

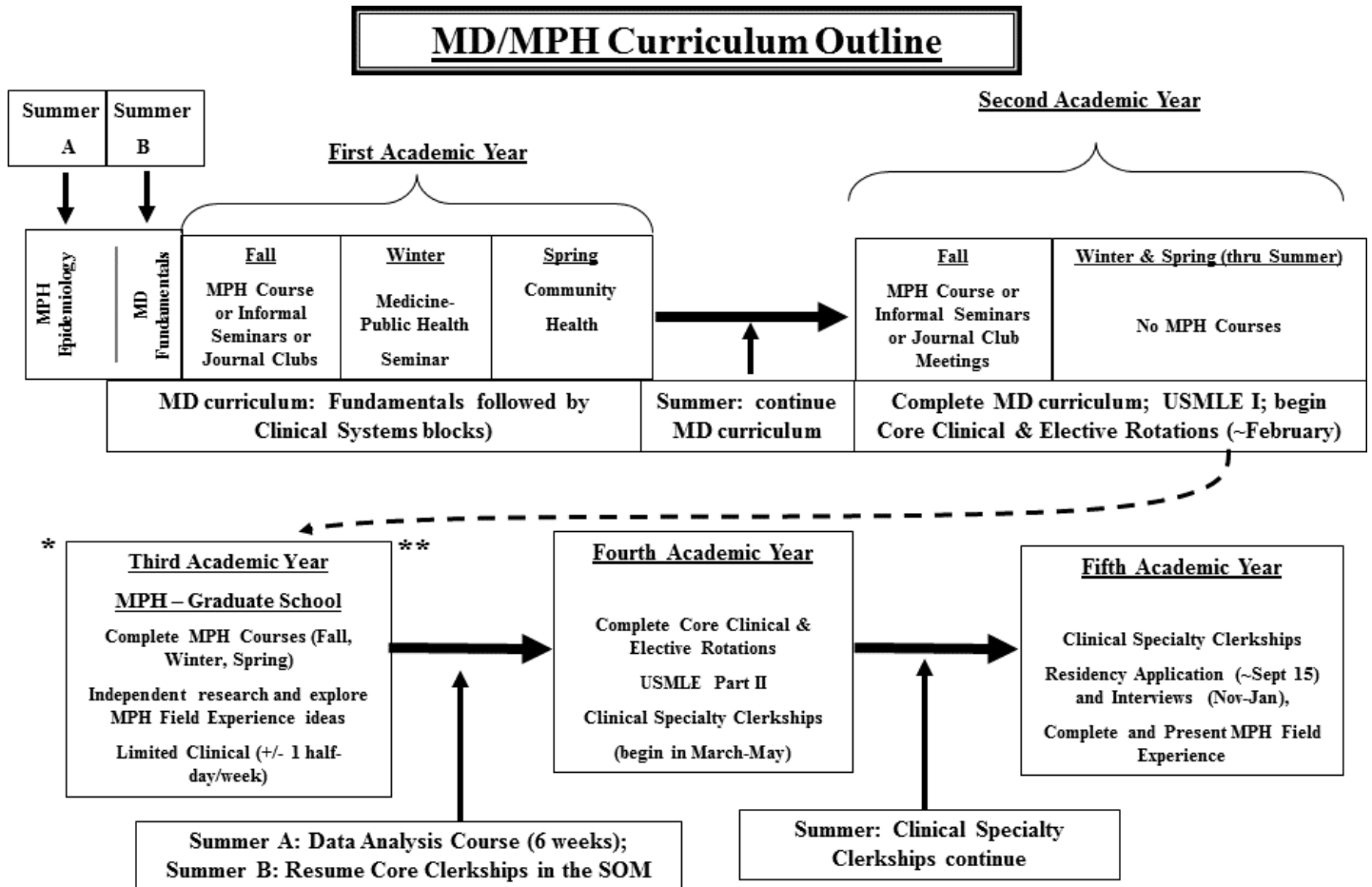
## MD-MPH Program

The Oregon Health & Science University MD-MPH dual degree program is a five-year program jointly sponsored by the OHSU School of Medicine and the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health. It is specifically designed for students who demonstrate: (1) a potential for excellent performance in both the MD and the MPH curricula, and (2) a firm commitment to, and potential for, a career in which the population-based clinical practice model (a medicine-public health model) would be particularly useful, or in which the combined degree would prepare for enhanced career productivity in clinical and public health policy, programs, or research.

The dual degree program follows a quasi-integrated curriculum designed to allow selected students to complete the requirements for both the Doctor of Medicine (MD) and the Master of Public Health (MPH) degrees within five years. The curriculum is quasi-integrated in the sense that we expect MD-MPH students to be engaged in formal or informal public health-related study throughout their tenure at OHSU. Students in the MD-MPH dual degree program currently complete the MPH with an Epidemiology concentration to provide them with the quantitative tools to be successful in whatever area of clinical medicine and public health they choose. They will also have opportunities to pursue specific areas of public health interests in two ways: (a) through elective courses in other MPH tracks and (b) by engaging in Field Experience and a culminating research project to address these interests.

