



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

2025-2026 PROGRAM GUIDE: Master of Public Health – Health Promotion

Welcome to the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health and the Health Promotion program! Whether you're joining us as a full time or part time student, you're an important part of our community and our programs. This document is meant to provide an overview of the program and the courses you'll be taking toward your degree, and a starting point for conversations with your advisor about what schedule works for you.

The information in this document is updated annually, so it's always important to refer to the version that refers to the year you entered the program (your catalog year). Student resources, policies, and procedures applicable to all School of Public Health graduate students can be found on the SPH website, www.ohsu-psu-sph.org.

Overview

Program Director: Claire Wheeler (clam@pdx.edu)
<https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/mph-health-promotion/>

The Health Promotion program is an interdisciplinary course of study providing students with specialized training in public health promotion and education. Through coursework and community-based experiences, students learn to address factors in the broader social, economic, policy, and built environments to improve the health of populations. In this track students build practice and research skills for population-level intervention, including program development, implementation, and evaluation. The curriculum further offers opportunities to focus on health across the lifespan. Graduates of the Health Promotion track will be able to effectively recognize and assess health disparities, communicate health information, promote health equity, and mobilize resources for social change.

Program Competencies

Students graduating from the MPH: Health Promotion (HP) degree program will be able to:

- Apply theory in the development, implementation, and evaluation of health promotion interventions, programs, and policies.
- Develop interventions and programs to effect change at multiple levels, including individual, community, organizations, and policy.
- Design and implement strategies to promote health.
- Solicit and integrate input from community and organization stakeholders.
- Design and deliver health communication messages.
- Evaluate and interpret results from program evaluations and other research.
- Define research problems, frame research questions, design research procedures, and outline methods of analysis.
- Apply ethical principles that govern the practice of public health.
- Demonstrate cultural competency in health promotion among all social and cultural communities.



MPH: Health Promotion Program of Study

| Course Number | Course Title | Credits |
|---|---|-----------|
| Core Required Coursework and Exam (17 credits; common to all MPH programs) | | |
| BSTA 525 | Introduction to Biostatistics | 4 |
| EPI 512 | Epidemiology I | 4 |
| ESHH 511 | Concepts of Environmental Health | 3 |
| HSMP 574 | Health Systems Organization | 3 |
| PHE 512 | Principles of Health Behavior | 3 |
| | | |
| Program Required Coursework (29 credits) | | |
| Varies | Interprofessional Course (consult your advisor or Program Director) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNI 504 Qualitative Methods for Health Professionals • IPE 523 Climate Change & Human Health • IPE 525 Relational Leadership • UNI 502 Conversations in Global Health • UNI 511 Data Equity for Health Professionals • Other courses with IPE or UNI prefix (other than IPE 501) | 1* |
| PHE 511 | Foundations of Public Health | 3 |
| PHE 517 | Community Organizing | 3 |
| PHE 519 | Etiology of Disease | 3 |
| PHE 520 | Qualitative Research Design | 3 |
| PHE 521 | Quantitative Research Design | 3 |
| PHE 540 or PHE 541 | Mass Communication Media Advocacy and Public Health | 3 |
| PHE 550 | Program Planning | 4 |
| HSMP 573** | Values & Ethics in Health | 3 |
| HSMP 588 | Program Evaluation & Management | 3 |
| | | |
| Culminating Experience (5 credits) | | |
| PHE 504PE | Practice Experience | 4 |
| PHE 502IP | Integrative Project | 1 |
| | | |
| Elective Courses (9 Credits) | | |
| Varies | Courses chosen in consultation with Faculty Advisor | 9 |
| Total Credits | | 60 |

*Some IPE courses are more than 1 credit. Students who take an IPE course that is greater than 1 credit can have the additional credits applied towards their elective requirement (9 cr.).

**Students must complete 30 credits before taking HSMP 573



MPH Health Promotion: Recommended Course Sequence

At the end of this guide is a sample schedule for **full time students**. Variations are possible, *every SPH program has a quarter in which its students are prioritized for registration for certain (required) courses*. It is important that you register promptly, and that you make every attempt to follow the term-by-term course plans laid out below, as your program has priority registration for required courses specified during those terms.

