

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### OVERVIEW

The University of Vermont Program in Public Health is an innovative, online, interdisciplinary, accredited Public Health Program offering the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree, the Certificate of Graduate Study in Public Health (GCPH), and the Certificate of Graduate Study in Environmental Public Health. The program is designed as a collaboration of disciplines, through its faculty and community of students, that is both academic and applicable to health needs of actual populations, in both health care and community settings. Graduates will experience a comprehensive foundation of population health sciences to prepare them as they enter health care fields, public health practice, or further advanced study in public health and related sciences.

The UVM public health program offers a generalist MPH program. Graduates will complete sufficient course work to attain depth and breadth in the six core areas of public health knowledge (Public Health and Health Policy, Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health Sciences, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavioral Sciences), as well as interdisciplinary/cross-cutting areas. All graduate professional public health degree students will develop skills in basic public health concepts and demonstrate the skills and integration of knowledge, and application of these concepts through a culminating project experience.

The University of Vermont offers two online Certificates of Graduate Study, Public Health and Environmental Public Health. Both are concise, six-course curriculums that introduce students to the program area. Completing either Certificate of Graduate Study will provide students with competency in core areas of public health as well as 18 applicable credits should they decide to pursue the MPH degree.

After successful completion students will be prepared to:

1. Practice in a changing health care environment that requires accountability for the health of entire populations and skills to prevent illness and promote health
2. Engage in public health practice, with knowledge and skills needed for effective participation in work of government public health agencies or non-profit health-related organizations
3. Apply knowledge and skills from a strong foundation of population health sciences in preparation for further graduate study at the doctoral level in public health and related fields

### DEGREES

- Public Health AMP
- Public Health CGS
- Public Health MPH
- Environmental Public Health CGS

### FACULTY

**Blevins, Lynn**; Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine-Pulmonary; MD, Medical College of Virginia

**Carney, Jan Kirk**; Professor, Department of Medicine; MD, University of Cincinnati; MPH, Harvard University

### Courses

#### **PH 301. Public Health & Health Policy. 3 Credits.**

Course focuses on current public health issues, barriers to improving population health, and policy tensions between science, economics, education, politics, government, media, and public health.

#### **PH 302. Epidemiology I. 3 Credits.**

Epidemiology is the study of disease distribution and determinants in populations; we will define populations and estimate the distribution of health-related conditions and their determinants. Pre/co-requisites: Bachelor's degree and college-level mathematics course.

#### **PH 303. Biostatistics I: App Rsch in PH. 3 Credits.**

Biostatistics I (Applied Research Methods in Public Health) includes biostatistics, research designs, and qualitative approaches, and includes emphasis on evaluating research articles in public health. Pre/co-requisites: Bachelor's degree and college-level mathematics course.

#### **PH 304. Environmental Public Health. 3 Credits.**

Explores major areas of environmental public health (EPH), including environmental hazards, exposures, and related health outcomes, including emerging topics in environmental public health.

#### **PH 305. Pol, Org & Finance in Hlth Care. 3 Credits.**

This course looks at U.S. health care policies, organizational structures and financing systems and examines key concepts from economic, social, ethical, political and global perspectives.

#### **PH 306. Social & Behavioral Public Hlth. 3 Credits.**

This course addresses the behavioral, social and cultural factors related to individual and population health, and health disparities over the life course.

#### **PH 307. Epidemiology 2. 3 Credits.**

Exposure to advanced epidemiological concepts, such as effect modifications and modeling using multiple variables, related to establishing causal relationships from observational data. Prerequisite: PH 302.

#### **PH 308. Environmental Public Health 2. 3 Credits.**

Students explore public health within the context of natural and human-made environments, and examine methods of practice and emerging environmental health topics. Prerequisite: PH 304.

#### **PH 309. Public Health Biostatistics II. 3 Credits.**

An advanced applied research methods course with the goal of helping students understand and apply multivariate regression analyses, non-parametric methods, survival analysis and advanced concepts with confounding and effect modification, and interpreting data in public health applications. Prerequisite: PH 303.

**PH 310. Public Health Law and Ethics. 3 Credits.**

Public health law examines the government's authority, at various jurisdictional levels, to improve the health of the general population within societal limits and norms. Prerequisite: Bachelor's degree.

**PH 311. Global Public Health. 3 Credits.**

This course explores global public health challenges affecting people primarily in developing or resource-constrained countries. Cultural competency concepts will be embedded. Prerequisite: Bachelor's degree.

**PH 312. SU:Food Systems & Public Hlth. 3 Credits.**

This course explores food systems' influence on public health, and how technology, policy, biology, epidemiology, and historical knowledge can support a healthier food system. Prerequisite: Bachelor's degree.

**PH 313. Public Health & Social Justice. 3 Credits.**

Analytical examination of the relationship between health policies and programs and social justice issues in the United States with exemplars from other countries.

**PH 314. Environmental Risk & Risk Comm. 3 Credits.**

This course explores theory, policy and techniques for environmental risk communication from the viewpoints of government, industry, special interest groups, and the general public.

**PH 315. Public Health Surveillance. 3 Credits.**

This course explores surveillance of infectious and non-infectious diseases, health behaviors and population characteristics, fundamental to nearly all fields of modern public health practice. Prerequisite: PH 302.

**PH 317. Mgmt in Hlth Services&Med Care. 3 Credits.**

Addresses major issues and challenges faced by health services managers relating to established and evolving social, economic, and professional policies in a context of practical problem assessment and appropriate resolution. Cross-listed with: BSAD 331, PA 312.

**PH 319. Environmental Health Law & Pol. 3 Credits.**

Introduces non-lawyers to American law as it relates to the protection of environmental and public health.

**PH 324. Public Health Informatics. 3 Credits.**

Public health practice relies on timely, thorough and reliable information from a variety of sources. Informatics is an emerging field that employs information technology tools and methods to address public health challenges and to improve public health outcomes.

**PH 325. Investigating DiseaseOutbreaks. 3 Credits.**

Investigating disease outbreaks is a fundamental responsibility of public health. This course covers field epidemiology outbreak investigation methods, working on an investigatory team, interacting with relevant agencies, and the selection and implementation of appropriate interventions.

**PH 326. Health Care Law & Ethics. 3 Credits.**

Provides an overview of the legal environment related to healthcare. Using court decisions and other law, explores medical malpractice, negligence, liability, patient rights, healthcare reform and compliance with such laws as Medicaid, Medicare, and HIPAA.

**PH 392. Culminating Project Experience. 1-6 Credits.**

Prepares students to apply knowledge and skills in a culminating project experience that reflects research and practice needs of actual populations. Prerequisites: PH 301, PH 302, PH 303, PH 307.

**PH 395. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.**

See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.

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