

PUBLIC HEALTH, B.S.

Student Handbook (https://www.slu.edu/services/registrar/catalog/pdfs/18-19_PHSJ_Student_Handbook-Undergraduate.pdf)

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 are charged with finding answers to some of today's most pressing health questions, 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?

- 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.
- As Public health majors, SLU students examine the roles of individual behavior, environment, biology, social structures and policy in determining health outcomes and consider evidence-based approaches to addressing health issues.
- SLU's Public health major opens the door to career opportunities in diverse settings, including community organizations, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, government agencies and non-profit organizations.
- Public health has a faster than average job growth in a diverse workplace.
- 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 for high achieving students to 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 for students interested in going to medical school
- A medical scholars track for students in the Medical Scholars Program
- Honors courses for students in SLU's Honors Program
- **Minor:** A minor in public health is an excellent choice for students pursuing other majors but who would like to consider the interdisciplinary aspects of health on the community level.

Curriculum Overview

The public health curriculum contains 36 credits of major courses that include contemporary challenges in healthcare, 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 double majors or minors.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Service learning is an integral part of the 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 can also become members of the Public Health Club to get to know other public health students and engage in additional service, networking, and leadership opportunities.

Careers

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health prepares students for graduate school or 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.

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 seatbelt 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

Admission Requirements

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 course work is a primary concern in reviewing a freshman applicant's file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student's ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University and are used as qualifiers for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be graduating from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on 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. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester credits (or 30 quarter credits) of college credit. Those having completed 24 or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from 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.

International Applicants

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

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should 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 <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

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
Required Core Courses		
BIOL 1240 & BIOL 1245	Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology I Laboratory	4
BIOL 1260 & BIOL 1265	Principles of Biology II 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 (2XXX+)	3
	Social Science Electives (Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, etc.)	6
	Theology Elective (THEO 2XXX+)	3
Required Public Health Major Courses		
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 ¹	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 ²	6
General Elective Courses		
	Select an additional 34 credits of general electives to achieve the minimum 120 credits for graduation.	34
Total Credits		120

¹ Fulfills the cultural diversity course requirement.

² Students choose 6 credits of electives from a pre-approved list of classes. Students should consult with CPHSJ Academic Advisors when selecting Public Health major elective courses.

Continuation Standards

- Cumulative GPA of at least 2.50
- 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.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
BIOL 1240 & BIOL 1245	Principles of Biology I and Principles of Biology I Laboratory ¹	4
ENGL 1900	Advanced Strategies Of Rhetoric and Research ²	3
HIST 1110	Origins of the Modern World to 1500	3
	Language Level I or higher	3
	General Elective	3
	Credits	16
Spring		
BIOL 1260 & BIOL 1265	Principles of Biology II and Principles of Biology II Laboratory ⁴	4
PUBH 2100	Introduction to Global Health	3
MATH 1400	Pre-Calculus ⁵	3
PHIL 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality	3
	Language Level 2 or higher ⁶	3
	Credits	16
Year Two		
Fall		
HMP 1300	Contemporary Challenges in Health Care	3
PUBH 2300	Contemporary Issues in Global Health ⁷	3
THEO 1000	Theological Foundations	3
PHIL 2050	Ethics ⁸	3
	General Elective	3
	Credits	15
Spring		
HCE 3100	Public Health & Social Justice	3
	ENGL 2000+ Literature Elective	3
HIST 1120	Origins of the Modern World, 1500 to Present	3
	Fine Arts Elective ⁹	3

General Elective		3
Credits		15
Year Three		
Fall		
BST 3100	Applied Biostatistics I ¹⁰	3
	Public Health Elective ⁹	3
	THEO 2000+ Elective ¹¹	3
	General Elective	3
	General Elective ³	1
Credits		13
Spring		
PUBH 3200	Evidence Based Public Health ⁷	3
PUBH 4100	Biological Basis of Public Health	3
	Social Science Elective	3
	General Elective	3
	General Elective	3
Credits		15
Year Four		
Fall		
EPI 4000	Intro Epidemiology: Foundations & Practice ¹⁰	3
	PUBH 4000 Politics and Public Health Advocacy	3
	Social Science Elective	3
	General Elective	3
	General Elective	3
Credits		15
Spring		
PUBH 4960	Capstone in Public Health ¹²	3
	Public Health Elective ⁹	3
	General Elective	3
	General Elective	3
	General Elective	3
Credits		15
Total Credits		120