Part-time students will work closely with their advisors to ensure that all requirements for graduation are met in alignment with each student's needs and goals. There are some essentials to keep in mind as you build your schedule:

- In your first term, it's strongly recommended that you register for **PHE 511** (Foundations in Public Health) and **PHE 512** (Principles of Health Behavior) to acquire the basic skill sets needed for later courses and to join with the full time members of your cohort as we build community and weave a fabric of mutual support across our incoming class
- Take special care to note which courses are offered only once a year to make sure you are able to complete them on the schedule that works for you without any lags in your progress

All students need to remember that *priority registration* is only open for a limited period (typically 2 weeks). Once priority registration ends, students from other programs may register for these courses. While there is some flexibility to take courses in alternate terms, *we can only hold space for you during your prioritized registration term, during the priority registration period*. If you wait to register until after the priority period, or decide to take a course in another term, we cannot guarantee you a spot.

If you receive federal financial aid, it is important to be aware of financial aid requirements when planning your schedule. Federal loans require at least 1/2 time enrollment (5 credits). Please refer to the OHSU's "Student Financial Aid Explained" and "Standard Enrollment Plan" documents, paying particular attention to summer term, for more information. These documents can be found on OHSU's Financial Aid website here: <https://www.ohsu.edu/education/financial-aid>. Dual degree MPH/MSW and MPH/MURP students should consult [PSU's Office of Financial Aid](#) instead.

MPH Health Promotion Sample Course Schedule for Full Time Students (60 credits)

* Course is offered once per year in the term indicated

| | Year 1 | | | Year 2 | | |
|--------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|---|
| | Courses (cr.) | | Student Actions | Courses (cr.) | | Student Actions |
| Fall | ESHH 511 (3) | Concepts in Environmental Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend SPH Fall WelcomeMeet with Advisor re: course selection and academic interests & goals | HSMP 588 (3) | Program Evaluation and Management of Health Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend SPH Fall WelcomeMeet with Advisor re: PE, career goals, professional developmentSubmit PE Learning Agreement |
| | PHE 511 (3)* | Foundations of Public Health | | PHE 520 (3)* | Qualitative Research Design and Analysis | |
| | PHE 512 (3) | Principles of Health Behavior | | Elective (1-4) | Optional Elective | |
| | | | | Interprofessional Experience (1) | | |
| Winter | EPI 512 (4)* | Epidemiology I | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meet with Advisor | HSMP 573 (3) | Values and Ethics in Public Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meet with AdvisorApply for spring graduationSubmit proposal for Integrative Project |
| | PHE 541 (3)* | Media Advocacy and Public Health | | PHE 521 (3)* | Quantitative Research Design and Analysis | |
| | PHE 550 (4)* | Program Planning | | Elective (1-4) | Optional Elective | |
| | | | | PHE 504 (2-4) | Practice Experience | |
| Spring | BSTA 525 (4) | Introduction to Biostatistics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meet with Advisor & Practice Experience Coordinator | PHE 502IP (1) | Integrative Project | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meet with AdvisorPractice Experience Presentation |
| | PHE 517 (3)* | Community Organizing | | PHE 504 (2-4) | Practice Experience (if not done in Winter term) | |
| | HSMP 574 (3) | Health Systems Organization | | Elective (1-4) | Optional Elective | |
| | PHE 519 (3)* | Etiology of Disease | | | | |
| Summer | Summer Offerings: | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Work on PE: Learning Contract (if applicable) | | | |
| | BSTA 525 (4) | Intro to Biostatistics | | | | |
| | EPI 512 (4) | Epidemiology 1 | | | | |
| | HSMP 573 (3) | Values & Ethics in Health | | | | |
| | HSMP 574 (3) | Health Systems Organization | | | | |
| | (1-4) | Optional Elective | | | | |



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Graduate Student Resources, Policies, and Procedures

[Policies and procedures](https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/graduate-students-policies-and-procedures/) applicable to all School of Public Health graduate students can be found on the SPH website at <https://ohsu-psu-sph.org/graduate-students-policies-and-procedures/>. Please review the student policies and procedures listed there, including but not limited to the following sections:

- ☐ Advising
- ☐ Academic Standing
- ☐ Academic Dismissal
- ☐ Academic Dishonesty
- ☐ Codes of Conduct
- ☐ Educational Records Privacy
- ☐ Minimum Course Grade Requirements
- ☐ Recognition of Prior Earned Credit
- ☐ Course Waiver Policy
- ☐ Incomplete Coursework
- ☐ Course Approvals (Electives)
- ☐ Independent Study
- ☐ International Travel and Coursework
- ☐ Continuous Enrollment
- ☐ Leave of Absence
- ☐ Withdrawal Policy
- ☐ Time Limits
- ☐ Grievance Resolution
- ☐ Degree and Certificate Conferral

[Academic resources](#) and [student support services](#) available to SPH graduate students are listed on the SPH website, www.ohsu-psu-sph.org. Please review the resources listed there.