

Practice Experience & Integrative Project Info Session

Fall 2023



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

PE/IP Coordinators & Contacts



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PUBLIC HEALTH

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PE Administrator: Andrew Wyman
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Director of Applied Learning: Jamie Jones
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What is the Practice Experience (PE)?

- An opportunity for you to take the knowledge and skills you've learned in your MPH coursework and apply them to public health work in real-life settings
- Requirement of all SPH MPH programs
- You must complete all 5 core MPH courses
 - BSTA 511/525: Intro/Est. and Hypothesis Testing for Applied Biostatistics
 - Epi 512: Epidemiology I
 - ESHH 511: Concepts of Environmental Health
 - HSMP 574: Health Systems Organization
 - PHE 512: Principles of Health Behavior
- BSTA Students – need more BSTA courses completed
- EPI Students – highly recommend have taken EPI Data (EPI 536)

What is the PE?

- 4 credits = 160 contact hours
- Can be completed over 1 or 2 terms
 - ~8 hours/week if completed over 2 terms (recommend Fall/Winter)
 - ~16 hours per week if completed in 1 term
- Demonstrate 5 learning competencies via at least 2 deliverables
 - Health equity competency is required (CEPH MPH Foundational Competency 6)
 - Two additional CEPH MPH Foundational Competencies
 - <https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/masters-in-public-health-degrees/foundational-competencies>
 - Two MPH Program Competencies from your MPH Program
 - Program Guides at <https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/mph-ms-requirements/>
- **You're responsible for finding and securing your PE opportunity**

When to begin planning your PE?

TWO TERMS in advance

Start brainstorming your interests, researching PE sites, and reaching out to preceptors

- SUMMER TERM >>> PE WINTER TERM
- FALL TERM >>> PE SPRING TERM
- SPRING TERM >>> PE FALL TERM

Questions to ask yourself

What are your career/professional goals?

What kind of work/work environment is important to you?

What experiences and skills do you want to gain?

What are the communities with whom you want to build solidarity?

PE Website: <https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/applied-learning-experience/practice-experience/>

Talk with your program's PE/IP coordinator to get guidance on what is an appropriate PE.

Where to find PE sites and preceptors?

Monitor

- SPH Jobs Page: <https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/jobs/>
- Listserv Announcements: <https://groups.google.com/a/pdx.edu/g/SPH-grad-group>

Search

- PE placement database - EXXAT (<https://steps.exxat.com/account/login>)

Attend

- PE Oral Presentations of fellow students during finals week

Ask

- Your Faculty Advisor, PE/IP Coordinator, mentors to make introductions
- Other students, recent alumni, personal contacts for ideas and connections

Email

- Jamie Jones, Director of Applied Learning, at jljones@pdx.edu for email templates, ideas, coaching, etc.

Talk with your program's PE/IP coordinator to get guidance on what is an appropriate PE.

Where can you do your PE?

Public Health Agencies

- City
- County
- State
- Federal

CBOs/NGOs

- Community-specific (BIPOC, LGBTQ, etc.)
- Issue-specific (i.g. violence prev., housing, substance use disorders, etc.)

Private Sector

- Employee health and wellness
- Occupational safety and health

Academia

- Must primarily focus on community engagement, typically with external partners



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What can (or can't) you do for your PE?

Can

- Get paid
- Complete your PE with your current employer
- *BUT* the project/work for the PE must map to competencies to be eligible for consideration

Can't

- Work that doesn't demonstrate your public health competencies
- Work that isn't community engaging
- No direct patient, client, or clinical work
- Do not recommend same PE supervisor as work supervisor



PE Website: <https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/applied-learning-experience/practice-experience/>

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Before starting your PE

Recommendations

- Mark registration dates and due dates on your calendar
 - <https://calendar.google.com/>
 - <https://outlook.office.com/>
- Complete the CPH Exam

Resources

- [MPH Practice Experience Calendar](#)
- SPH PE/IP website update
- EXXAT Database
- Positionality Workshop

Before starting your PE

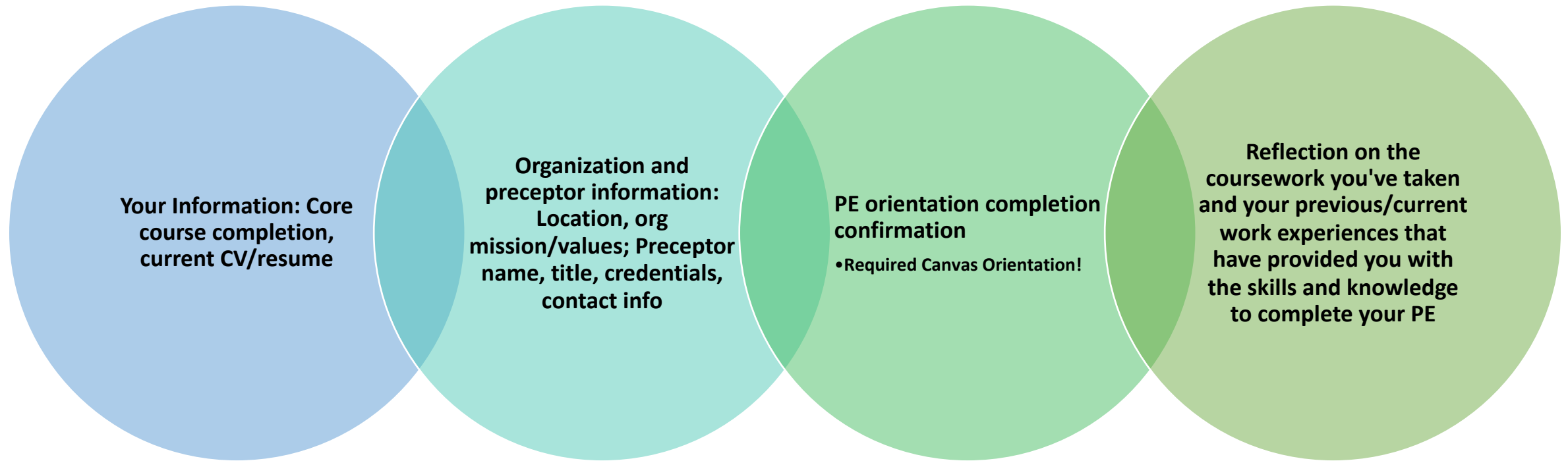
Site & Preceptor

- 2 terms prior (at least): reach out to sites and preceptors
- 1 term prior: confirmed

Learning Agreement

- Week 1-2 of prior term: Start draft; Gives time receive/integrate feedback from your Preceptor and PE/IP Program Coordinator
 - Login/complete Canvas PE Orientation
- Week of 5 of prior term: Draft due
- Week 7 of prior term: Final Due to PE/IP Coordinator

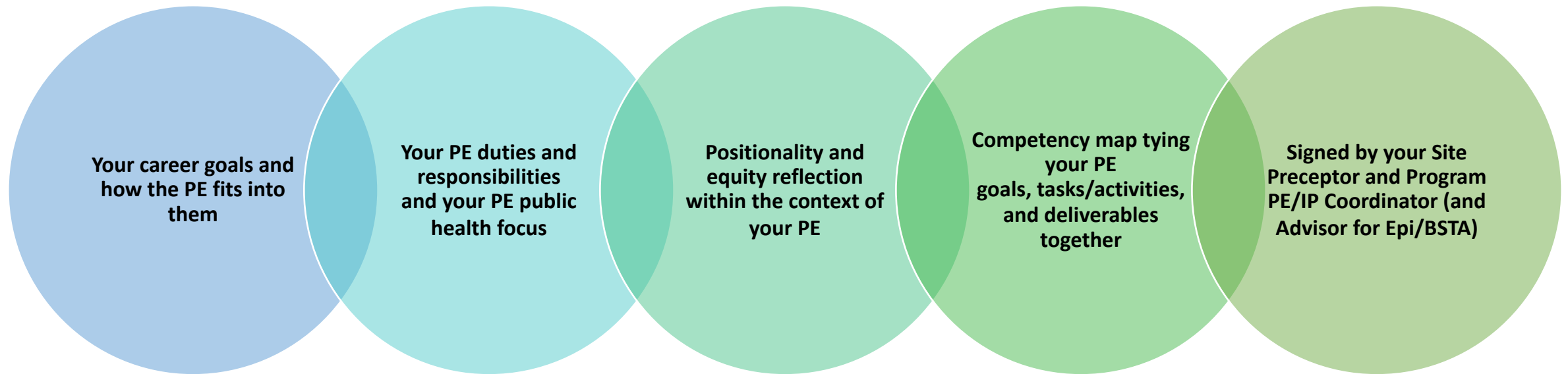
Learning Agreement Components



Download the Learning Agreement at

<https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/2023-Practice-Experience-Learning-Agreement.docx>

Learning Agreement Components



RESOURCE RECOMMENDATION: YWCA Social Justice Trainings (\$10/student rate)

<https://www.ywcapdx.org/events/social-justice-trainings/>

Before starting your PE

Affiliation Agreements

- **Needed** if you are unpaid, classified as intern, or receive a stipend
- Not needed if your PE is at OHSU or PSU, or you if are classified as a paid temporary employee
- Affiliation Agreement on the SPH PE website

Registration

- <https://www.pdx.edu/registration/academic-calendar>
- <https://www.ohsu.edu/education/academic-calendar>
- **RECOMMENDATION: Register for your PE over two terms (fall, winter)**



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Talk with your program's PE/IP coordinator to get guidance on what is an appropriate PE.

Before starting your PE

IRB Approval

- Needed if working on a research project
- Research is a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge
- ***If you will be doing research for your PE, contact your PE/IP Coordinator at least two terms in advance***

International Sites

- Must complete forms for International Elective Approval & Travel Waiver of Liability
- The OHSU Office of International Services provides travel screening
- Student Health will help you to meet travel requirements (and provides vaccinations)
- ***Must start planning several terms in advance to have all approvals in place***



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During and after your PE

Midway Progress Report

- Over 2 terms: due week 10 of 1st term
- Over 1 term: due week 5
- Template in Sakai/PE website

Portfolio & Deliverables

- Due Friday of week 10 of PE completion term
- Outline in Sakai
- Demonstrates your ability to communicate your overall experience and attainment of competencies
- Opportunity to showcase your PE and the work you completed
- 2 deliverables demonstrating 5 competencies

Oral Presentation

- Concludes your PE
- 20-minute presentation + 10-minute Q & A
- Meant to be a focused demonstration of your accomplishments

Deliverable Examples

Data Collection Plan

Communication Materials

GIS Map

Program Evaluation

Literature Review

Survey Instrument

Focus Group Protocol

Healthcare Network Map

Statewide Program Census

Toolkit

Qual/Quant Data Analysis Plan

Data Analysis

Program script

Draft Manuscript Sections

Statistical Output

External-facing community engagement summary

Systems Thinking Diagram

Curriculum

Report

Website/App



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Integrative Project

- Serves as one of the culminating experience of your MPH training (in addition to the CPH exam and Practice Experience)
- Opportunity to demonstrate your academic learning *and* public health practice skills
- Result is a **high-quality written product** that must demonstrate your
 - Command of public health competencies learned during your MPH
 - Ability to synthesize and integrate 6 competencies
 - Health equity (CEPH 6) + 2 foundational competencies + 3 program competencies

Integrative Project

- Recommend IP be derived from your PE, **but it doesn't have to**
- May take various forms
 - Program evaluation, policy/economic analysis, grant proposal, health promotion/community engagement program plan, publishable manuscript, etc.
- Plan to spend about 30 hours (3 hours/week)
- See IP website for the IP Proposal Form and the Integrative Project Syllabus

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