PUBLIC HEALTH - M.P.H.

College of Public Health
131 Moulton Hall
Kent Campus
330-672-6500
publichealth@kent.edu
www.kent.edu/publichealth

Description
Admission to the Health Policy and Management concentration has been suspended temporarily on the Trumbull campus as fall 2016.
The Master of Public Health degree in Public Health is designed to help students develop real-world knowledge and skills needed to pursue success in the public health industry.

The Public Health major comprises the following concentrations:

- **The Biostatistics** concentration prepares students in the quantitative science of health data collection, storage, retrieval, analysis and interpretation. Graduates are equipped to use statistical methods to design and analyze health-related surveys and experiments for the purpose of improving health. The college’s faculty research interests include applying biostatistical analysis to better understand critical public health problems such as adolescent substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, cancer and Alzheimer’s disease. Graduates in biostatistics are in demand at hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, state and local health departments, federal health agencies and biotechnology companies to analyze the effectiveness of new drugs and interventions, identify risk factors for disease and develop effective prevention strategies.

- **The Environmental Health Sciences** concentration is designed to help students understand how environmental factors including biological, physical and chemical factors affect the health of a population; and gain knowledge and skills to develop practical strategies for mitigating the effects of harmful environmental hazards. Graduates learn how to conduct laboratory analysis of environmental contaminants, develop plans to prepare communities to respond to man-made and natural disasters, incorporate health promoting principles into urban design, and develop safety plans for companies. Students benefit from the college’s faculty research expertise in bio-preparedness, microbiology and occupational health and safety. Career opportunities in environmental health sciences include positions in research and clinical laboratories, environmental protection agencies, manufacturing companies, emergency management agencies and state and local health departments.

- **The Epidemiology** concentration prepares students to analyze the distribution and determinants of disease, disabilities and death in populations. Graduates are able to apply quantitative and qualitative methods to investigate disease outbreaks, determine causal relationships between environmental and biological factors, and conduct studies to project health trends in populations. Students in this specialization benefit from public health faculty research agendas in bio-preparedness, public health surveillance systems, chronic disease, cancer and infectious disease epidemiology. Career opportunities for graduates include research positions in universities, medical schools and pharmaceutical companies; disease prevention specialists in hospitals; and surveillance managers in state and local health departments.

- **The Health Policy and Management** concentration prepares students to address public health risks and develop effective health services delivery models. It is an interdisciplinary program that incorporates health services research, health policy analysis and health care planning and management. Given the active research of the college’s faculty in identifying service gaps and in developing evidence-based practices and policy analysis, students emerge with strong skills in health services management, alternative models of service financing and strategies for improving services. Career opportunities for graduates include administrative and management positions in hospitals, clinics, state and local health departments, nursing homes and mental health facilities; policy analyst positions in health planning organizations and governmental agencies; and planning and management positions in health maintenance organizations and health insurance companies.

- **The Social and Behavioral Sciences** concentration provides students with an interdisciplinary understanding of the theoretical basis of health behavior in populations across the life course and how to apply theoretical principles to design effective health behavior management strategies. Graduates are able to design and evaluate public health interventions intended to improve health for families, workplaces, communities, and other settings. The active research of the college’s faculty, particularly in the areas of childhood obesity, violence and injury prevention, substance abuse prevention, and chronic disease prevention, provides students the opportunity to work on large-scale externally funded prevention research. Students are prepared for careers in health promotion; program design and evaluation; and prevention program development for state and local health departments, workplace health promotion programs, hospitals, international health agencies, mental health centers and non-profit organizations.

**Fully Offered At:**

- Online (Health Policy and Management and Social and Behavioral Sciences concentrations only)
- Kent Campus
- Trumbull Campus (Health Policy and Management concentration only)
- Regional Academic Center in Twinsburg (Health Policy and Management concentration only)

**Accreditation**

Council on Education For Public Health (CePH)

**Admission Requirements**

- Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE scores or other standardized graduate admission exam (GMAT, MCAT, LSAT or PCAT)\(^1\)
- Goal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- 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 550 TOEFL PBT score - paper-based version

\(^{1}\) GRE scores are not required if a student provides certain evidence of English proficiency.
1. Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice
2. Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
3. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate
4. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice

Public Health & Health Care Systems
5. Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings
6. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels

Planning & Management to Promote Health
7. Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities’ health
8. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs
9. Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention
10. Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
11. Select methods to evaluate public health programs

Policy in Public Health
12. Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
13. Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
14. Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations
15. Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity

Leadership
16. Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision making
17. Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges

Communication
18. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
19. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
20. Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content

