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# GILLINGS SCHOOL OF GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

**2023-2024**

## **Undergraduate Handbook**

*“The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, masters, education specialist, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-479-4500 for questions about the accreditation of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.”*

*The Gillings School is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). CEPH is an independent agency, recognized by the US Department of Education to accredit schools and programs of public health.*

## Table of Contents

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<b>Bachelor of Science in Public Health</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>The Gillings BSPH Degree</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>THE BSPH Core</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>Major Courses</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Culminating Experience</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>BSPH Admissions Requirements</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Requirements Common to All Undergraduate Majors</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Policies, Procedures, and Forms</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Academic Coordinator/Faculty Mentor</b>	<b>7-8</b>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Biostatistics</b>	
Program Mission / Overview	
Admission Requirements	
Program Competencies	
Requirements / Curriculum	
Culminating Experience/Capstone	
Honors Options	
Dual BSPH/MS Program	<b>9</b>
Resources and Support	
<b>Environmental Science and Engineering</b>	<b>9</b>
Program Mission / Overview	<b>10</b>
Admission Requirements & How to Apply	<b>10-11</b>
Concentrations & Competencies	<b>11-13</b>
Requirements / Curriculum	
Culminating Experience / Capstone	<b>13-15</b>
Honors Options	<b>15-16</b>
Additional Important Information	<b>16-19</b>
<b>Health Policy and Management</b>	<b>19</b>
Program Mission / Overview	
Admission Requirements	
Program Competencies	
Requirements / Curriculum	
Sample Plan	
Culminating Experience / Capstone	
Honors Options	
Internship	
Resources and Support	<b>20-21</b>
<b>Nutrition</b>	<b>21</b>
Program Mission/ Overview	<b>22</b>
Admission Requirements	
Concentration Competencies	

Curriculum	
Research Requirements/ Culminating Experience / Capstone Honors Options	<b>22-28</b>
Plan Tracks	<b>28-31</b>
Resources and Support	<b>32</b>
<b>General University Academic Information and Policies</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Academic Calendar</b>	
<b>Course Credit Guidelines</b>	
Grading Basis	
Online Courses	
Pass/ Fail Courses Auditing Courses	
Exemptions and Substitutions	
Tarheel Tracker	
<b>Registration</b>	<b>33-34</b>
Full-Time Registration	
Credit/ Course Load	
Adding/ Dropping	
Interinstitutional	
Underloads/ Overloads	<b>34-35</b>
Withdrawal	
Cancelation	
Post-semester Add/ Drop	
<b>Grading</b>	<b>36</b>
Grading Policy	
Grade Changes and Appeals	
<b>Exams</b>	
UNC Exam Schedule	
Exam Excuse Policy	
Exam Excuse Form	
<b>Adding/ Changing a Second Major/ Minor</b>	<b>37</b>
Adding a Second Major	
Canceling a Second Major	
Adding a Minor	
Canceling a Minor	
<b>Academic Ineligibility</b>	
<b>Non-payment of Tuition and Fees</b>	
<b>Honors Code</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Failure to Submit Campus Health Requirements</b>	
<b>Study Abroad</b>	
<b>Petition for additional Semester</b>	
<b>Graduation Policies</b>	<b>39</b>
Tarheel Tracker	
Applying to Graduate	
Graduation	
Honors/ Highest Honors	

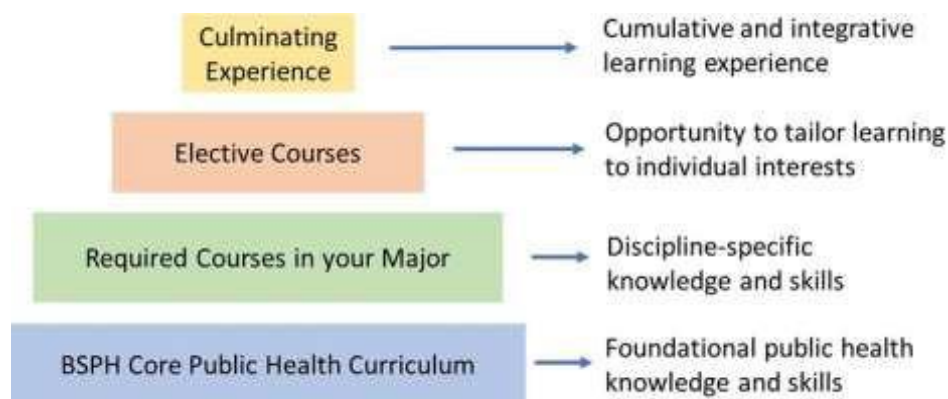
# Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH)

## Degree Descriptions

The undergraduate degree offered is the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH). Four majors are available to undergraduate students – Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Health Policy and Management, and Nutrition. Each of these combines features of a broad-based education with concentrated study in a specific public health discipline. The programs prepare individuals for pre-professional positions in health-related fields and provide a firm base for graduate study. Students may pursue two majors in the School. Students are subject to the requirements in place when they are admitted to the Gillings School of Global Public Health as well as to any additional requirements or policies instituted by the School.

