



## SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### 2025-2026 PROGRAM GUIDE: Dual Degree Master of Public Health – Health Promotion / Master of Social Work

Information in this document is updated annually. Please refer to the document for the year you entered the program. 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](http://www.ohsu-psu-sph.org).

#### Overview

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

Health Promotion/MSW Dual Degree Advisor: Lynne Messer ([lymesser@pdx.edu](mailto:lymesser@pdx.edu))

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
<b>Core Required Coursework and Exam (17 Credits; common to all MPH programs)</b>		
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
<b>Program Required Coursework (29 Credits)</b>		
Varies	Interprofessional Course (consult your advisor)	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 or Media Advocacy and Public Health	3
PHE 550	Program Planning	4
HSMP 573*	Values & Ethics in Health	3
HSMP 588	Program Evaluation & Management	3
<b>Culminating Experience (5 credits)</b>		
PHE 504PE	Practice Experience	4
PHE 502IP	Integrative Project	1
<b>Elective Courses (9 Credits)</b>		
Varies	Courses chosen in consultation with Faculty Advisor	9
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>60</b>

\*Students must complete 30 credits before taking HSMP 573.

**MPH Health Promotion: Recommended Course Sequence**

Below are the recommended course sequences for full-time MPH Health Promotion/MSW students. Other schedules are possible. However, *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.

Priority registration is only open for a limited period (typically 3 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.

Always consult your Faculty Advisor regarding your program of study and course selection to determine the schedule that fits best for you. 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 [PSU's Office of Financial Aid](#).

Students in the MSW/MPH Health Promotion track will need to complete at least 120 credits, which consists of 69 Social Work Credits and 51 Public Health Credits. (See sample course map below).

In this sample course of study, Public Health coursework will count for 10 credits of MSW requirements as follows: BSTA 525 Introduction to Biostatistics (4 credits) will count for the MSW advanced research elective requirement, PHE 517 Community Organizing (3 credits) and PHE 519 Etiology of Disease (3 credits) will count as six MSW elective credits. The 9-credit MSW three-course advanced practice concentration sequence will count toward MPH elective credits.

### **Sample Course of Study: MSW/MPH - Health Promotion Track**

There are 19 shared credits. Note that MPH course scheduling may vary; this course of study model and courses may be re-sequenced. Please check with each department to determine the year's schedule.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vHBTZwh0fKZEvGVQ6-hijudmO8S8AA6b67pI-oU-kxw/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.vfhgpllhhdoy>

### **Graduate Student Resources, Policies, and Procedures**

[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](http://www.ohsu-psu-sph.org). Please review the resources listed there.