Criterion 2
Instructional Programs
2.11 Joint Degrees

CEPH Criterion

If the school offers joint degree programs, the required curriculum for the professional public health degree shall be equivalent to that required for a separate public health degree.

CEPH Required Documentation

a. Identification of joint degree programs offered by the school and a description of the requirements for each.

b. Assessment of the extent to which the criterion is met.
2.11.a. Dual Degree Programs

**Required Documentation:** Identification of joint degree programs offered by the school and a description of the requirements for each.

The School of Public Health has no joint degrees (defined by the Graduate School as a single degree developed jointly by two departments). However, the school offers dual degrees (defined by the Graduate School as the opportunity to earn degrees simultaneously from two departments in less time than if the degrees were pursued independently). There are eleven dual degree programs in the School of Public Health (see table 2.1.a., Instructional Matrix). In addition, there appears to be growing interest among HBHE students in exploring a joint degree with Social Work.
2.11.b. Assessment of Joint Degrees

**Required Documentation:** Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met.

**Strengths**
- Multiple opportunities to earn degrees simultaneously in two different disciplines
- Opportunity to combine clinical and nonclinical programs of study
- More versatile graduates in terms of future employment/careers
- Interdisciplinary opportunities support university philosophy of education

**Challenges**
- Maintaining a public health focus for students who are being trained in two disciplines
- Coordinating course schedules and program requirements for two different degrees
- Providing opportunities that do not prohibitively extend students’ time in training

**Future Directions**
- Assure good advisement and monitoring for dual degree students
- Examine new potential joint degree programs in response to students’ interest

**This Criterion is met.**