**Course Descriptions**

**PUBH 5010 Biostatistics (3) -** This course introduces the basic principles and methods of biostatistics. This course will focus on the interpretation and application of statistics to health care, medicine, public health, and epidemiology rather than derivations of statistical theory. Specific emphasis will be placed on the fundamental concepts and techniques of statistical inference with applications in public health. Concepts to be covered will include descriptive and inferential statistics including hypothesis testing, p-values, and confidence intervals**.** Additionally, comparisons of means and proportions; the normal distribution; regression and correlation; confounding; concepts of study design, including randomization, sample size, and power considerations; logistic regression and a general overview of some methods in survival analysis will be covered in this course. The computer will be used throughout the course and students will take part in lab sessions where they will be introduced to the use of statistical packages such as SAS and SPSS. Prerequisite: PSYC 2180 or SOCI 3000 or equivalent.

**PUBH 5020 Environmental Health Science (3)** - This course will introduce concepts, principles, and applications of the main natural and social science disciplines that form the basis of environmental health and describes how these disciplines and their practitioners interact in the environmental health paradigm. Topics include the sources, pathways of exposure, and methods of control of the physical, chemical, biologic, and sociologic factors that impact human health in ambient, indoor, and occupational environments. Students will gain first-hand experience with the multidisciplinary environmental health approach to resolve current and emerging environmental problems that pose a risk to public health. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 5100 Principles of Epidemiology (3)** - This course introduces principles and methods of epidemiologic investigation of infectious and noninfectious diseases. The course illustrates how methods of studies of the distribution and dynamic behavior of disease in a population can contribute to an understanding of etiologic factors, modes of transmission, and pathogenesis. Different types of study designs are presented, including randomized trials, case-control and cohort studies, and risk estimation and causal inferences. The interface between Principles of Epidemiology and the development of policy is demonstrated. Laboratory problems presented in the class will provide experience in epidemiologic methods and inferences, illustrating a common-vehicle epidemic, the spread of infectious diseases in populations, epidemiological aspects of a noninfectious disease, causality, vaccination, the epidemiological approach to health services evaluation, rates of morbidity and mortality, sensitivity and specificity, and life table methods. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

.**PUBH 5110 Management & Public Health Policy (3)** - The purpose of this course is to provide graduate students with an orientation to health policy, politics and the health policy process in the United States. Students will develop knowledge of current health policy issues, reform agendas at the federal, state, and local levels, and skills to critically examine their place in the health policy process. The course will discuss key forces involved in the policy process including economic, social, ethical, and political factors; and central players of importance, including special interest groups, lobbyists, the press, elected officials, legislative staff and public agencies.

Prerequisite: Admission in the public health program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 5120 Behavioral Science & Public Health (3)** - This course primarily focuses on the most contemporary issues in behavioral science and health education. A multi-level, multi-theoretical perspective is taken. The rationale for the growth of behavioral science within public health is reviewed; the effectiveness of health behavior interventions is explored; theoretical perspectives are surveyed; and applications of theory to specific settings and problems are reviewed. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines. Prerequisite: Admission in the public health program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6000 Public Health Field Placement (3)** - The MPH field placement is a graded supervised internship in a traditional or innovative public health setting. The purpose of the field requirement is to encourage exposure to professional public health practice and the application of didactic knowledge and problem solving in the field. The field experience is required for all students regardless of prior work experience for a total of 160 contact hours. Students may complete their field placements in traditional settings such as state or local departments of public health or other settings in which innovative public health activities take place (e.g., AIDS service organizations, non-governmental health organizations, schools, etc.). All placements are subject to the approval of the field coordinator. Additional requirements of this course will be provided by the field coordinator.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all first and second semester MPH coursework (students must complete at least 21 credit hours, including 6 core courses; permission of field coordinator and admission in the public health program.

**PUBH 6020 Health Communication (3)** - This course will explore the communication process and practices that can be used to promote positive change in health care communication. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6030 Cultural Competency I (3)** - This course focuses largely on the health/healing beliefs and practices of a wide-range of religious and cultural practices and communities found in the United States in a healing context dominated by secular western biomedicine. The course will begin by investigating biomedicine as a form of cultural healing with distinct fundamental principles and values. Students will also examine cultural traditions with a particular understanding of oneself, health and wholeness, illness and suffering, and healing and transformation which are expressed in distinct healing practices. Prerequisite: Admission to the MPH program or permission of an advisor for students using the course as an elective in other graduate disciplines.