- ¹ Fall only.
- ² Pre-Req: ENGL 1500 The Process of Composition (3 cr) or ACT English Subscore 25+
- ³ One-credit elective can be taken if needed to earn 120 credits before graduation
- ⁴ Pre-Req: BIOL 1240 Principles of Biology I (3 cr)/BIOL 1245 Principles of Biology I Laboratory (1 cr). Spring only.
- ⁵ Pre-Req: MATH 1200 College Algebra (0,3 cr) or Test Score
- ⁶ Pre-Req: Level 1 or Test Score
- ⁷ Pre-Req: PUBH 2100 Introduction to Global Health (0-3 cr)
- ⁸ Pre-Req: PHIL 1050 Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality (0,3 cr)
- ⁹ See information in Program Notes
- ¹⁰ Pre-Req: MATH 1400 Pre-Calculus (3 cr)+
- ¹¹ Pre-Req: THEO 1000 Theological Foundations (0,3 cr)

- ¹² Pre-Req: PUBH 2100 Introduction to Global Health (0-3 cr), HMP 1300 Contemporary Challenges in Health Care (3 cr), PUBH 2300 Contemporary Issues in Global Health (3 cr), HCE 3100 Public Health & Social Justice (3 cr), PUBH 3200 Evidence Based Public Health (3 cr); Pre or Co-Req: BST 3100 Applied Biostatistics I (3 cr), EPI 4000 Intro Epidemiology: Foundations & Practice (3 cr), PUBH 4000 Politics and Public Health Advocacy (3 cr), & PUBH 4100 Biological Basis of Public Health (3 cr)

Program Notes

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

Approved English Literature Courses

See Arts & Sciences core BS requirements (<http://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/#coretext>) full listing.

Code	Title	Credits
ENGL 2000+		
ASTD 3020	American Mosaic: Literature & Diversity	3
ASTD 3030	History and Fiction	3

Not ENGL 3850 Foundations Rhetoric & Writing (3 cr) through ENGL 3870 Technical Writing (3 cr) or ENGL 4100 History of the English Language (3 cr) through ENGL 4120 Language Studies: Topics (3 cr)

Approved Fine Arts Courses

See Arts & Sciences core BS requirements (<http://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/#coretext>) for 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 & Crime	3
CCJ 3600	Mental Health & Crime	3
GIS 4010	Introduction to GIS	3
MUSC 2300	Intro to Music Therapy	3
PUBH 2700	Public Health Issues in Emergency Management	3
PUBH 3700	Mental Health Implications of Emergency Management	3
PUBH 3930	Special Topics	1-3
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)	1-3

Approved Social Sciences

Any courses from Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Economics, Forensic Science, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology.

Communication

Code	Title	Credits
CMM 1000	Human Communication and Culture	3
CMM 2000	Communication Theory	3
CMM 2800	Communication Research	3

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Code	Title	Credits
CSDI 1000	Intro to Comm Sci & Disorders	3
CSDI 3000	Chara. Multicult Popultrn	3

Education

Code	Title	Credits
EDF 2240	Growth Development and Learning	3
EDF 3620	Multicultural Issues in the Classroom	3
EDSP 4310	Ed & Psych of the Exp Ind	3

Social Work

Code	Title	Credits
SWRK 1000	Introduction to Social Work	3
SWRK 2100	Human Behavior & the Social Environment	3
SWRK 2200	Human Development Through the Life Span	3
SWRK 3100	The American Social Welfare System	3
SWRK 3200	Diversity & Anti-Oppression Practice	3
Not field service		

Contact Us

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

For additional admission questions please contact,
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