PUBLIC HEALTH, M.S.

Saint Louis University’s Master of Science in Public Health degree program is designed for students with terminal degrees who seek training in population-based research methods to support their clinical research activities.

Curriculum Overview

SLU’s Master of Science in Public Health program requires 36 credits. Students complete a research project incorporating the principles of their chosen concentration that results in a manuscript of publishable quality.

Students may choose from the following concentrations in behavioral science and health education or epidemiology:

Behavioral Science and Health Education

This concentration includes core coursework in behavioral science research methods, supplemented by a general course in public health and ethical issues in public health.

Epidemiology

This concentration includes core coursework in epidemiology and biostatistics, supplemented by a general course in public health.

Careers

SLU’s public health graduates are employed at federal, state and local health agencies; consulting firms; consumer advocacy organizations; community-based organizations and health care centers; hospitals; research centers; and universities.

Within the first year of graduation, 99 percent of graduates from this program began their careers, were participating in fellowships or otherwise furthering their graduate education.

1 According to survey responses from the Class of 2015.

Admission Requirements

A Ph.D., M.D., D.O., D.C., D.D.S. or D.V.M. from an accredited college or university.

Application Requirements

• Application form and fee
• Transcript(s)
• Three letters of recommendation
• GRE scores (waived for professionals who hold terminal degrees)
• Résumé
• Interview (for some degrees)
• Professional goal statement

Requirements for International Students

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

• Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (http://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency)
• Proof of financial support must include:
  • A letter from the sponsor’s bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of study at the University
  • Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations, and any honors or degrees received. WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

Application Deadline

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until classes are full.

Review Process

All applications are considered on an individual basis with a balanced and holistic approach. In addition to reviewing previous coursework, test scores and all other supporting application documents are considered.

Assistantships

A limited number of highly competitive assistantships. Most of these awards require ten hours of work per week. Students receive nine credits of tuition per year and an annual stipend of $8,250 (some positions also include health insurance).

Award decisions are made by the faculty in each respective program based on students’ admissions applications. Students typically selected for these positions rank among the top 10 percent of the applicant pool. No further application materials are required for consideration; all students are automatically considered after their admission.

Due to the volume of applicants interested in scholarships, jobs and graduate research assistantships, students cannot be prescreened or considered for support without first applying to and receiving admission to the college.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

The College for Public Health and Social Justice offers several ways to help finance graduate education. Opportunities include a limited number of merit-based scholarships and graduate research assistantships. Awards are made to applicants with the highest combinations of GPAs and test scores who complete their applications by the priority deadlines.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at http://finaid.slu.edu.

Accreditation

The College for Public Health and Social Justice is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

Learning Outcomes

Behavioral Science and Health Education Concentration

1. Graduates will be able to review and critically evaluate the behavioral and social science literature and identify research questions and hypotheses that address current gaps.
2. Graduates will be able to identify, describe and apply theories, models and concepts from social and behavioral science disciplines, including psychology, health communication and anthropology, to key public health challenges and reducing health disparities.
3. Graduates will be able to explain and apply qualitative and quantitative methods to assess community and population health resources and needs.
4. Graduates will be able to plan, develop, guide and manage theory and evidence-based interventions, programs and policies to improve health at the individual, organizational, community and population levels.

5. Graduates will be able to conduct statistical and basic epidemiological analytic methods, and interpret findings including strengths and limitations.

6. Graduates will be able to conduct multi-method process and outcome evaluations of interventions, programs and policies to improve community health.

7. Graduates will be able to employ ethical principles guiding the conduct of research on human subjects.

8. Graduates will be able to design and conduct research projects and communicate the procedures, methods, results and implications in both oral and written form.

**Epidemiology Concentration**

1. Graduates will be able to identify gaps in the literature and develop appropriate research theses.

2. Graduates will be able to develop appropriate study designs and analytic strategies to test epidemiologic hypotheses.

3. Graduates will be able to apply ethical principles in the conduct of research on human subjects.

4. Graduates will be able to conduct and interpret descriptive and inferential statistics.

5. Graduates will be able to communicate epidemiologic findings in scholarly oral and written formats.

**Behavioral Science and Health Education Concentration**

1. Fall
   - BSH 5000 Behavioral Science and Public Health
   - PUBH 5030 Methodological Approaches to Understanding Population Health
   - PUBH 5040 Generating Evidence from Public Health Data

2. Spring
   - BST 5100 Introduction to General Linear Modeling
   - HCE 5020 Ethical Issues in Public Health
   - Methods Electives
     - Select six credits in consultation with mentor

3. Summer
   - BSH 5000 Behavioral Science and Public Health
   - PUBH 5030 Methodological Approaches to Understanding Population Health
   - PUBH 5040 Generating Evidence from Public Health Data
   - HCE 5020 Ethical Issues in Public Health
   - Methods Electives
     - Select six credits in consultation with mentor

**Continuation Standards**

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

**Roadmap**

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.
Year Two

Fall

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<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>BSH 5400</td>
<td>Assessment, Intervention Development, and Evaluation I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BST 5400</td>
<td>Applied Data Management</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 5010</td>
<td>Mission and Practice of Global Public Health</td>
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Credits: 8

Spring

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<tr>
<td>BSH 5410</td>
<td>Assessment, Intervention Development, and Evaluation II</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBH 5960</td>
<td>Capstone in Public Health Practice</td>
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Credits: 6

Summer

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<tr>
<td>PUBH 5990</td>
<td>Research Project</td>
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Total Credits: 36

† Completing SPSS tutorials required prior to first class. Tutorials available on SLU Blackboard.

Epidemiology Concentration

Course | Title                                                      | Credits |
Year One
Fall
| PUBH 5010 | Mission and Practice of Global Public Health               | 2       |
| PUBH 5030 | Methodological Approaches to Understanding Population Health | 3       |
| PUBH 5040 | Generating Evidence from Public Health Data †             | 3       |

Credits: 8

Spring

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<td>BST 5100</td>
<td>Introduction to General Linear Modeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPI 5020</td>
<td>Epidemiology Methods II</td>
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Credits: 6

Summer

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<td>Statistical Programming and Study Planning: SAS</td>
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Credits: 6

Year Two
Fall

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<td>BST 5210</td>
<td>Categorical Data Analysis</td>
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Credits: 9

Spring

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<td>Capstone in Public Health Practice</td>
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Credits: 6

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (http://www.slu.edu/admission)

For additional admission questions please contact,
Bernie Backer
Director of Graduate Recruitment and Admissions
Public Health/ Health Administration
(314) 977-8144