

ALBANY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health at ACPHS is an integrated program grounded in an understanding of the life sciences, human health, and the social determinants of health, and focused on community engagement and critical reflection within the contemporary health care environment. Public health integrates scientific foundations of health and principles from the social and behavioral sciences and the humanities to engage in an interdisciplinary manner with modern health and health care.

The curriculum aims to fulfill these goals by ensuring that students:

- understand basic biological and physical principles relevant to health and illness
- explore cultural, social, psychological, and economic dimensions of health and illness
- appreciate the structure and function of healthcare organizations and systems
- recognize ethical and human rights principles related to health
- examine human health issues through an interdisciplinary and data driven perspective
- critically analyze the primary literature of a variety of fields and develop comprehensive responses to interdisciplinary problems
- communicate research findings and health promotion initiatives in writing and orally to diverse audiences
- apply content knowledge and experiences to design and implement health promotion and disease prevention strategies

Our program covers the basic foundations of humanities, natural sciences, quantitative reasoning, social sciences, and core public health dimensions. It also includes a capstone experience and professional development, while retaining flexibility to utilize electives to cultivate deeper expertise in an area or topic of interest. Students will select either the Community Health or Health Analytics track within the BS in Public Health program.

The program prepares students to enter the workforce in a health-related field and provides them with a solid foundation to pursue advanced studies in graduate or professional school. With this training, students completing this program are well prepared for:

- Entry level positions in health education and promotion or positions in research and program coordination at the research assistant level
- Graduate or advanced training in public health, health administration, data analytics, and health services research
- Additional training in clinical or professional education, including but not limited to MS in Physician's Assistant Studies and Medical School

BS IN PUBLIC HEALTH REQUIRED COURSES

All students will complete the foundational courses (60 credits), the Public Health core (36 credits) and the free electives (15 credits). Students also must complete one set of track courses (15 credits). The total number of credits required for the program is 126.

Foundational Courses: 60 Credit Hours

Humanities/Fine Arts/Communication (18 Credits)

- HUM 101 and 102: Pre-Modern World and Modern World (3, 3)
- HUM 201: Contemporary World or equivalent (3)
- COM 101: Academic Reading and Writing or equivalent (3)
- COM 120: Public Speaking (3)
- PHI 145: Logic and Reasoning (3)

Social Sciences (12 credits)

- SOC 101: Introduction to Sociology (3)
- PSY 101: General Psychology (3)
- ECN 101: Introductory Economics (3)
- HIS 110: American Government or equivalent (3)

Basic Sciences (15 credits)

- BIO 101 and BIO 102: General Biology I and II (4, 4)
- CHE 115, 117 and 119: General, Organic, and Biochemistry I, II, & Lab (3, 3, 1)

Quantitative Reasoning (10 credits)

- MAT 121: Calculus I (4)
- MAT 155: Statistics (3)
- CMP 117: Healthcare Data Acquisition and Management I (1)
- CMP 115: Introductory Excel (2)

Professional Development (5 Credits)

- BSS 102 and BSS 302: Seminar in Health Professions (1, 1)
- HHS 401: Capstone (3)

Public Health Core: 36 Credit Hours

- SOC 120: Intro to Public Health (3)
- PAD 451: US and Global Health Care Systems (3)
- SOC 420: Health and Social Policy (3)
- SOC 335: Global Health (3)
- PAD 393: Epidemiology (3)
- PSY 321 or COM 312: Health Promotion (3) or Health Psychology (3)
- ETH 310: Bioethics (3)
- SOC 301: Research Methods (4)
- PBH 435: Interdisciplinary Perspectives and Methods (2)
- BIO 245: Biological Basis of Disease (3)*
- Applied Biological Science Selective (3)* One course chosen from:
 - BIO 260: Public Health Toxicology, BIO 213: Anatomy and Physiology I, BIO 215: Anatomy and Physiology II, BHS 360: Clinical Anatomy, PHM 334: Environmental Health, BIO 225: Genetics
 - Applied Research Methods Course (3)
- One course chosen from:
 - COM 350: Qualitative Research Methods or PBH 360: Field Epidemiology

*Students may substitute BIO 213 and BIO 215: Anatomy and Physiology I and II for Biological Basis of Disease and the Applied Biological Science Selective.

Free Electives: 15 Credit Hours

Tracks (choose 1 of the following tracks): 15 Credit Hours

Community Health Track

PBH 345: Concepts in Community Health Practice (3)

SCO 350: Disparities and Social Justice (3)

COM 315: Health Campaigns (3)

Culture and Health Selective (3). One course chosen from:

COM 330: Intercultural Communication in Health Care, HUM 386: Culture, Customs and Health of Belize, HIS 325: History of the Plagues, SOC 330: Cultures of Disability

Health Care Systems Selective (3). One course chosen from:

COM 320: Patient-Provider Communication, ECN 317: Health Economics, PAD 515: Pharmacoeconomics, PSY 440: Death and Dying, SOC 325: Medical Sociology, HIS 330: History of Public Health and Medicine, EDU 502: Seminar in Academic Health

Health Analytics Track

MAT 315: Applied Linear Algebra (3)

CMP 215: Spreadsheets and Databases for Decision Making (3)

MAT 610: Statistical Inference and Modeling (3)

PAD 636: SAS Programming (3) or other approved data intensive course

ECN 317: Health Economics (3) or other approved data intensive course

¹All incoming students are assessed for their writing ability. The assessment is designed to direct students to the courses for which they are best prepared in the first year of the curriculum.

BS IN PUBLIC HEALTH SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Year 1						
Fall Semester			Credits	Spring Semester		Credits
HUM 101	Pre-Modern World		3	HUM 102	Modern World	3
BIO 101	General Biology I		4	BIO 102	General Biology II	4
COM 101	Academic Reading and Writing		3	COM 120	Public Speaking	3
PSY 101	Psychology		3	SOC 101	Sociology	3
SOC 120	Intro to Public Health		3	MAT 155	Statistics	3
BSS 102	Seminar in Health Professions		1			
	Total		17		Total	16

Year 2						
Fall Semester			Credits	Spring Semester		Credits
HUM 201	Contemporary World		3	ECN 101	Economics	3
CHE 115	General, Org. and Biochem. I		3	CHE 117	General, Org. and Biochem. II	3
MAT 121	Calculus I		4	CHE 119	General, Org. and Biochem. Lab	1
HIS 110	American Government		3	PHI 145	Logic and Reasoning	3
	Elective		3	CMP 117	Healthcare Data Acq and Manage.	1
				CMP 115	Introductory Excel	2
					Elective	3
	Total		16		Total	16

Year 3						
Fall Semester			Credits	Spring Semester		Credits
ETH 310	Bioethics		3	PAD 393	Epidemiology	3
SOC 301	Research Methods		4	PAD 451	US & Global Healthcare Systems	3
BIO 245	Biological Basis of Disease		3		Applied Research Methods Selec.	3
BSS 302	Seminar in Health Professions		1	COM312 or PSY321	Health Promotion or Health Psychology	3
SOC 335	Global Health		3		TRACK COURSE 1	3
	Elective		3		Total	15
	Total		17			

Year 4						
Fall Semester			Credits	Spring Semester		Credits
SOC 420	Health and Public Policy		3	HHS 401	Capstone	3
PBH 435	Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Healthcare		2		TRACK COURSE 4	3
	TRACK COURSE 2		3		TRACK COURSE 5	3
	TRACK COURSE 3		3		Applied Biological Science Selec.	3
	Elective		3		Elective	3
	Total		14		Total	15

8/10/16