**PUBH 6040 Public Health Ethics (3)** - This course provides an overview of values and principles in public health ethics comparing and contrasting them with those of biomedical ethics. Students will critically examine selected cases that illustrate a range of public health ethical issues (e.g., ethics in disease screening programs, environmental justice, global public health research, etc.), identify ethical problems, and use selected strategies to arrive at reasoned ethical positions. Prerequisite:Admission to the public health program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6050 Understanding Health Disparities (3)** -This course introduces students to the issue of health disparities. It will present the nature of racial and ethnic disparities and the prevalence of disparities in health status. Students will conduct and/or review research literature on race disparities. Also, theories that explain disparities and efforts to address them will be covered. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6070 Public Health and Disaster Preparedness (3)** - This course presents current public health issues related to the preparation for a possible bioterrorist event. This class focuses on the practical application of the principles of epidemiology and public health in preparing for a bioterrorist event as well as the role and responsibility of the local, state, and federal government. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6090 Seminar: Critical Issues in Public Health (3)** - This course provides a framework for the development of advanced professional practice and leadership in public health. Topics include the scope of public health, leadership competencies, problem solving, and communication methods. Additionally, case studies, lectures, and group presentations are utilized in this course. Focus will be place on concepts in public health related to determinants of health; cultural, social and political concepts of disease; prevention and health promotion; behavioral and social science; community-based interventions; and health policy. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6100 Capstone Project (3)** - The capstone course will serve as a culminating experience to provide students an opportunity to integrate the field experience with classroom knowledge. In this seminar course, students integrate their previous MPH coursework and field experiences as they examine current and emerging public health issues. Students who enroll in the capstone course will develop a written project relevant to the field placement experience and present the information to a faculty committee. Prerequisite: Successful completion of all required MPH coursework and admission in the public health program

**PUBH 6160 Principles of Public Health Education (3)** - This course provides an overview of philosophies and theories underpinning the practice of public health education in diverse settings (e.g. schools, communities, hospitals, worksites, etc.) Special emphasis is placed on health behavior theories as they apply to educational interventions. Students will conduct a needs assessment, plan and evaluate a health education intervention. Service learning may be a component of this course. Prerequisite: Admission to the public health program or permission of the advisor for students using the course as an elective in other graduate disciplines.

**PUBH 6170 Program Development and Evaluation (3)** - The main goal of this course is to familiarize students with the fundamentals of health, program development, and program evaluation. Although the course emphasizes general evaluation methodology, specific health programs and health policy applications are employed as illustrations. In addition to surveying design and measurement basics, the course explores the role of evaluation research in health program development. Prerequisite: PUBH 5120 or approval of professor and admission in the public health program.

**PUBH 6220 Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Health Care (3)** - This course will explore how race, ethnicity, and gender affect health and health care, including care services and policies governing these services. It will explore common health issues affecting minorities and women from medical, economic, and sociopolitical perspectives. The course will provide an introduction to women's health concerns and those of some minority groups and the barriers to achieving complete health. Students will be encouraged to give critical thought to the questions of what it means to deliver culturally competent care. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6230 HIV/AIDS and Public Health (3)** - This course provides contemporary issues related to HIV/AIDS infection affecting children and adults. Also, significant time is devoted to discussions on stigmatisms, policy, and prevention strategies and programs. Additionally, this course will provide an overview on the changing development in AIDS/HIV, and the consequences this has on race, class, and culture. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6260 Social Marketing (3)** - This course is designed to provide students with an overview of social marketing and its application to public health education campaigns. The course will cover general principles, as well as key steps in social marketing planning, implementation and evaluation. Topics include ethical issues in marketing, market/audience analysis, formative research techniques, marketing plan development, and aspects of health media communications.

Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6270 Multicultural Perspectives in Health and Health Care (3)** - This course is designed to explore the relationships between culture and health promotion/disease prevention issues around the world. Students will analyze the cultural, educational, social, economic, political, and environmental impact of health and developments in various countries. The course will examine western and non-western health systems and the role of culture and its impact on the health of individuals. Prerequisite: Admission to the program or permission of advisor for students using course as an elective in other disciplines.

**PUBH 6300 Cultural Competency II (3)** - This course will provide students with skills to work effectively with culturally diverse populations. In addition to exploring historical and social events that have resulted in prejudice against certain groups, this course will allow students the opportunity to explore their own beliefs and how these beliefs impact their work. **Prerequisites:** Admission into public health program and/or permission of advisor if used as an elective in other graduate disciplines and PUBH 6030.

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