## The Gillings BSPH Degree

We are committed to preparing all Gillings BSPH students with the knowledge and skills to enter the public health workforce. The Gillings BSPH curriculum consists of the following components:



## The BSPH Core

Students in all four Gillings undergraduate majors complete the BSPH core public health curriculum, “the BSPH core”. The BSPH core is designed to:

- Help students develop foundational public health knowledge and skills through integrated courses that reflect the interdisciplinary nature of public health practice.
- Introduce students to the values and underlying principles that inform public health practice.
- Provide students with an opportunity to collaborate across disciplines to examine the root causes of public health problems and develop interventions to address them.

The BSPH core includes the following courses:

<b>SPHG 351: Foundations of Public Health</b> 3 credits <i>Junior Fall</i>	<b>SPHG 352: Public Health Systems &amp; Solutions</b> 4 credits <i>Junior Spring</i>	<b>EPID 600: Principles of Epidemiology</b> 3 credits <i>Junior Fall or Spring</i>	<b>BIOS 600: Principles of Statistical Inference*</b> 3 credits <i>Any term</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to public health</li><li>• Learn how to identify, describe and communicate public health problems</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to health systems in the U.S. and around the world</li><li>• Learn how to develop, implement and evaluate solutions to public health problems</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to epidemiology, the basic science of public health</li><li>• Learn how to use epidemiology to better understand, characterize, and promote health at a population level</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to probability and statistical inference</li><li>• Learn how to collect, summarize, analyze and present health data</li></ul> <p><small>* BIOS majors take BIOS 500H; HPM majors may take BIOS 600 or ECON 400</small></p>

Through the BSPH core courses and BIOL 101 Principles of Biology (a prerequisite course required of all Gillings BSPH students), students receive instruction in the following foundational public health domains and demonstrate the following foundational public health competencies which comply with the expectations of the [CEPH 2021 Criteria](#):

Foundational Public Health Domains:

- The concepts and applications of basic statistics
- The foundations of biological and life sciences
- The history and philosophy of public health as well as its core values, concepts, and functions across the globe and in society
- The basic concepts, methods, and tools of public health data collection, use, and analysis and why evidence-based approaches are an essential part of public health practice
- The concepts of population health, and the basic processes, approaches and interventions that identify and address the major health-related needs and concerns of populations
- The underlying science of human health and disease, including opportunities for promoting and protecting health across the life course
- The socioeconomic, behavioral, biological, environmental, and other factors that impact human health and contribute to health disparities
- The fundamental concepts and features of project implementation, including planning, assessment, and evaluation
- The fundamental characteristics and organizational structures of the U.S. health system as well as the differences between systems in other countries
- The basic concepts of legal, ethical, economic, and regulatory dimensions of health care and public health policy and the roles, influences, and responsibilities of the different agencies and branches of government
- The basic concepts of public health-specific communication, including technical and professional writing and the use of mass media and electronic technology

Foundational Public Health Competencies:

- Communicate public health information, in both oral and written forms, through a variety of media and to diverse audiences
- Locate, use, evaluate, and synthesize public health information
- Describe health inequities, identify their root causes at multiple levels of the social ecological framework, and discuss approaches to advancing health equity

## Major Courses

Required courses for each major provide students an opportunity to develop discipline-specific knowledge and skills and demonstrate discipline-specific competencies. The required courses for each major and the associated competencies are described below under each BSPH program.

## Culminating Experience

Students in all four Gillings undergraduate majors complete a culminating experience that requires students to integrate, synthesize and apply the knowledge and skills developed across their program and serves as a capstone for their educational experience. The table below describes the culminating experience requirement for each BSPH program:

BSPH Program	Culminating Experience
Biostatistics	<p>BSPH students majoring in Biostatistics are required take BIOS 664 AND BIOS 691.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In BIOS 664, students complete a real-world sampling project involving design, data collection, data analysis and presentation of results.</li> <li>• In BIOS 691, students travel to at least seven different locations, including pharmaceutical industries, CROs, non-profits and government agencies in the Research Triangle Park to observe and participate in presentations by employers of biostatisticians.</li> </ul>
Environmental Health Science	<p>BSPH students majoring in Environmental Health Science must complete ENVR 593, ENVR 695, ENVR 692H, OR ENVR 698.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In ENVR 593, students complete a mentored practicum experience and prepare a reflective report.</li> <li>• In ENVR 695, students carry out research with a faculty mentor.</li> <li>• In ENVR 692H, students plan and carry out an independent honors thesis research project under the guidance of a faculty mentor.</li> <li>• In ENVR 698, students participate in a capstone course that integrates knowledge learned in required Environmental Health Sciences courses. They work in teams to develop practical solutions to a public health related challenges and produce products that are individually graded.</li> </ul>
Health Policy and Management	<p>BSPH students majoring in Health Policy and Management must take HPM 697.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In HPM 697, students work in consulting teams with health organizations to solve real-world problems and present their solutions to the clients at the end of the semester.</li> </ul>
Nutrition	<p>BSPH students majoring in Nutrition must complete NUTR 295 or NUTR 692H.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In NUTR 295, students carry out research in their mentors' labs, including active participation and presentation at lab meetings.</li> <li>• In NUTR 692H, students plan and carry out an independent research project under the guidance of a faculty advisor.</li> </ul>

## **BSPH Admissions Requirements**

Students who wish to obtain the BSPH degree typically spend two years in the General College of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (or in an equivalent core program of academic study elsewhere) and two subsequent years under the administration of the Gillings School of Global Public Health. Enrollment in the BSPH degree programs is limited. Typically, a student is selected in the latter half of the sophomore year and admitted on a competitive basis. The minimum recommended grade-point average for admission to programs in Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Health Policy and Management, and Nutrition is 3.0.

## **Requirements Common to All Undergraduate Majors in the Gillings School of Global Public Health**

The Gillings School of Global Public Health requires that students earn a C (not C-) or better in prerequisite, core public health and department-required courses.

At the end of the sophomore year, students are expected to have earned approximately 60 semester hours of credit (or more) including:

- Students entering UNC-CH Fall 2022 and later will follow the General Education curriculum IDEAS in action. More info here <https://ideasinaction.unc.edu/>
- Students entering UNC-CH Fall 2021 and earlier will follow the General Education curriculum Making Connections. More info here <https://philosophy.unc.edu/undergraduate/advising/gen-ed-requirements/> Students must complete all Foundations and Approaches requirements and at least five Connections requirements, including global issues, experiential education and U.S. diversity. Environmental health sciences majors are not required to have completed all Foundations, Approaches, and Connections courses by the end of their sophomore year so that they can complete more science and mathematics requirements in preparation for the major)

All students (regardless of year of entry) must complete BIOL 101/101L.

The junior/senior total of approximately 60 semester hours includes the BSPH CORE: BIOS 600 (BIOS 500H for Biostatistics students, or ECON 400 for Health Policy and Management students), EPID 600, SPHG 351, SPHG 352.

## **Policies, Procedures, and Forms**

Most forms for Gillings students can be found on the Gillings [Forms page](#). Many forms for undergraduate are electronic, including the declaration/ removal of a minor, overloads, underloads, and exam excuses. Also included are any non-Gillings forms, and directions and procedures for each form.

Students should work with their Academic Coordinator to complete each form.

Departmental specific forms may be available from Departmental Academic Coordinators, Major-Specific Canvas sites, or Departmental Websites.

## **Academic Coordinator/Faculty Mentors**

### **Academic Coordinator**

Each undergraduate student has a department specific Academic Coordinator, who can provide an array of services and resources to prospective, admitted and current students. We aim to enhance student development by providing a supportive and safe environment in which you can achieve academic, social and professional success. Academic Coordinators can assist students in navigating academic policies,

accessing campus resources, and ensuring program requirements are fulfilled.

Find your Academic Coordinator [here](#).

#### Faculty Mentor

Faculty Mentors work in combination with the Academic Coordinators to provide students with a rich advising environment. Faculty Mentors are assigned to students within the first weeks of the Fall semester. In addition to being experts in the discipline of study, Faculty Mentors provide advice about course selection, academic goals, professional development, and career interests. Students may contact their Academic Coordinator for more information about their Faculty Mentor.

For more information on Faculty Mentors, please consult your [Academic Coordinator](#).

## Programs

### Biostatistics

#### [Program Mission/ Overview](#)

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health program is designed for students who have strong quantitative abilities and an interest in applications of math, statistics, and computer programming to health-related issues. The program prepares students for entry-level professional statistical and programming careers, and provides a firm academic base for subsequent studies in biostatistics, medicine and other fields.

More information here: [BSPH Biostatistics FAQs](#) and [AIM \(Biostatistics Academic Information Manual\)](#) and [Undergraduate Catalogue Information](#)

#### [Admissions Requirements](#)

The first two years of the four-year course of study are usually completed within UNC-CH's General College. Students typically apply to the BSPH Biostatistics Program in January of their sophomore (or second) year for fall admission in their junior (or third) year. Admission requirements include:

1. Completion of MATH 231, 232, and 233 before an admission decision can be made. Thus, MATH 233 must be completed by May of the sophomore (or second) year.
2. Completion of BIOL 101 and BIOL 101L and COMP 110 (or COMP 116) before entering the program in the fall of the junior (or third) year.
3. Completion of at least 60 credits and the majority of their General College requirements before entering the program in the fall.
4. A Minimum GPA of 3.2.

