

PUBLIC HEALTH - PH.D.

College of Public Health
www.kent.edu/publichealth

About This Program

The Ph.D. degree in Public Health bridges population health and research methods to prepare graduates for careers in academics, industry and public service agencies. Students concentrate in either epidemiology or prevention science and complete two to three years of coursework with an additional two or more years of research. Students complete a comprehensive exam and oral prospectus defense and prepare a final written dissertation with presentation and defense. Read more...

Contact Information

- College of Public Health Dean's Office | CPHgradapps@kent.edu | 330-672-6500
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Applications to the Health Policy and Management concentration are not being accepted at this time.

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Epidemiologists

- 4.6% about as fast as the average
- 8,000 number of jobs
- \$74,560 potential earnings

Health specialties teachers, postsecondary

- 20.5% much faster than the average
- 254,000 number of jobs
- \$99,090 potential earnings

Medical and health services managers

- 31.5% much faster than the average
- 422,300 number of jobs
- \$104,280 potential earnings

Political scientists

- 6.1% faster than the average
- 7,000 number of jobs
- \$125,350 potential earnings

Accreditation

The Ph.D. degree in Public Health is accredited by the Council on Education For Public Health (CEPH).

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Master's degree in a related discipline from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 3.000 graduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE score or other standardized graduate admission exam with a quantitative component¹
- Résumé
- Goal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- Interview with faculty
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
 - Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score
 - Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score
 - Minimum 82 MELAB score
 - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
 - Minimum 65 PTE score
 - Minimum 120 Duolingo English score

¹ GRE scores may be waived as determined by graduate coordinator.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Priority deadline: December 1

Applications submitted by this deadline will receive the strongest consideration for admission.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements		
BST 83014	APPLIED REGRESSION ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DATA	3
EPI 72028	METHODS OF EVIDENCE BASED PUBLIC HEALTH	3
EPI 73027	BIOLOGICAL BASIS OF PUBLIC HEALTH	3
SBS 73020	ADVANCED METHODS IN PREVENTION SCIENCE	3

Concentrations

Choose from the following:	48-66
Epidemiology	
Health Policy and Management	
Prevention Science	

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 60-78

Epidemiology Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
BST 83012	SURVIVAL ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC HEALTH	3
EPI 73034	LONGITUDINAL DATA ANALYSIS	3
EPI 83016	PRINCIPLES OF EPIDEMIOLOGIC RESEARCH	3
Content-Related Electives ¹		9
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
EPI 80199	DISSERTATION I ²	30
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		48

¹ Content-related elective courses should be selected by the student with a faculty advisor, depending upon the student's research interest. It may occur within the College of Public Health or in other disciplines outside the college.

² Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for Dissertation I for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I, and thereafter Dissertation II, each semester, until all requirements for the degree have been met.

Health Policy and Management Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
EPI 73026	DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH SURVEYS	3
or EPI 83017	EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS	
HPM 72015	EMERGING ISSUES IN PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	3
HPM 72030	GRANT WRITING IN PUBLIC HEALTH	3
HPM 73021	HEALTH CARE FINANCE	3
HPM 73022	STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS	3
HPM 73031	PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY ANALYSIS	3
HPM 80198	DIRECTED RESEARCH IN HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	3
HPM 81000	PUBLIC HEALTH LAW AND REGULATION	3
Content Related Electives ¹		12
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
HPM 80199	DISSERTATION I ²	30
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		66

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² Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for Dissertation I for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a

doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I, and thereafter Dissertation II, each semester, until all requirements for the degree have been met.

Prevention Science Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Concentration Requirements		
SBS 73018	THEORIES OF PREVENTION SCIENCE	3
SBS 73019	METHODS OF PREVENTION SCIENCE	3
SBS 73020	ADVANCED METHODS IN PREVENTION SCIENCE	3
SBS 80100	EMERGING ISSUES IN PREVENTION SCIENCE	3
SBS 80198	DIRECTED RESEARCH IN PREVENTION SCIENCE	3
SBS 83010	QUALITATIVE METHODS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH	3
Content-Related Electives ¹		12
Concentration Electives, choose from the following:		6
BST 83013	EXPERIMENTAL DESIGNS IN PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH	
EPI 73026	DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH SURVEYS	
HPM 72030	GRANT WRITING IN PUBLIC HEALTH	
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
SBS 80199	DISSERTATION I ²	30
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		66

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² Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for Dissertation I for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I, and thereafter Dissertation II, each semester, until all requirements for the degree have been met.

Graduation Requirements

- Pass concentration-specific candidacy exam.
- Attend two professional development sessions per semester during coursework.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Explain public health history, philosophy and values.
2. Identify the core functions of public health and the 10 Essential Services.
3. Explain the role of quantitative and qualitative methods and sciences in describing and assessing a population's health.
4. List major causes and trends of morbidity and mortality in the United States or other community relevant to the school or program.
5. Discuss the science of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention in population health, including health promotion, screening, etc.
6. Explain the critical importance of evidence in advancing public health knowledge.

7. Explain effects of environmental factors on a population's health.
8. Explain biological and genetic factors that affect a population's health.
9. Explain behavioral and psychological factors that affect a population's health.
10. Explain the social, political and economic determinants of health and how they contribute to population health and health inequities.
11. Explain how globalization affects global burdens of disease.
12. Explain an ecological perspective on the connections among human health, animal health and ecosystem health (e.g. One Health).

Full Description

The Ph.D. degree in Public Health bridges public safety and health career pathways to address a nationwide shortage of public health workers.

The Public Health major comprises the following concentrations:

- The **Epidemiology** concentration prepares students to examine the distribution and determinants of diseases in populations. Graduates are able to apply quantitative and qualitative methods to examine critical and/or emerging health issues, gain advanced ability to conduct large studies and analyze data sets in order to project health trends in populations of interest. Students in this concentration benefit from active faculty research agendas in biopreparedness, public health surveillance systems, chronic disease, cancer and infectious disease epidemiology.
- The **Health Policy and Management** concentration prepares students to design and implement studies and use advanced research methods to examine critical and emerging health issues. The heart of the concentration is a focus on interdisciplinary skills to meet the rapidly changing health needs of communities. Students benefit from active faculty research agendas in health systems research, occupational health and safety, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, access to health care, health literacy, substance abuse prevention and community-based programming. *Applications to the Health Policy and Management concentration are not being accepted at this time.*
- The **Prevention Science** concentration is an interdisciplinary program aimed at promoting healthy behaviors in populations across the life course. Graduates are prepared to design and evaluate public health interventions and have expertise in a variety of theoretical and substantive perspectives for conducting research within systems of the family, health and education, workplace and community. Active faculty research provide students the opportunity to work on community-based prevention research.