

**Health Policy and Management  
Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH)**

**Student Guide 2020-  
2021**



**UNC**  
**GILLINGS SCHOOL OF  
GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH**

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## Welcome

Welcome to the Department of Health Policy and Management. This guide highlights many of the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures of the Master's Program, as established by the department faculty and by the actions of the Administrative Board of the Graduate School. Each student should become familiar with the material pertaining to his or her degree program, and, together with a faculty advisor, make certain that the selected plan of study complies with the pertinent requirements and your own career interests.

This guide is intended to complement the information contained in the *Graduate School Handbook*. <http://gradschool.unc.edu/handbook/>. In instances of discrepancy between these guidelines and the *Graduate School Handbook*, the latter takes precedence.

While reading through this document, if you find incorrect information, please contact Jeffrey Simms



## Mission, Vision, and Values

### Mission

To improve health for all by creating and translating knowledge and practice and educating current and future health leaders, managers, policymakers, practitioners, and researchers.

### Vision

High quality, accessible, and affordable health systems that achieve optimal population health in North Carolina, the United States, and around the world.

### Values

**Ethical standards.** We adhere to high standards of personal and professional integrity and support those standards in our faculty, staff, students and alumni.

**Free intellectual exchange.** We value free intellectual exchange, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the pursuit of useful knowledge advancement, teaching and service. We believe that continued improvement and success depend on lifetime learning and we support this among our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

**Accountability.** We pride ourselves in maintaining a student-centered environment through accessible faculty and staff. We foster an environment in which faculty can excel in terms of their research, teaching, and service. We use self-assessment and actively solicit and incorporate stakeholder input, such as online students, assessments, and alumni and employee surveys, throughout our continuous improvement efforts. We recognize that the health of the public and social justice are intertwined; as public health professionals we are accountable to communities and adhere to principles of equity.

**Inclusivity.** We strive to ensure that a diverse staff, faculty, and student body feel fully welcome here both because we care about each other as human beings and because we want our department and society to benefit from everyone's talents.

**Balance and Growth.** We recognize personal and professional growth are important for well-rounded individuals, and strive to help our faculty, staff and students achieve both. We recognize that our faculty, staff and students play multiple roles, and we strive to help them achieve a reasonable balance between their personal and professional lives.

**Focus on Results.** We are passionate about improving access to high quality, affordable health services.

## Key Points of Contact

All degree programs in the Department of Health Policy and Management are managed by teams of faculty and staff. You will come into contact with many people during your time in the program. This is a brief summary of key people and their roles related to the MSPH degree.

| Name                 | Title   | Information and Advice Related To:  |
|----------------------|---|---|
| <b>Jeffrey Simms</b> | Interim Program Director,<br>Master's Degree Programs in<br>Health Policy and Management (Residential);<br>Director, Professional Development and<br>Alumni Relations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum course requirements and options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Advisor and advisor changes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Degree changes, dual degree options, deferral, leaves of absence</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Providing feedback and concerns related to courses, communication, faculty, staff, advisors</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Department and program policies</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reference letters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Participation on departmental committees</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Academic, financial, and personal challenges</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Identifying Master's paper readers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course selection</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Employment post-graduation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reference letters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Guidance on practicum and post-graduation employment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum and job interview preparation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Resumes and cover letters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Feedback and concerns related to faculty, staff, and other students</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Academic, financial, and personal challenges</li> </ul> |
| <b>Adia Ware</b>     | Interim Academic Coordinator  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Applying to HPM</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum, course requirements and options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Graduation and degree requirements</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course registration</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Degree changes, dual degree options, deferrals, leaves of absence</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course Exemption Requests</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Department and program policies</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Graduate School policies</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Academic, financial, and personal challenges</li> </ul>   |

|                      |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|
| <b>Cathy Padgett</b> | Career Services Coordinator  | <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum options<br><input type="checkbox"/> Employment post-graduation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum and job interview preparation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Resumes and cover letters<br><input type="checkbox"/> Academic, financial, and personal challenges |
| <b>Your Advisor</b>  | <p>The advisor's role varies depending upon student needs and the specific expertise of the faculty member. The advisor can be helpful in many ways, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Course selection</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Practicum options</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Resume and cover letter review</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reference letters</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Preparing for practicum and job interviews</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Academic, financial, and personal challenges</li> </ul> |  |

## Important Sites and Services

| Services                                 | Location  | Phone                 | Web Site   |
|--|---|-----------------------|--|
| Chapel Hill Transit                      | n/a   | n/a                   | <a href="http://www.ci.chapel-hill.nc.us/transit">www.ci.chapel-hill.nc.us/transit</a>   |
| Accessibility Resources & Service        | 450 Ridge Road                                      | (919) 962-8300        | <a href="http://accessibility.unc.edu/">http://accessibility.unc.edu/</a>  |
| ONYEN                                    | 022 Undergraduate Library                           | (919) 962-4357        | <a href="https://onyen.unc.edu/">https://onyen.unc.edu/</a>  |
| HeelMail                                 |   | (919) 962-4357        | <a href="http://help.unc.edu/help/heelmail-frequently-asked-questions/">http://help.unc.edu/help/heelmail-frequently-asked-questions/</a>  |
| Graduate School - forms                  | 200 Bynum Hall                                      | (919) 966-2611        | <a href="http://gradschool.unc.edu/academics/resources/forms.html">http://gradschool.unc.edu/academics/resources/forms.html</a>  |
| Graduate School -                        |   |                       | <a href="http://handbook.unc.edu/pdf/handbook.pdf">http://handbook.unc.edu/pdf/handbook.pdf</a>  |
| Health Sciences Library                  | Columbia Street                                     | (919) 966-0800        | <a href="http://www.hsl.unc.edu">http://www.hsl.unc.edu</a>  |
| International Student & Scholar Services | Fed Ex Global Education Center 301 Pittsboro Street | (919) 962-5661        | <a href="http://oiss.unc.edu">http://oiss.unc.edu</a>  |
| UNC Funding Opportunities                | 200 Bynum Hall                                      | (919) 966-2611        | <a href="http://gradschool.unc.edu/funding/">http://gradschool.unc.edu/funding/</a>  |
| HPM Web Site                             | 135 Dauer Drive                                     | (919) 966-7350        | <a href="http://sph.unc.edu/hpm/health-policy-and-management-home/">http://sph.unc.edu/hpm/health-policy-and-management-home/</a>  |
| NC Resident Status                       | SASB North  | (919) 962-6324        | <a href="http://registrar.unc.edu/academic-">http://registrar.unc.edu/academic-</a>  |
| Registration                             | SASB North  | (919) 962-3954        | <a href="http://registrar.unc.edu/registration/">http://registrar.unc.edu/registration/</a>  |
| Scholarships & Student Aid               | 300 Pettigrew                                       | (919) 962-8396        | <a href="http://studentaid.unc.edu/">http://studentaid.unc.edu/</a>  |
| My UNC                                   | n/a   | n/a                   | <a href="http://my.unc.edu/">http://my.unc.edu/</a>  |
| Tuition Rates                            | n/a   | n/a                   | <a href="http://cashier.unc.edu/tuition-fees">http://cashier.unc.edu/tuition-fees</a>  |
| UNC One Card (ID)                        | Daniels Student Stores                              | (919) 962-8024        | <a href="http://www.onecard.unc.edu">http://www.onecard.unc.edu</a>  |
| Finance Division (Cashier's)             | SASB North  | (919) 962-1368 (info) | <a href="http://www.unc.edu/finance/cashiers/cashiers.htm">http://www.unc.edu/finance/cashiers/cashiers.htm</a><br>(Note: credit card payments incur a 2.75% or minimum \$3.00 non-refundable transaction fee) |
|  |   |                       |  |

## Health Policy and Management Offices, Program Management, Faculty and Staff

|  |  |                        |
|--|--|------------------------|
| <b>Chair's Office</b>                                    | Morris Weinberger, Chair   | mweinber@email.unc.edu |
|  | Kristin Reiter, Associate Chair  | reiter@email.unc.edu   |
|  | Becky Slifkin, Associate Chair   | becky_slifkin@unc.edu  |
|  | Stephanie Forman, Assistant to the Chair                               | sforman1@email.unc.edu |
| <b>Business Office</b>                                   |  |                        |
| <b>Business Office</b>                                   | Terri Gault, Director, Finance and Administration                      | terrigault@unc.edu     |
|  | Tina Lathia, Accounting Technician                                     | tina_lathia@unc.edu    |
|  | Stacie Jones, Accounting Technician                                    | stacie_jones@unc.edu   |
| <b>PhD Program</b>                                       |  |                        |
| <b>PhD Program</b>                                       | Marisa Domino, Program Director  | domino@unc.edu         |
| <b>Residential Master's Programs</b>                     |  |                        |
| <b>Residential Master's Programs</b>                     | Jeffrey Simms, Interim Program Director                                | jeffrey_simms@unc.edu  |
| <b>Executive Doctoral Program in Health Leadership</b>   |  |                        |
| <b>Executive Doctoral Program in Health Leadership</b>   | Pam Silberman, Program Director  | pam_silberman@unc.edu  |
| <b>Executive Master's Program &amp; CPDM<sup>1</sup></b> |  |                        |
| <b>Executive Master's Program &amp; CPDM<sup>1</sup></b> | Bill Gentry, Program Director  | wgentry@email.unc.edu  |
| <b>Undergraduate Program</b>                             |  |                        |
| <b>Undergraduate Program</b>                             | Melanie Studer, Program Director                                       | Melanie_Studer@unc.edu |
| <b>Student Support</b>                                   |  |                        |
| <b>Student Support</b>                                   | Jeffrey Simms, Director of Professional Development & Alumni Relations | jeffrey_simms@unc.edu  |
|  | Valerie Hooker, Academic Program Support Coordinator                   | vhooker@email.unc.edu  |
|  | Adia Ware, Interim Academic Coordinator                                | aware@unc.edu          |
|  | Cathy Padgett, Career Services Coordinator                             | cathy_padgett@unc.edu  |
|  | Kim Sieler, Academic Coordinator                                       | krsieler@email.unc.edu |
|  | Jackie Siler, Academic Program Support Coordinator                     | jsiler@email.unc.edu   |
| <b>Systems Specialists</b>                               |  |                        |
| <b>Systems Specialists</b>                               | Paul Barrett, Systems Specialist                                       | pbarrett@email.unc.edu |

<sup>1</sup> Community Preparedness & Disaster Management Program

**HPM FACULTY AND STAFF**  
<http://sph.unc.edu/hpm/hpm-faculty-and-staff/>



## HPM Student Support Staff

120 Rosenau Hall Office  
Hours 7:30am – 5:00pm

### Staff

Kim Sieler  
Academic Coordinator  
(919) 966-7364  
[KRSieler@email.unc.edu](mailto:KRSieler@email.unc.edu)

Cathy Padgett  
Career Services Coordinator  
(919) 966-7390  
[Cathy\\_padgett@unc.edu](mailto:Cathy_padgett@unc.edu)

The Student Support Office is an excellent source of important information at all points in your academic career. This office provides information on admission, curriculum requirements, and graduation. If you need an answer fast, can't find your advisor, or no one else seems to know the answer, your best bet is to look here. Office hours are 7:30 am – 5:00 pm.

### Services

**Communication:** The Student Support Office communicates important information to all students via email, using the listserv. It is your responsibility to sign up for the Master's Program listserv. Contact the Student Support Office for listserv instructions.

**Registration:** All incoming students are automatically registered for their first semester by the HPM Academic Coordinator. **Continuing students register for subsequent semesters online via MYUNC.** General registration instructions and an online directory of classes are available at <https://registrar.unc.edu/registration>. NOTE: If you register on or after the first day of class, you will be charged a \$20.00 late fee.

**Tuition and Fees:** <http://cashier.unc.edu/tuition-fees/>

**UNC One Card:** The UNC One Card is the official ID card for students, faculty, and staff. Your One Card is a multipurpose identification and online account card that provides access to certain facilities, buildings and events, and also serves as your UNC Library card. <https://onecard.unc.edu/>

**Mailboxes:** Student mailboxes are located in the hall outside suites 1102 and 1107 in McGavran-Greenberg Hall. Remember to check your mailbox regularly.

**The Graduate School:** The HPM Student Support Office and the Graduate School work closely together to guide graduate students as they work towards completion of their degree. We encourage all students to refer to the *Graduate School Handbook* (<https://handbook.unc.edu>). Our office is governed by Graduate School policies. If you have questions about such matters as transferring credits, taking courses at another university, changing your degree, and graduation requirements, please refer to the *Graduate School Handbook* <http://handbook.unc.edu> and feel free to contact our HPM Student Support Office.

## MSPH Degree Requirements

Degree requirements incorporate School, Department, and MSPH degree requirements.

All students must be registered as a full-time student in residence for at least two semesters.

A student receiving a grade of "F" in any course or a receiving nine (9) hours of "L" (low pass) becomes ineligible to continue. An ineligible student must apply for, and receive, reinstatement before continuing. Dual degree students who receive a grade of "F" in **either program**, or nine (9) hours of "L" in either program or in both programs combined (i.e., a portion of the nine (9) hours of "L" in one program and the rest in the other) are deemed academically ineligible in **both programs, and must petition for reinstatement in both programs.**

Application for Graduation must be submitted no later than the deadline established by the Graduate School for that semester in which the student expects to graduate. The Application for Graduation can be found on the Graduate School website.

<https://registrar.unc.edu/academic-services/graduation/applying-for-graduation/>

All requirements for the degree must be met within five years from the date of matriculation.

Additional information may be obtained from the Student Support Office and in the **Graduate School Handbook.**

<https://gradschool.unc.edu/handbook/>

**Comprehensive Examination and Master's Paper:** The Graduate School requires that graduate students successfully complete a comprehensive examination and master's paper, or approved alternative requirements. The Graduate School has approved the following substitutes for each of these requirements for the MSPH degree.

**Comprehensive Examination:** Successful writing and defense of a master's paper proposal is usually completed as part of HPM 789 during the fall semester of the student's second year in the program. The written proposal is presented orally to two faculty readers during fall semester or early in the spring semester. Approval of the master's paper proposal constitutes passing the comprehensive examination.

**Master's Paper:** Successful completion, approval and presentation of a master's paper meets this requirement. Two faculty readers must approve the paper. All MSPH students are required to conduct a public presentation of their paper in April of the student's second year. In the final semester, MSPH students typically register for HPM 992 (Master's Paper) under their reader's course section.

**Electives:** Students are encouraged to take elective courses relevant to their interests. Electives may be taken in any school or department on campus, or, if the student wishes, through Duke University or any campus of the University of North Carolina system approved by the Graduate School (NC State University, UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Charlotte, North Carolina Central University). Note that electives must be graduate-level courses, numbered 400 or higher. HPM courses can be found on the below website. <https://sph.unc.edu/hpm/hpm-course-list/>

**Practicum:** MSPH students must successfully complete a 12-week practicum (480 hours) under the joint supervision of the faculty advisor and an approved field preceptor.

The overall objective of the practicum is to provide a planned and supervised learning experience through first-hand observation and operational responsibilities in a health services agency. Specific objectives for all student practicum placements are as follows:

- To have learning experiences that are not normally available in the classroom, but which are essential for sound training in Health Policy and Management;
- To test the validity and applicability of classroom learning to practice, and thus to develop the student's own professional point of view;
- To develop and refine operational skills, to gain relevant experience, and to enhance professional self-confidence as health administrators or policy analysts;
- To make a service contribution during the course of the practicum that will not only be useful to the organization, but also sharpen the student's administrative and/or analytical skills.

Beginning in late September, various healthcare professionals and organization representatives visit the department to meet with students and conduct interviews for both practicum positions (first-year students) and jobs (second-year students). This provides an opportunity for students to learn about these organizations to assist in their practicum search and to lay the groundwork for possible future employment. The Career Services Office coordinates these visits and organizes interviews.

- MSPH students register for two (2) credit hours for HPM 793 during Summer Session I.
- A practicum fee of \$450.00 is paid by all students, in addition to tuition and university fees.

## Master's of Science in Public Health Course Requirements 2020-2021

The Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH) requires a total of 60 credits.

| <b>School of Public Health Core</b> |   |               |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| <b>Course Number</b>                | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Credit</b> |
| SPHG 711                            | Analysis  | 2.0           |
| SPHG 712                            | Methods and Measures  | 2.0           |
| SPHG 713                            | Understanding Public Health Issues                              | 2.0           |
| SPHG 721                            | Conceptualizing Public Health Issues                            | 2.0           |
| SPHG 722                            | Implement Public Health Solutions                               | 4.0           |
| <b>Department Core</b>              |   |               |
| HPM 601                             | Issues in Health Care   | 1.0           |
| <b>HPM 701</b>                      | <b>*Professional Training I (\$550 fee)</b>                     | <b>n/a</b>    |
| <b>HPM 702</b>                      | <b>*Professional Training II (\$500 fee)</b>                    | <b>n/a</b>    |
| <b>HPM 703</b>                      | <b>*Professional Training III (\$500 fee)</b>                   | <b>n/a</b>    |
| HPM 715                             | Health Economics for Policy and Administration                  | 3.0           |
| HPM 754                             | Health Care in the United States: Structure and                 | 3.0           |
| HPM 770                             | Operations Research for Healthcare Systems                      | 3.0           |
| HPM 793                             | Practicum (\$450 fee)   | 2.0           |
| <b>Degree Core</b>                  |   |               |
| HPM 772                             | Methods for Health Policy Analysis and<br>Technology Assessment | 3.0           |
| HPM 789                             | Master's Paper Development                                      | 2.0           |
| HPM 880                             | Math/Stata Module   | 3.0           |
| HPM 881                             | Linear Regression Models  | 3.0           |
| HPM 884                             | Health Services Research  | 3.0           |
| HPM 992                             | Master's Paper  | 3.0           |
| <b>Elective Courses</b>             |   | <b>19.0</b>   |

MSPH students are required to complete a 12-week practicum (HPM 793) during the summer between year 1 and year 2. The department requires payment of student fees to subsidize activities not supported by the university budget. For MSPH students, a practicum fee of \$450 is assessed, as well as professional training fees of \$550 for HPM 701 and \$500 each for two of the three semesters (HPM 702, and 703).



**Sample Plan of Study**  
for the **MSPH** degree in the  
**Department of Health Policy and Management**  
for students matriculating  
in Fall 2020

| Course #                            | Course name  | Credits Taken | Planned Term | Degree Requirements |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| <a href="#">SPHG 711</a>            | <a href="#">Analysis</a>   | 2             | Fall 1       | SPH Core            |
| <a href="#">SPHG 713</a>            | <a href="#">Understanding Public Health Issues</a>                           | 2             | Fall 1       | SPH Core            |
| <a href="#">HPM 601</a>             | <a href="#">Issues in Health Care</a>  | 1             | Fall 1       | Dept Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 701<sup>1</sup></a> | <a href="#">Professional Training I</a>                                      | 1             | Fall 1       | Dept Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 754</a>             | <a href="#">Health Care in the US Structure and Policy</a>                   | 3             | Fall 1       | Dept Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 880</a>             | <a href="#">Math/Stata Module</a>  | 3             | Fall 1       | MSPH Core           |
|                                     | <a href="#">Elective Graduate-level course</a>                               | 0.5-3         | Fall 1       | Elective            |
|                                     | <a href="#">Elective Graduate-level course</a>                               | 0.5-3         | Fall 1       | Elective            |
|                                     | Semester Subtotal  | 15            |              |                     |
| <a href="#">SPHG 721</a>            | <a href="#">Conceptualizing Public Health Solutions</a>                      | 2             | Spring 1     | SPH Core            |
| <a href="#">SPHG 722</a>            | <a href="#">Implementing Public Health Solutions</a>                         | 4             | Spring 1     | SPH Core            |
| <a href="#">HPM 770</a>             | <a href="#">Introduction to Operations Research for Healthcare Systems</a>   | 3             | Spring 1     | Dept Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 881</a>             | <a href="#">Linear Regression Models</a>                                     | 3             | Spring 1     | MSPH Core           |
|                                     | <a href="#">Elective Graduate-level course</a>                               | 0.5-3         | Spring 1     | Elective            |
|                                     | Semester Subtotal  | 15            |              |                     |
| <a href="#">HPM 702<sup>1</sup></a> | <a href="#">Professional Training II</a>                                     | 1             | Fall 2       | Dept Core           |
| <a href="#">SPHG 712</a>            | <a href="#">Methods and Measures</a>   | 2             | Fall 2       | SPH Core            |
| <a href="#">HPM 715</a>             | <a href="#">Health Economics for Policy and Administration</a>               | 3             | Fall 2       | Dept Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 772<sup>3</sup></a> | <a href="#">Methods for Health Policy Analysis and Technology Assessment</a> | 3             | Fall 2       | MSPH Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 789</a>             | <a href="#">Master's Paper Development</a>                                   | 2             | Fall 2       | MSPH Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 884<sup>4</sup></a> | <a href="#">Health Services Research</a>                                     | 3             | Fall 2       | MSPH Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 793<sup>2</sup></a> | <a href="#">Health Policy and Management Internship</a>                      | 2             | Fall 2       | Practicum           |
|                                     | Semeter Subtotal   | 15            |              |                     |
| <a href="#">HPM 703<sup>1</sup></a> | <a href="#">Professional Training III</a>                                    | 1             | Spring 2     | Dept Core           |
| <a href="#">HPM 992</a>             | <a href="#">Master's Paper</a>   | 3             | Spring 2     | MSPH Core           |
|                                     | <a href="#">Elective Graduate-level course</a>                               | 0.5-3         | Spring 2     | Elective            |
|                                     | <a href="#">Elective Graduate-level course</a>                               | 0.5-3         | Spring 2     | Elective            |
|                                     | <a href="#">Elective Graduate-level course</a>                               | 0.5-3         | Spring 2     | Elective            |
|                                     | <a href="#">Elective Graduate-level course</a>                               | 0.5-3         | Spring 2     | Elective            |
|                                     | Semester Subtotal  | 15            |              |                     |
|                                     | <b>MSPH Degree Total</b>   | <b>60</b>     |              |                     |

<sup>1</sup> Professional Training Fees: HPM 701 (\$550), HPM 702 & 703 (\$500 each) Credit hours do not count towards 60 needed to graduate

<sup>2</sup> Practicum Fee: \$450

<sup>3</sup> Prerequisite: HPM 770 Introduction to Operations Research for Healthcare Systems

<sup>4</sup> Alternative program evaluation courses can be taken. Example: HBEH 752

## MSPH Program Worksheet (2020—2021)

<https://sph.unc.edu/hpm/hpm-program-guidelines/>

| Course Number  | Title   | Semester completed | Credits    | Notes (exemptions, substitutes) |
|--|---|--------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>SPH Core</b>  |   |                    |            |                                 |
| SPHG 711   | Analysis  |                    | 2          |                                 |
| SPHG 712   | Methods and Measures  |                    | 2          |                                 |
| SPHG 713   | Understanding Public Health Issues                              |                    | 2          |                                 |
| SPHG 721   | Conceptualizing Public Health Solutions                         |                    | 2          |                                 |
| SPHG 722   | Implementing Public Health Solutions                            |                    | 4          |                                 |
| <b>HPM Core</b>  |   |                    |            |                                 |
| HPM 601  | Issues in Health Care   |                    | 1          |                                 |
| HPM 715  | Health Economics for Policy and Administration                  |                    | 3          |                                 |
| HPM 754  | Health Care in the United States: Structure and                 |                    | 3          |                                 |
| HPM 770  | Operations Research for Healthcare Systems                      |                    | 3          |                                 |
| HPM 793  | <b>*Practicum (\$450 fee)</b>                                   |                    | <b>2</b>   |                                 |
| <b>HPM 701</b>   | <b>*Professional Training I (\$550 fee)</b>                     |                    | <b>n/a</b> |                                 |
| <b>HPM 702</b>   | <b>*Professional Training II (\$500 fee)</b>                    |                    | <b>n/a</b> |                                 |
| <b>HPM 703</b>   | <b>*Professional Training III (\$500 fee)</b>                   |                    | <b>n/a</b> |                                 |
| <b>MSPH Core</b>   |   |                    |            |                                 |
| HPM 772  | Methods for Health Policy Analysis and<br>Technology Assessment |                    | 3          |                                 |
| HPM 789  | Master's Paper Development                                      |                    | 2          |                                 |
| HPM 880  | Math/Stata Module   |                    | 3          |                                 |
| HPM 881  | Linear Regression Models  |                    | 3          |                                 |
| HPM 884  | Health Services Research  |                    | 3          |                                 |
| HPM 992  | Master's Paper  |                    | 3          |                                 |
| <b>Elective Courses</b>                                  |   |                    |            |                                 |
|  |   |                    |            |                                 |
|  |   |                    |            |                                 |
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| <b>Total Credit Hours for Graduation</b>                 |   |                    | <b>60</b>  |                                 |
| <b>*Additional fees (in addition to University Fees)</b> |   |                    |            |                                 |

## Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to many of these questions may also be found in the *Graduate School Handbook* (<http://gradschool.unc.edu/handbook/>).

### **How many credits can I register for each semester?**

Graduate students are permitted to register for no more than 16 hours in any semester. Overload requests are considered on an exceptional basis and must be approved by your advisor, the Interim Master's Program Director, Jeffrey Simms, and the Academic Coordinator. Registration for a minimum of nine (9) hours is required to maintain status as a full-time student.

### **How soon do I have to decide which degree I want?**

During the application process, students indicate the degree program best suited to their career goals. However, we recognize that interests occasionally shift. If you are considering a change, you should discuss this with your advisor and the Interim Program Director. It is best to settle on a degree program within two weeks of the start of classes.

### **What certificate programs are available?**

Several certificate programs are offered and can be pursued to complement degrees at the School of Public Health. These are interdisciplinary and therefore available to all students, regardless of department. Oftentimes, courses taken for the certificates will fulfill elective course requirements. Check with your advisor when selecting courses. Visit this website [http://sph.unc.edu/gps/?rasp\\_st\\_level\\_tax\[\]=certificate](http://sph.unc.edu/gps/?rasp_st_level_tax[]=certificate) for more information.

### **Can I take courses for credit at other universities?**

Under certain conditions, students registered for at least three (3) credit hours on this campus may take a maximum of two (2) graduate-level courses, during a fall or spring term, or a maximum of one (1) graduate-level course during a summer term, at any of the following universities: UNC-Greensboro, Duke University, NC State University, UNC-Charlotte, and North Carolina Central University.

A student must complete a "Request for Inter-Institutional Registration" form. This is available from the University Registrar's Office. Prior to enrolling in a course on another campus, it is important to discuss this with your faculty advisor, and to receive his or her approval.

[http://registrar.unc.edu/files/2012/03/CCM1\\_042585.pdf](http://registrar.unc.edu/files/2012/03/CCM1_042585.pdf)

### **Can credits/grades transfer from other institutions?**

With the approval of the Interim Program Director and the Graduate School, graduate students may transfer in up to 20 percent of the credits required for the degree. Such work must represent graduate-level coursework relevant to the degree being sought, with course content and level of instruction resulting in student competencies at least equivalent to those of students enrolled in the current program. Grades earned on transferred work must be equivalent to B or better (B- is not equivalent to B). Transferred work will not be included in residence credit calculation. Requests for coursework to be transferred for credit toward a graduate degree are reviewed by the Graduate School upon recommendation by the student's department.

### **What grades are assigned for graduate courses?**

The University uses a non-traditional grading scheme of H, P, L, and F for all graduate programs/students. This scheme does not recognize "+" or "-", and differs significantly from grades awarded by UNC-CH professional programs (Law, Medicine, Dentistry). Consequently, an official University transcript will reflect only the following graduate grades for courses taken within your School of Public Health graduate program:

|    |  |
|----|--|
| H  | High Pass  |
| P  | Pass   |
| L  | Low Pass   |
| F  | Fail   |
| F* | Fail, administratively assigned  |
| S  | Satisfactory progress on research courses, field training, theses, and master's paper; must be followed by a permanent grade before graduation   |
| IN | Work incomplete (automatically becomes an F* within 12 months)   |
| AB | Absent from final examination (automatically becomes an F* within 12 months)   |
| PS | Pass/Fail, All required graduate courses, including those taken on this campus or elsewhere (via inter-institutional registration, Study Abroad, etc.), may not be taken on a pass/fail basis. Students who wish to take a non-graduate level course pass/fail should contact The Graduate School. |

### Grade Appeals

The department adheres to the Graduate School grade appeals process, which is detailed in *The Graduate School Handbook* (<https://handbook.unc.edu/grading.html>).

### Can I calculate a grade point average?

Due to the non-traditional graduate grading scheme, which does not assign numerical values to H, P, and L grades, no official grade point average is calculated for graduate students. However, the department does assign point values to grades solely for the purpose of determining an "internal" grade point average and class ranking for nominations to Delta Omega, the Public Health Honorary Society. These grade point averages and class rankings are for internal use only and are *not* released to other organizations.

### What grade do I need to maintain academic eligibility?

In order to pass a course, a student must, at minimum, receive a low pass (L) grade; no grade falling below the standard represented by the grade of L is counted for graduate credit. A student, who receives a grade of F, or nine (9) or more semester hours of L, is ineligible to continue graduate study. Dual degree students who receive a grade of "F" in **either program**, or nine (9) hours of "L" in either program or in both programs combined (i.e., some of the nine hours of "L" in one program and the rest in the other) are deemed academically ineligible in **both programs, and must petition for reinstatement in both programs.**

After each semester, the instructor furnishes the Program Director and the Academic Coordinator with a list of students who have received one or more L's or F's in the program.

Students made ineligible under the conditions stated above may apply for reinstatement upon petition to the Graduate School. Forms are available at: <http://gradschool.unc.edu/pdf/wrenstmt.pdf>. After returning to the Academic Coordinator, the form will be submitted to the reinstatement committee chair, who must forward the petition to the Graduate School, together with a statement endorsing or declining to endorse the student's request. After reinstatement, any additional grade below "P" will result in the student becoming ineligible once again.

### HPM Reinstatement Procedure for Graduate Students Reinstatement

When a Health Policy and Management graduate student is made academically ineligible, s/he may petition the department for reinstatement by submitting the "Request for Reinstatement to Graduate School Form" to the department chair. The chair convenes the department's Student Appeals Committee to review the student's request.

The Student Appeals Committee is chaired by a full professor and includes one of the department's associate chairs and an additional member of the faculty. In situations where any of these individuals would have a conflict of interest, the committee chair will consult with the department chair to assign another faculty member(s) to the committee.



The committee gathers all relevant information from the instructor(s) who assigned the grade(s) that made the student ineligible, the student, and others.

The committee makes a recommendation to the chair to endorse or decline to endorse the student's request for reinstatement, but the final decision is made by the chair and is forwarded to the Graduate School. Final approval rests with the Graduate School.

**Do withdrawals show up on my transcript?**

In order to withdraw from a class (i.e., drop a class) and NOT have the withdrawal indicated on your transcript, you must drop the class prior to the "last day for drops" as established by the Office of University Registrar (<https://registrar.unc.edu/academic-calendar/>). The date is generally prior to the last two weeks of a semester. Withdrawals prior to the deadline do not appear on the transcript. If you withdraw from a class after the drop date, a W will be displayed on your transcript.

NOTE: Single course withdrawal (drop) is not to be confused with withdrawing from the University, which is required when ALL classes are to be dropped.

## Financial Aid

Financial aid is available through the University, the department, and various organizations nationwide. University support includes awards from the Graduate School, based on nominations by the department. There is NO application process for these awards, which are available only to entering students. For information about federal and other loan programs, contact the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, 300 Vance Hall, 962-8396, <http://studentaid.unc.edu/>.

### Graduate Assistantships

The department's primary mechanism for providing financial aid to master's students is the graduate research or teaching assistantship. These assistantships are limited service awards made for the performance of specific research or teaching tasks.

There are limited teaching assistant (TA) positions available to returning masters students through HPM. Decisions about TA assignments are based on faculty preferences, students' interest, suitability for a particular course, and HPM budgetary considerations. Most appointments are announced after the department budget is finalized and approved, which can range in time from mid-summer to the opening of the fall semester. Additional awards may continue to be made during the year, depending on department needs and the availability of funds.

Masters students may also be eligible to serve as research assistants (RAs) for HPM faculty. Decisions about RA positions are made by individual faculty as these positions are typically funded through external research grants, not the department. Students are also strongly encouraged to explore TA and RA positions in other departments within Gillings and the broader University.

Assistantships may include tuition and health insurance as well as a stipend.

## Key University and Department Policies

### Valuing, Recognizing, and Encouraging Diversity

Promoting and valuing diversity in the classroom enriches learning and broadens everyone's perspectives.

Inclusion and tolerance can lead to respect for others and their opinions and is critical to maximizing the learning that we expect in this program. This may challenge our own closely held ideas and personal comfort zones. The results, however, create a sense of community and promote excellence in the learning environment. Diversity includes consideration of (1) the variety of life experiences others have had, and (2) factors related to "diversity of presence," including, *among others*, age, economic circumstances, ethnic identification, disability, gender, geographic origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, social position. ***This class will follow principles of inclusion, respect, tolerance, and acceptance that support the values of diversity.***

### Disability Accommodation

UNC-CH supports all reasonable accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability, or a pregnancy complication resulting in difficulties with accessing learning opportunities. All accommodations are coordinated through the UNC Office of Accessibility Resources & Services (ARS), <http://accessibility.unc.edu>; phone 919-962-8300, email [accessibility@unc.edu](mailto:accessibility@unc.edu). Students must document/register their need for accommodations with ARS before any accommodations can be implemented.

### Harassment and discrimination Policy

<https://unc.policystat.com/policy/4514917/latest/>

### Honor Code

(<http://instrument.unc.edu/>)

This Instrument serves as the university's definitive statement on student disciplinary governance. It delineates the Honor Code and includes all structures and procedures of the UNC-Chapel Hill Honor System.

### Guidelines for HPM Student Concerns and Complaints

The Department of Health Policy and Management (HPM) is governed by the policies and procedures established by the University. Specific University policies are listed at the following webpage: <http://policies.unc.edu/>

In addition to compliance with University policies, HPM follows guidelines from the Gillings School of Global Public Health (GSGPH) when addressing student concerns. These can be found at <http://sph.unc.edu/files/2014/04/Addressing-Student-Concerns1.pdf>

Specifically, students in HPM should follow these steps when seeking to address a specific concern or to file a formal complaint.

### Process

1. Contact and discuss with the course instructor or the individual with whom you have a concern. If the issue is unresolved, proceed to Step 2.
2. Discuss your concern with the Program Director in which you are enrolled. If the issue continues to be unresolved, proceed to Step 3.
3. Discuss your concern with the Department Chair. Depending upon the nature of the issue, at this point the Chair may convene a committee of faculty members to review the concern, interview the involved parties, and determine an appropriate course of action.
4. At any point in the process, it may be determined that a University policy takes precedence and will be followed.

5. As stated in the GSGPH guidelines, if you are not comfortable interacting with the Instructor, Program Director, or Department Chair, at any time in the process, the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Charletta Sims Evans will meet with you. [sph-osa@unc.edu](mailto:sph-osa@unc.edu) 919-966-2499
6. If all preceding steps do not result in satisfactory resolution, then continue to follow the GSGPH guidelines, step 5. Appeal to the UNC Graduate School is also an option.

### ***Timeliness***

The timeliness in addressing any concern will initially be determined by the student who brings forth the concern. Factors influencing timeliness will be the nature of the issue, degree of seriousness of the issue and/or the urgency of the issue, once brought to the attention of the Instructor, Program Director, Department Chair, or Assistant Dean. If a concern has programmatic implications, the issue will also be reviewed by the appropriate committee. In any case, all effort will be made to engage the student and to resolve quickly, equitably and satisfactorily the issue or concern.

### ***Confidentiality***

Concerns or issues are handled in a confidential manner in compliance with University FERPA guidelines (<http://registrar.unc.edu/academic-services/uncferpa/ferpa-documents/>) and/or HIPAA regulations, (<http://research.unc.edu/offices/research-compliance-program/privacy/hipaa/hipaa-basics/>).

The “Student Grievance Policy and Procedures, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill” is found at <https://unc.policystat.com/policy/4469271/latest/>