

Addendum: Specific to all MPH students (and handbooks) starting Fall 2018

Competencies and Student Learning Experiences

Upon completion of the MPH program, you will be able to demonstrate to current or future employers a valuable set of competencies and learning objectives that will enhance your ability to achieve your professional goals while contributing to your organization. After graduation, you are encouraged to list these competencies on your resume (and describe your applied learning experiences) as evidence of your marketable skills and knowledge.

The School maintains documentation for every graduate student about their progress toward achieving public health competencies. Students will be taught and assessed on competencies in the Gillings MPH integrated core and required program courses. During the practicum, students will develop two products in their practice setting that serves the practice setting. These two products combined must demonstrate a total of five competencies, of which at least three must be MPH foundational competencies. During their culminating experience, students will develop a high-quality written product that demonstrates a synthesis of MPH foundational competencies and program competencies. More specific information will be provided to students as they progress in their MPH degree plan of study toward the practicum and culminating experience milestones.

The MPH program is designed to provide graduates with a breadth and depth of integrated knowledge and skills in public health principles and practice. The following learning objectives and competencies describe the learning outcomes students will attain through their plan of study.

Foundational Public Health Knowledge

You will develop and attain the [Council on Education for Public Health](#)'s foundational public health knowledge, 12 graduate-level public health foundational learning objectives and 22 MPH foundational competencies in this program.

Graduate-level Foundational Learning Objectives

Profession & Science of Public Health

- FLO01. Explain public health history, philosophy and values.
- FLO02. Identify the core functions of public health and the 10 Essential Services.
- FLO03. Explain the role of quantitative and qualitative methods and sciences in describing and assessing a population's health.
- FLO04. List major causes and trends of morbidity and mortality in the US or other community relevant to the school or program.
- FLO05. Discuss the science of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention in population health, including health promotion, screening, etc.
- FLO06. Explain the critical importance of evidence in advancing public health knowledge.

Factors Related to Human Health

- FLO07. Explain effects of environmental factors on a population's health.
- FLO08. Explain biological and genetic factors that affect a population's health.
- FLO09. Explain behavioral and psychological factors that affect a population's health.
- FLO10. Explain the social, political and economic determinants of health and how they contribute to population health and health inequities.
- FLO11. Explain how globalization affects global burdens of disease.

FLO12. Explain an ecological perspective on the connections among human health, animal health and ecosystem health (e.g., One Health).

MPH Foundational Competencies

- MPH01. Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice.
- MPH02. Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context.
- MPH03. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate.
- MPH04. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice.
- MPH05. Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings.
- MPH06. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels.
- MPH07. Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health.
- MPH08. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs.
- MPH09. Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention.
- MPH10. Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management.
- MPH11. Select methods to evaluate public health programs.
- MPH12. Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence.
- MPH13. Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes.
- MPH14. Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations.
- MPH15. Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity.
- MPH16. Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision making.
- MPH17. Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges.
- MPH18. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors.
- MPH19. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation.
- MPH20. Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content.
- MPH21. Perform effectively on interprofessional teams.
- MPH22. Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue.