

# PUBLIC HEALTH, B.S.

A public health major is a perfect fit for students who are service-oriented and like to ask the bigger questions about health, understand why health differs across populations, and address health disparities and social justice on a community level in diverse local, national and global settings. As a service-oriented field, public health is a natural fit with the Jesuit mission.

Public health professionals address challenging health-related issues in today's world, such as: How can social media be used to track disease outbreaks? How do we address the growing burden of cancer in low/middle-income countries? How do we ensure safe drinking water in communities across the globe?

Saint Louis University's B.S. in public health was recently ranked No. 1 in Missouri and No. 27 in the nation by College Factual. (<https://www.collegefactual.com/colleges/saint-louis-university-main-campus/academic-life/academic-majors/health-care-professions/public-health/#:~:text=SLU%20Public%20Health%20Rankings,also%20ranked%20%231%20in%20Missouri>) The program is offered through the College for Public Health and Social Justice and is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health.

Additional program highlights include:

- **Immediate impact.** Public health students at Saint Louis University can make an immediate impact on community health with a curriculum that emphasizes hands-on service learning and social justice.
- **Evidence-based.** As public health majors, SLU students consider evidence-based approaches to addressing health issues and examine the roles of individual behavior, environment, biology, social structures and policy in determining health outcomes.
- **Diverse opportunities.** SLU's public health major opens the door to multiple career opportunities in diverse settings, including community organizations, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, government agencies and non-profit organizations.
- **Employment outlook.** Public health has a faster-than-average job growth in a diverse workplace.
- **Pre-medical studies.** Pre-med students who major in public health at SLU gain a stronger understanding of how social, community, organizational, environmental, and policy factors affect the health of their future patients.

Additional degree options for students majoring in public health at SLU include:

- SLU's accelerated program in which high-achieving students earn a B.S. in Public Health in four years and a Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) with one additional year of study; students apply to this competitive program during their fifth semester of study
- A pre-med track (p. 3) for students interested in going to medical school
- A medical scholars track (p. 3) for students in the Medical Scholars Program (<https://www.slu.edu/scholars/medical-scholars/>)
- Honors courses for students in SLU's Honors Program (<https://www.slu.edu/honors/>)

## Curriculum Overview

SLU's Bachelor of Science in Public Health curriculum contains 36 credits of major courses that include contemporary challenges in health care, global health, evidence-based practice, epidemiology, biostatistics, advocacy/policy, and the biological basis of public health. Students also take six credits of public health electives, drawn from courses offered across disciplines. In the senior capstone course, students complete a culminating project and portfolio to demonstrate their achievement of program learning outcomes.

A core curriculum of humanities, science, math, foreign language, fine arts, and social science courses, along with general electives fills out the remainder of the 120 credits required for graduation. Many students use their elective courses to pursue secondary majors or minors.

Student Handbook (<https://sites.google.com/a/slu.edu/my-cphsj/home/undergraduate/undergraduate-public-health-programs/ugph-student-handbook/>)

## Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Service-learning is an integral part of SLU's public health curriculum. Students can embody Saint Louis University's Jesuit mission by using the knowledge they gain in the classroom to serve others and bringing that service back to the classroom. Service-learning provides valuable field experience and helps public health students connect with the St. Louis community. Students complete a minimum of 45 hours of service learning across three courses in the major.

Students can volunteer with health care providers and agencies that serve underserved communities, assist faculty with research projects, and apply to national internships and summer programs in public health. Students are encouraged to participate in internships and summer research opportunities to further enhance their learning experiences at Saint Louis University. Internships can be completed on a volunteer basis or for general elective academic credit. Public health students have interned at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Procter and Gamble, Barnes Jewish Hospital, SSM Health—St. Louis, the Regional Health Commission, departments of health, and more.

Students can also become members of various student organizations focused on public health issues to get to know other students and engage in additional service, networking, and leadership opportunities.

## Careers

A B.S. in public health prepares students for entry-level careers in a variety of settings, including departments of health, government agencies, nonprofit and community health organizations, hospitals, academic centers, advocacy organizations, the pharmaceutical industry, and consulting agencies. It is also excellent preparation for graduate school.

Examples of career options in public health include:

- Working with a community organization or health department to implement and evaluate community health interventions about issues such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, or cancer
- Conducting surveillance of chronic and infectious diseases for local, regional, or state health departments
- Analyzing and developing health policy for a governmental agency
- Conducting public health research in an academic setting
- Monitoring clinical trials in the pharmaceutical industry

- Analyzing health outcomes for insurance companies
- Collaborating with school districts to bring opportunities for physical activity into elementary and high schools
- Designing public health media campaigns, such as those to encourage wearing a seat belt or discourage tobacco use
- Researching the effect of air pollution on a population's health and advocating for policy change
- Implementing programs aimed at violence prevention or women's empowerment
- Studying the barriers to healthy eating at both the personal and societal levels
- Working for a nongovernmental organization that designs clean water and sanitation systems in developing countries

Students also have the option to complete fellowships, programs, or a year of service following graduation. Graduates have completed fellowships with the Peace Corps, the United Nations, Fulbright, the World Health Organization, and the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

## Admission Requirements

### Begin Your Application (<http://www.slu.edu/apply.php>)

Saint Louis University also accepts the Common Application.

### Freshman

All applications are thoroughly reviewed with the highest degree of individual care and consideration to all credentials that are submitted. Solid academic performance in college preparatory coursework is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant's file.

To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, applicants must be graduating from an accredited high school, have an acceptable HiSET exam score or take the General Education Development (GED) test.

### Transfer

Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED.

Students who have attempted fewer than 24 semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must follow the above freshmen admission requirements. Students who have completed 24 or more semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit must submit transcripts from all previously attended college(s).

In reviewing a transfer applicant's file, the Office of Admission holistically examines the student's academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University. Where applicable, transfer students will be evaluated on any courses outlined in the continuation standards of their preferred major.

### International Applicants

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

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency
- Proof of financial support must include:
  - A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the time at Saint Louis University

- 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.

## Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

- **Scholarships:** Scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
- **Financial Aid:** Financial aid is provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at <https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid> (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

## Accreditation

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

View the Most Recent CEPH Self-Study (July 2016) ([http://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/pdfs/cphsj\\_self\\_study\\_august\\_2015\\_report.pdf](http://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/pdfs/cphsj_self_study_august_2015_report.pdf))

## Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to demonstrate foundational knowledge of public health in relation to human cultures, history, science, and policy.
2. Graduates will be able to identify health characteristics, determinants, and needs across diverse populations.
3. Graduates will be able to recognize ways to implement evidence-based approaches to public health issues in communities.
4. Graduates will be able to communicate public health issues with an emphasis on social justice and the core disciplines of public health.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Core Courses</b>		
BIOL 1240 & BIOL 1245	General Biology: Information Flow and Evolution and Principles of Biology I Laboratory	4
BIOL 1260 & BIOL 1265	General Biology: Transformations of Energy and Matter and Principles of Biology II Laboratory	4
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research	3
HIST 1110	Origins of the Modern World to 1500	3
HIST 1120	Origins of the Modern World (1500 to Present)	3
MATH 1400	Pre-Calculus	3
PHIL 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality	3

PHIL 2050	Ethics	3
THEO 1000	Theological Foundations	3
Fine & Performing Arts Elective		3
Foreign Language proficient to 1020-level		6
Literature Elective (2000+)		3
Social Science Electives (Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, etc.)		6
Theology Elective (THEO 2000+)		3
<b>Required Public Health Major Courses</b>		
BST 3100	Applied Biostatistics I	3
EPI 4000	Intro Epidemiology: Foundations & Practice	3
HCE 3100	Public Health & Social Justice	3
HMP 1300	Contemporary Challenges in Health Care	3
PUBH 2100	Introduction to Global Health ‡	3
PUBH 2300	Contemporary Issues in Global Health	3
PUBH 3200	Evidence Based Public Health	3
PUBH 4000	Politics and Public Health Advocacy	3
PUBH 4100	Biological Basis of Public Health	3
PUBH 4960	Capstone in Public Health	3
Public Health Major Electives †		6
<b>General Elective Courses</b>		
Select an additional 34 credits of general electives to achieve the minimum 120 credits for graduation.		34
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

‡ Fulfills the cultural diversity core requirement.

† Students choose 6 credits of electives from a pre-approved list of classes (see Roadmap). Students should consult with CPHSJ Academic Advisors when selecting Public Health major elective courses.

### Continuation Standards

- Cumulative G.P.A. of at least 2.00
- Minimum grade of “C” in all B.S. in Public Health major courses
- Minimum grade of “C-” in all core courses
- Minimum grade of “D” in all remaining general elective courses counting toward the minimum 120 credits required for graduation
- Students who wish to apply for the accelerated B.S./M.P.H. program must meet additional requirements as outlined in the *CPHSJ Undergraduate Public Health Student Handbook*

### 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.

### General Track

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Year One</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
BIOL 1240 & BIOL 1245	General Biology: Information Flow and Evolution and Principles of Biology I Laboratory	4
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research	3
HIST 1110	Origins of the Modern World to 1500	3
Language Level I or higher		3
General Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
BIOL 1260 & BIOL 1265	General Biology: Transformations of Energy and Matter and Principles of Biology II Laboratory	4
MATH 1400	Pre-Calculus	3
PHIL 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality	3
PUBH 2100	Introduction to Global Health ‡	3
Language Level 2 or higher		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Year Two</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
HMP 1300	Contemporary Challenges in Health Care	3
PHIL 2050	Ethics	3
PUBH 2300	Contemporary Issues in Global Health	3
THEO 1000	Theological Foundations	3
General Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
HCE 3100	Public Health & Social Justice	3
HIST 1120	Origins of the Modern World (1500 to Present)	3
ENGL 2000+ Literature Elective		3
Fine Arts Elective §		3
General Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year Three</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
BST 3100	Applied Biostatistics I	3
Public Health Elective §		3
THEO 2000+ Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective ‡		1
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
PUBH 3200	Evidence Based Public Health	3
PUBH 4100	Biological Basis of Public Health	3
Social Science Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>

**Year Four****Fall**

EPI 4000	Intro Epidemiology: Foundations & Practice	3
PUBH 4000	Politics and Public Health Advocacy	3
Social Science Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>
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**Spring**

PUBH 4960	Capstone in Public Health	3
Public Health Elective §		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>
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<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>
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‡ Fulfills the cultural diversity core requirement.

§ See information in Program Notes

± One-credit elective can be taken if needed to earn 120 credits before graduation.

**Pre-Med and Medical Scholars Track**

Course	Title	Credits
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**Year One****Fall**

BIOL 1240 & BIOL 1245	General Biology: Information Flow and Evolution and Principles of Biology I Laboratory	4
CHEM 1110 & CHEM 1115	General Chemistry 1 and General Chemistry 1 Laboratory	4
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies of Rhetoric and Research	3
MATH 1510	Calculus I	4

<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>
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**Spring**

BIOL 1260 & BIOL 1265	General Biology: Transformations of Energy and Matter and Principles of Biology II Laboratory	4
CHEM 1120 & CHEM 1125	General Chemistry 2 and General Chemistry 2 Laboratory	4
PSY 1010	General Psychology	3
PUBH 2100	Introduction to Global Health ‡	3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>14</b>
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**Year Two****Fall**

BIOL 3020	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	3
CHEM 2410 & CHEM 2415	Organic Chemistry 1 and Organic Chemistry 1 Laboratory	4
PUBH 2300	Contemporary Issues in Global Health	3
THEO 1000	Theological Foundations	3
Language Level 1 or higher		3
(Medical Scholars Only: PPHS 1050)		0

<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
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**Spring**

BIOL 3040	Cell Structure & Function	3
CHEM 2420 & CHEM 2425	Organic Chemistry 2 and Organic Chemistry 2 Laboratory	4
HMP 1300	Contemporary Challenges in Health Care	3
PHIL 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality	3
Language Level 2 or higher		3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
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**Year Three****Fall**

BST 3100	Applied Biostatistics I	3
HCE 3100	Public Health & Social Justice	3
HIST 1110	Origins of the Modern World to 1500	3
PHYS 1310 & PHYS 1320	College Physics I and College Physics I Laboratory	4
SOC 1100	Introduction to Sociology	3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
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**Spring**

HIST 1120	Origins of the Modern World (1500 to Present)	3
PHIL 2050	Ethics	3
PHYS 1330 & PHYS 1340	College Physics II and College Physics II Laboratory	4
PUBH 3200	Evidence Based Public Health	3
PUBH 4100	Biological Basis of Public Health	3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>16</b>
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**Year Four****Fall**

EPI 4000	Intro Epidemiology: Foundations & Practice	3
PUBH 4000	Politics and Public Health Advocacy	3
ENGL 2000+ Literature Elective		3
Public Health Elective §		3
General Elective (Medical Scholars take BIOL 3000+) *		3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>
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**Spring**

PUBH 4960	Capstone in Public Health	3
Fine Arts Elective		3
Public Health Elective §		3
THEO 2000+ Elective		3
(Medical Scholars Only: BIOL 3000+) *		0-3

<b>Credits</b>	<b>12-15</b>
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<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120-123</b>
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‡ Fulfills the cultural diversity core requirement.

§ See information in Program Notes.

\* Students in the Medical Scholars Program take an upper level biology course in each semester senior year. Pre-Med students who are not Med Scholars may take a different class in the place of this requirement, or *no* course, if they anticipate they will earn 120 credits before degree conferral.

Pre-medical students must consult with their academic advisor, and with SLU's Office of Pre-Health and Pre-Law Studies (<https://www.slu.edu/>)

academics/undergraduate/pre-health-pre-law/) to ensure the proper pre-medical course registrations.

SWRK 3200 Dismantling Oppression: Exploring Equity & Inclusion 3

**Program Notes**

Minimum of 120 credits including requirements listed above and cumulative G.P.A. of at least 2.50 to graduate and/or remain in good standing with the program.

**Approved English Literature Courses**

ENGL 2000+ except for ENGL 2005, 3850-3870, 4000-4040, and 4100-4120.

See Arts and Sciences core BS requirements for a full listing.

**Approved Fine Arts Courses**

See Arts and Sciences core BS requirements for a full listing.

**Approved Public Health Electives**

Code	Title	Credits
ASTD 3200	The Urban Crisis	3
BIOL 4190	GIS in Biology	3
BST 3000	Intro to Statistical Computing	3
CCJ 2250	Institutional & Community Corrections	3
CCJ 3150	Contemporary Theories of Crime	3
CCJ 3400	Victimology & Victimization	3
CCJ 3500	Race, Ethnicity, and the Criminal Justice System	3
CCJ 3600	Mental Health & Crime	3
GIS 4010	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	3
MUSC 2300	Intro to Music Therapy	3
PUBH 2700	Public Health Issues in Emergency Management	3
PUBH 3930	Special Topics	3
PUBH 4930	Special Topics	3
POLS 3800/ WGST 3510/SOC 3510	The Structure of Poverty: Globally and Locally	3
SWRK 2100	Human Behavior & the Social Environment	3
SWRK 2200	Human Development Through the Life Span	3
SWRK 5703	International Social Work (undergraduate section)	3

**Approved Social Sciences**

Any courses from anthropology, criminal justice, economics, forensic science, political science, psychology and sociology.

Code	Title	Credits
ASTD 3200	The Urban Crisis	3
CMM 1000	Human Communication and Culture	3
CMM 2000	Communication Theory	3
CMM 2800	Communication Research	3
CSDI 1000	Introduction to Communication Sciences and Disorders	3
CSDI 3000	Cultural Linguistic Diversity	3
EDF 2240	Growth Development and Learning	3
EDF 3620	Culture and the Classroom	3
EDSP 4310	Ed & Psych of the Exp Ind	3
SWRK 1000	Introduction to Social Work	3
SWRK 2300	Human Behavior Social Envrnmnt	3
SWRK 3100	Social Policy for Social Justice	3

**Contact Us**

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

For additional admission questions please contact:

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 Administrative Assistant  
 katie.linnenbrink@slu.edu  
 Tegeler Hall 300 West  
 314-977-3934

**2+SLU**

2+SLU programs are formal transfer agreements for students seeking an associate degree at a partner institution.

- Public Health, B.S. (STLCC 2+SLU)