**Students are accepted into the MD-MPH dual degree program only at the time of initial admission to the MD program.** Successful applicants begin their studies at OHSU with a six-week Introductory Epidemiology course in the summer (July and early August), just prior to beginning medical school classes (three weeks of independent study and three weeks of in-class work). During the first academic year they take a weekly Public Health & Medicine Seminar course in the winter quarter and a Community Health course in the spring. As time permits, students also may take a limited number of public health courses of their choosing during the remainder of the first eighteen months of medical school and will be encouraged to take advantage of other public health and/or research opportunities as they arise throughout their first 18 months. Finally, MD-MPH students have a year of concentrated MPH study that typically begins in September of the third academic year through early August of the following year, during which they complete the remainder of the required MPH course work and explore opportunities for the MPH Field Experience. During the final two and a half years at OHSU, these students will complete their core and elective clinical experiences, apply for residency positions, and take 1-2 months to complete their capstone Field Experience and research project required for the MPH. The Program Director for the MD-MPH dual degree program is Dr. John Stull ([stullj@ohsu.edu](mailto:stullj@ohsu.edu)). See the MD-MPH curriculum structure diagram later in this Handbook.

# MD-MPH Program Curriculum Structure



\* Start MPH year with 5-10 MPH credits completed  
 \*\* All MPH courses, except Field Experience, completed by August.

NOTE: Core Clinical Clerkships are basic clinical rotations; Clinical Specialty Clerkships are sub-internships and rotations for residency applications; elective clinical and research elective rotations are also possible.

- (1) **Six weeks prior to Medical School new MD/MPH students take Introductory Epidemiology:** This is a 6-week section for the first of the three epidemiology courses in the Epidemiology MPH that is offered during Summer A term (late June to early August). It introduces students to basic epidemiology concepts, definitions, measures, and methods, as follows:
  - a) **First 3 weeks** – Independent Study: Students read a set of assigned articles about epidemiology thinking and history each week and submit answers to a set of response questions.
  - b) **Second 3 weeks** – Daily (Monday-Friday) in-class sessions (8:30-12:00) over three weeks, designed to present the MPH Epidemiology I curriculum content. This not only introduces MD/MPH students to OHSU through an intense exposure to Epidemiology, it also offers students a chance to meet one another as well as other MPH students.

- (2) **First 18 months of Medical School:** The focus here is primarily on the MD curriculum – integrated studies in basic and clinical medicine. During this time MD/MPH students will engage in public health study both formally and informally as is allowed by their interests and schedules:
- a) **Fall Quarter 1<sup>st</sup> Academic Year:** The primary focus of Fall quarter will be adjusting to and engaging the MD curriculum. Opportunities to apply public health and epidemiology to those studies will be managed through courses as allowed by the MD schedule and by informal Program meetings and journal clubs as time allows.
  - b) **Winter quarter 1<sup>st</sup> Academic Year:** Medicine and Public Health Seminar – engage in journal clubs and in readings and presentation-discussions on topics at the intersection of medicine and public health.
  - c) **Spring Quarter 1<sup>st</sup> Academic Year:** Community Health, a medical school elective designed to highlight: (i) public/community health aspects of clinical care, and (ii) identifying and accessing community services clinicians need for the care of their patients.
  - d) Students will take advantage of activities in the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health and in research or other projects of interest as allowed by schedules and opportunity
- (3) **Summer between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Academic Years:** Students will continue their integrated course work in basic and clinical medicine throughout this summer, with no sustained break. Informal public health, project, or journal club engagement may continue.
- (4) **January-February of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Academic Year:** Having completed the MD curriculum MD/MPH students, along with their MD student colleagues, will study for and take Part I of the USMLE (“Boards”)
- (5) **February-September (2<sup>nd</sup> Academic Year and summer between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Academic Years):** Core Clinical Clerkship and elective rotations begin mid-February of the 2<sup>nd</sup> academic year, right after students take Part I of the USMLE (“Boards”), and continue through the summer between the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> academic years.
- (6) **3<sup>rd</sup> Academic Year:** MD/MPH students start the concentrated year of MPH study beginning in the fall quarter (late September) through spring quarter (mid-June), during which they:
- a) Complete all of the required MPH courses (core required courses and a total # required credits) except for the final Data Analysis course (see below)
  - b) Do some independent research and initial exploration of potential Field Experience ideas as interest and time allow. These activities are done either credit-free or as “Reading & Conference” credits.
  - c) Engage in limited clinical activities as time permits, in their area of clinical interest (e.g. ½ day per week in clinic or on ward rounds).
- (7) **Summer between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Academic Years (Summer A; late June – early August):** Complete the 6-week intensive Data Analysis course (final core MPH course requirement)

(8) *Beginning August (Summer B) through the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Academic Year:*

- a) Students re-enter clinical training, taking up the Core Clinical rotations and electives where they left off the prior September. These continue until completed (usually sometime between January and May of the 4<sup>th</sup> academic year).
- b) January-May: Upon completion of Core & elective clinical rotations, students prepare for and take Part II of the USMLE (“Boards”)
- c) After completing Part II of the USMLE: Elective/Selective Clinical Rotations (traditional ‘4<sup>th</sup> year rotations) begin, including sub-internships and other important clinical rotations needed for the Residency applications.

(9) *Summer between 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Academic Years through the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> Academic Year:*

**a) July-September:**

- i. Complete sub-internships and critical rotations for Residency applications.
- ii. Prepare and submit Residency applications (due mid-September)

**b) October-January:** This time period is generally filled with a mix of clinical rotations and time for travel to complete Residency interviews.

**c) January-May:** Student finish requirements for their MD & MPH degrees:

- i. Required or elective clinical rotations
- ii. 1-2 months to complete and present their required MPH Field Experience (capstone project).
- iii. NOTE: All MD-MPH students **are required** to take and pass the Scholarly Project Capstone course by early spring of their graduating year (typically March, prior to June graduation). MD-MPH dual degree students **are not required** to take the “Introduction to Scholarly Projects: Developing Your Proposal” course or complete Scholarly Project work during the clinical experiences since your MPH project and degree fulfill these requirements.