Option 1: Traditional format inclusive of Part 1 Perliminary Pages, Part II Text, Part III References/Appendices, Part IV About the Author.

Option 2: Collection of articles/papers instead of chapters inclusive of Part I Preliminary Pages, Part II Collection of Articles/Papers, Part III References/Appendices.

After the Doctoral Dissertation Committee has determined that the final draft of the Dissertation is suitable for presentation, the Committee will request the scheduling and announcement of the Dissertation Defense. Consistent with USF Graduate Degree Requirements, a copy of the announcement should be sent to the USF Office of Graduate Studies and posted in a public forum preferably two weeks in advance of the defense date.

In addition, the Concentration in Biostatistics and the Concentration in Epidemiology have additional format requirements. Consult the Department for information on the format options and requirements for these two concentrations.

**Guidelines for student progress:**

Each Ph.D. student will undergo an annual review consistent with departmental guidelines. A summary of the annual review will be provided to the student and placed in the student’s advising file.

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**Ph.D. in Public Health**

**CONCENTRATION OPTIONS**

Students select from the Concentrations listed on the following pages.

**BIOSTATISTICS**

**Offered from the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics**

**Total Program Requirements with this concentration - 92 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Pre-Req Courses – 9 hours

Concentration Courses – 18 hours

Research Tool Courses – 9 hours

Focus Area Courses – 12 hours

Electives – 6 hours

Other Requirements – 7 hours

Teaching – 1 hour

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Pre-Requisite Courses – 9 hours**

PHC 6051 3 Biostatistics II or equivalent

PHC 6053 3 Categorical Data Analysis or equivalent

PHC 6055 3 Survival Analysis or equivalent

**Concentration Course Requirements (Domain A) – 18 hours**

PHC 7935 3 Probability Model

PHC 7058 3 Biostatistical Inference II

PHC 6061 3 Biostatistical Collaboration and Case Studies II

PHC 7053 3 Generalized Linear Models

PHC 7059 3 Advanced Surivival Analysis

PHC 7056 3 Longitudinal Data Analysis

**Research Tools and Electives (Domain B) – 27 hours**

Resesarch tools (9 hours minimuim)

PHC 7055 3 Biostatistical Computing

PHC 6020 3 Design and Conduct of Clinical Trials

PHC 6190 3 Public Health Data Base Management

PHC 7054 3 Selected Topics in Advanced Biostatistical Methods

STA 6876 3 Time Series Analysis

Substantive knowledge/Focus Area (12 hours minimum)

Electives –(6 hours Minimum)

Examples:

PHC 6056 3 Survey and Sampling for Health Sciences

PHC 6060 3 Biostatistical Collaboration and Case Studies I

PHC 7028 3 Advanced Clinical Trials

CSE 6930 3 Data Mining in Bioinformatics

EDF 7412 3 Application of Strucutral Equaltion Moedling

EDF 7408 3 Statistical Analysis for Educational Research II

STA 6746 3 Multivariate Analsis

PHC 6054 Design and Analysis of Experiments for Health Studies

PHC 6056 Survey and Sampling for Health Sciences

**Other Program Requirements (Domain C) – 7 hours minimum**

Ethical Issues in Human Research (1 hour)

Select one of the following:

PHC 7931 1 Public Health Research Ethics

GMS 6091 1 Responsible Conduct in Research

GMS 6871 1 Health Science Ethics

Professional Development (6 hours)

HSC 7267 1 Professional Foundations1: Doctoral Student

PHC 7934 3 Writing for Scholarly Publication

HSC 7268 2 Professional Foundations 3: Joining the Academy

**Teaching (Domain D) – 1 hour minimum**

HSC 7260 1 Professional Foundations 2: Teaching

Department Teaching Requirement

**Dissertation (Domain E) – 18 hours minimum**

PHC 7980 Dissertation Research

**COMMUNITY AND FAMILY HEALTH (CFH)**

**Offered from the Department of Community and Family Health**

Areas of focus include Behavioral Health, Maternal and Child Health, and Public Health Education.

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Pre-Req Courses – 9 hours (not part of total minimum hours)

Concentration Courses – 30 hours

Teaching

Focus – 30 hours

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Pre-Requisite PH Courses (Not included in total program hours)**

PHC 6708 3 Evaluation Methods in Community Health or equivalent

PHC 6193 3 Qualitative Methods in Community Health Research or equivalent

PHC 6500 3 Theoretical and Behavioral Basis for HE or equivalent

**Concentration Course Requirements – 30 hours**

PHC 6410 3 Social and Behavioral Sciences Applied to Health or equivalent

PHC 7934 3 Interdisciplinary Seminar (offered as a one hour course for three semesters (1 hour x 3 semesters)

**Scientific knowledge and Theory (3 hours)**

PHC 7405 3 Theoretical Applications to Public Health Issues

**Research Methods (15hours)**

PHC 7702 3 Advanced Public Hlth Res and Eval Methods

PHC 7708 3 Applied Research Methods

PHC 6934 3 Applications of Advanced Biostatistics Methods in public Health

PHC 7198 3 Advanced Qualitative Methods

Also one Advanced Quantitative or Qualitative Course (3 hours)

Select 3 hours or more of advanced level quantitative or qualitative course/s determined by the student and PhD Committee.

**Practice (12 hours)**

PHC 7583 3 Community Based Health Promotion

PHC 7152 3 Policy and Practice

Choose 6 hours from the following or other courses as decided by the docctoral committee focused on public health practice:

PHC 7935 Seminar in Writing a Dissertation

PHC 7934 Writing Scholarly Publications in the Health Sciences

PHC 7937 Advanced Seminar in Grant Writing

**Teaching**

TA with Faculty (at least one graduate course)

Teaching requirement (at least one semester of teaching an undergraduate course)

**Focus Area Courses - 30 hours minimum**

While up to 30 graduate level credits may be transferred in to meet requirements, we expect that at least half of the focus area/research course hours for this degreee program should be at an advanced doctoral level from within or outside the College. New courses may include directed research/internsihp/practicum hours as destermined gy the student and Ph.D. committee.

**Qualifying Exam**

**Dissertation - 18 hours minimum**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (EOH)**

**Offered from the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health**

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 12 hours

Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3

Required doctoral courses – 13

Electives

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Concentration Course Requirements – 12 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3 hours**

**Required doctoral Courses – 13 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Directed Research**

PHC 7910 2-19 Directed Research

**Dissertation – 18 hours**

PHC 7980 2-18 Dissertation

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (EVH)**

**Offered from the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health**

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 12 hours

Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3

Required doctoral courses – 13

Electives

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Concentration Course Requirements – 12 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3 hours**

**Required doctoral Courses – 13 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Directed Research**

PHC 7910 2-19 Directed Research

**Dissertation – 18 hours**

PHC 7980 2-18 Dissertation

**EPIDEMIOLOGY (EPY)**

**Offered from the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics**

**Total Program Requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 24 hours

Epidemiology Methods and Writing – 15 hours

Focus Area Courses – 9 hours

Biostatistics – 6 hours

Electives – 6 hours

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Concentration Course Requirements (Domain B) – 24 hours**

PHC 6051 3 Biostatistics II or equivalent

PHC 6053 3 Categorical Data Analysis or equivalent

PHC 6701 3 Computer Applications for Public Health or equivalent

In addition students take:

6 graduate level credits focusing on epidemiology methods

3 graduate level credits in data analysis or computer applications

6 level credits in topic areas focusing on chronic or infectious disease

**Epidemiology Methods and Writing (Domain C) – 15 hours**

PHC 7703 3 Adv. Research Methods in Epidemiology

PHC 7001 3 Practical Issues in Epidemiology

PHC 7015 3 Epidemiology Study Design and Protocol Develop

And two of the following:

PHC 6017 3 Design and Conduct of Clinical Trials

PHC 6720 3 Intermediate SAS

PHC 7720 3 Secondary Data Analysis

**Substantive Knowledge and/or Focus Area (Domain D) – 9 hours**

9 Graduate Level Credits in Topic Area

**Biostatistics (Domain E) – 6 hours**

PHC 6055 3 Survival Analyses

**Electives/Support Courses (Domain F) – 6 hours**

6 Graduate level elective credits decided by student and program committee

**Other Program Requirements (Domain G)**

Teaching Experience

Qualifying Examination

Dissertation Research

Dissertation

Dissertation Defense

\*Primary data collection experience is strongly encouraged, but not required

**Dissertation – 18 hours minimum**

PHC 7980 2-18 Dissertation

**GLOBAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE (TCD)**

**Offered from the Department of Global Health**

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 12 hours

Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3

Required doctoral courses – 13

Electives

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Concentration Course Requirements – 12 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3 hours**

**Required doctoral Courses – 13 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Directed Research**

PHC 7910 2-19 Directed Research

**Dissertation – 18 hours**

PHC 7980 2-18 Dissertation

**HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH (HPM)**

**Offered from the Department of Health Policy and Management**

**Additional Concentration Admission Requirements:**

Preferred Verbal GRE test Percentile – 65th;

Preferred Quantitative GRE test percentile – 65th

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum**

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 15 hours

Advanced Statistics and Research Methods – 18 hours minimum

Health Policy Management – 12 hours minimum

Specialty Area Courses – 18 hours minimum

Dissertation – 18 hours

**7000-level Courses -** 15 hours minimum

QMB 7565 3 Advanced Research Methods

QMB 7566 3 Applied Multivariate Statistical Methods

PHC 7936 3 Seminar: Helath Outcomes Measurement

PHC 7437 3 Applications in Health Economics

PHC 7935 3 Interdisciplinary Seminar

**Advanced Statistics & Research Methods – 1**8 hours minimum

PHC 6051 3 Biostatistics II

PHC 6760 3 Research Methods in Public Health Programs

PHC 6053 3 Categorical Data Analysis

PHC 6701 3 Computer Applications for Public Health Researchers

QMB 6375 3 Applied Linear Statistical Models

ECO 6424 3 Econometrics I

**Health Policy Management -** 12 hours minimum

PHC 6430 3 Health Economics I

PHC 6191 3 Quantitatiev Analysis in Health Care Management

PHC 6151 3 Health Policy and Politics

PHC 6180 3 Health Services Management

**Speciality Area Courses** - 18 hours minimum

**Dissertation** - 18 hours minimum

Additional coursework beyond 90 credits may be required of students as specified in the plan of study.

**INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE (IHY)**

**Offered from the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health**

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 12 hours

Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3

Required doctoral courses – 13

Electives

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Concentration Course Requirements – 12 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3 hours**

**Required doctoral Courses – 13 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Directed Research**

PHC 7910 2-19 Directed Research

**Dissertation – 18 hours**

PHC 7980 2-18 Dissertation

**OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (OHP)**

**Offered from the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health**

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 12 hours

Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3

Required doctoral courses – 13

Electives

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Concentration Course Requirements – 12 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3 hours**

**Required doctoral Courses – 13 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Directed Research**

PHC 7910 2-19 Directed Research

**Dissertation – 18 hours**

PHC 7980 2-18 Dissertation

**TOXICOLOGY AND RISK ASSESSMENT (TXY)**

**Offered from the Department of Global Health**

**Total Program requirements with this concentration - 90 hours minimum post-bachelor’s**

In addition to the 12 hours minimum required for the Program Core Courses and Seminar Course Requirements, this Concentration requires:

Concentration Courses – 12 hours

Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3

Required doctoral courses – 13

Electives

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Concentration Course Requirements – 12 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Advanced Biostatistics Course – 3 hours**

**Required doctoral Courses – 13 hours**

Courses selected under advisement of the Committee.

**Directed Research**

PHC 7910 2-19 Directed Research

**Dissertation – 18 hours**

PHC 7980 2-18 Dissertation

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Certificate Programs:** (for information click on the graduate certificates at <http://www.usf.edu/innovative-education/programs/graduate-certificates/>)

**COURSE**S

See http://www.ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/