Interprofessional Practice
21. Perform effectively on interprofessional teams

Systems Thinking
22. Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue

Program Requirements

Major Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BST 52019</td>
<td>BIOSTATISTICS IN PUBLIC HEALTH</td>
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<tr>
<td>EHS 52018</td>
<td>ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CONCEPTS IN PUBLIC HEALTH</td>
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<td>EPI 52017</td>
<td>FUNDAMENTALS OF PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGY</td>
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<td>HPM 52016</td>
<td>PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION</td>
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<td>HPM 53010</td>
<td>COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>SBS 54634</td>
<td>SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH BEHAVIORS</td>
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Advisor Approved Electives, choose from the following: 6

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BST 50196</td>
<td>INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN BIOSTATISTICS</td>
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<tr>
<td>BST 60195</td>
<td>SPECIAL TOPICS IN BIOSTATISTICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BST 63012</td>
<td>SURVIVAL ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC HEALTH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BST 63013</td>
<td>EXPERIMENTAL DESIGNS IN PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BST 63014</td>
<td>APPLIED REGRESSION ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC HEATH DATA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHS 50196</td>
<td>INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHS 53009</td>
<td>EMERGING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND RESPONSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHS 53012</td>
<td>OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH</td>
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Minimum 79 TOEFL IBT - Internet-based version
- Minimum 77 MELAB score
- Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
- Minimum 58 PTE score

For more information about graduate admission, please visit the Graduate Studies website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education’s admission website.

GRE scores may be waived, as determined by graduate coordinator, using program criteria.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

MPH Foundational Public Health Knowledge

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 US 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

Factors Related to Human Health

1. Explain environmental factors on a population’s health
2. Explain biological and genetic factors that affect a population’s health
3. Explain behavioral and psychological factors that affect a population’s health
4. Explain how globalization affects global burdens of disease
5. Explain an ecological perspective on the connections among human health, animal health and ecosystem health (eg, One Health)
EHS 60195  SPECIAL TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES
EHS 63010  APPLICATION OF RISK ASSESSMENT
EHS 63011  APPLICATION OF RISK ANALYSIS IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
EPI 50013  CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY BASICS
EPI 50014  CLINICAL TRIALS MANAGEMENT
EPI 50015  SCIENTIFIC WRITING FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
EPI 50018  REGULATORY AFFAIRS IN CLINICAL RESEARCH
EPI 50196  INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN EPIDEMIOLOGY
EPI 60195  SPECIAL TOPICS IN EPIDEMIOLOGY
EPI 63014  EPIDEMIOLOGY OF CHRONIC DISEASES
EPI 63015  EPIDEMIOLOGY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
EPI 63016  PRINCIPLES OF EPIDEMIOLOGIC RESEARCH
EPI 63017  EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS
EPI 63034  LONGITUDINAL DATA ANALYSIS
HPM 50196  INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
HPM 52015  EMERGING ISSUES IN PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
HPM 53003  HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS
HPM 53004  PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY, LAW AND ETHICS
HPM 53005  FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS
HPM 53006  COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS
HPM 53007  PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS: PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION
HPM 53008  FOUNDATIONS FOR EFFECTIVE PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP
HPM 53009  WHOLE SYSTEMS APPROACHES TO LEADING ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE IN PUBLIC HEALTH
HPM 53012  OBAMACARE AND NATIONAL HEALTH REFORM
HPM 53013  SEX: A WICKED PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM
HPM 60195  SPECIAL TOPICS IN HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
HPM 64002  GLOBAL HEALTH IMMERSION: GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
SBS 50002  QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
SBS 50020  SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE THEORIES
SBS 50030  SEMINAR IN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
SBS 50196  INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
SBS 53008  GRANT WRITING IN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Concentrations

Choose from the following:  
Biostatistics
Environmental Health Sciences
Epidemiology
Health Policy and Management
Social and Behavioral Sciences

Biostatistics Concentration Requirements

[MPH-BST]

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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Minimum Total Credit Hours: 21

Environmental Health Sciences Concentration Requirements

[MPH-EHS]

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<tr>
<td>EHS 50109</td>
<td>LABORATORY SAFETY AND HYGIENE</td>
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<td>EHS 53009</td>
<td>EMERGING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND RESPONSE</td>
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<td>EHS 63011</td>
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Epidemiology Concentration Requirements

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Health Policy and Management Concentration Requirements

[MPH-HPM]

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<td>HPM 53004</td>
<td>PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY, LAW AND ETHICS</td>
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Minimum Total Credit Hours: 21

Public Health - M.P.H.
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<td>FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS</td>
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<td>HPM 53006</td>
<td>COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPM 53007</td>
<td>PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS: PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>HPM 60192</td>
<td>PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE IN HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT</td>
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**Social and Behavioral Sciences Concentration Requirements**

[MPH-SBS]

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<td>PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE IN SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES</td>
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Minimum Total Credit Hours: 21

**Graduation Requirements**

1. 300 hours of practicum placement at an approved public health agency, under the guidance of a qualified preceptor
2. A final portfolio/report and a seminar presentation integrating theory and practice
3. A comprehensive written exam