#### [Program Competencies](#)

#### [Requirements / Curriculum](#)

#### [Culminating Experience/Capstone](#)

#### [Honors in Biostatistics](#)



### Dual BSPH/MS Program

Undergraduate students with appropriate math and biostatistics backgrounds have the opportunity to pursue a dual bachelor's–graduate degree. This dual B.S.P.H.–M.S. program identifies a coherent course of study for students to complete some of the M.S. degree requirements in biostatistics while pursuing a B.S.P.H. degree with a major in biostatistics. More information is available on the BSPH Biostatistics Canvas site and [here](#)

### Resources and Support

Resource	Types of support	Contact Information
Melissa Hobgood, Academic Coordinator	General education requirements; course registration; drop/add forms; minor declaration forms; overload forms; graduation audits	mhobgood@bios.unc.edu
Jane Monaco, Program Director and Faculty Mentor	Program-related issues or concerns ; Internship, career, graduate education exploration; course advising;	<a href="mailto:jmonaco@bios.unc.edu">jmonaco@bios.unc.edu</a>
BSPH Program in BIOS Canvas Site	FAQs, Forms, Articles, Info about Senior Honor Project and Dual Degree.	<a href="https://edtech.unc.edu/service/canvas/">https://edtech.unc.edu/service/canvas/</a>
Biostatistics student listserv	Announcements; events; internship and job postings	Distributed as needed
Biostatistics Departmental Academic Information Manual	BSPH Sample Plan, information about biostatistics graduate programs at Gillings	<a href="https://sph.unc.edu/bios/current-students/">https://sph.unc.edu/bios/current-students/</a> > AIM 2023-24

## **Environmental Science and Engineering**

### Program Mission/ Overview

Environmental health is at the foundation of public health and focuses on understanding the relationships between people and their environment to protect human health, promote well-being, and foster healthy and safe communities. The undergraduate major in Environmental Health Sciences is designed to develop a comprehensive understanding of the environmental factors that impact human health; the physical, chemical, and biological processes that underlie the impact of human activity on the environment and human health; the methods used to assess the impact of human activity on the environment and human health; and science-based solutions for environmental problems.

The BSPH program gives students the opportunity to focus their studies on environmental chemistry, environmental health biology, or environmental physics by selecting a concentration. Recent graduates have joined graduate programs in environmental health, epidemiology, environmental science, microbiology, marine science, applied mathematics, and environmental engineering, as well as entered medical school. Students who pursued employment after completing the BSPH degree are working in environmental advocacy organizations, environmental consulting firms, industry, and governmental agencies. Some have started their own companies or non-profits.

Students go through the program in cohorts of about 30–40 students, creating a strong sense of community within the program and the Environmental Sciences and Engineering department. The program also offers a supportive and collaborative learning environment. Each student is matched with a faculty mentor and supported by an academic coordinator and dedicated career services coordinator within the school.

[Admission](#) into the program requires satisfactory completion of coursework in basic sciences and mathematics.

## Department Specific Admissions Policies & Requirements

For full details on admissions information for the BSPH in Environmental Health Sciences, see the [UNC Catalog](#) and visit our [degree page](#), which has important information for prospective students.

### Requirements for Admission into the BSPH in Environmental Health Sciences

- A 3.0 grade point average or higher for applicants (*Assured Enrollment students need a 3.2 grade point average or higher*)
- A grade of C (not C-) or better earned in (at least) one calculus course numbered [MATH 231](#) or above (we prefer [MATH 231](#), [MATH 232](#), [MATH 233](#))
- A grade of C (not C-) or better earned in one course from two of the following categories: biology, chemistry, computer programming, or physics (see the table below).

**NOTE:** A minimum of **TWO** out of the **THREE courses required for admission** must be completed **in residence at UNC-Chapel Hill**. Admissions requirements must be successfully completed before the student begins the major (i.e., by the end of Spring of Sophomore year)

### [Assured Enrollment](#)

Students accepted into the Assured Enrollment program must complete the required in-residence admission courses with a C or better and maintain an overall 3.2 GPA.

The Assured enrollment program conditionally admits high achieving first year students into the BSPH Environmental Health Sciences degree. Incoming first year students can apply to the assured enrollment program when they apply to UNC. Students accepted into the Assured Enrollment Program are officially admitted into the degree program in their junior year, after successfully completing the required prerequisite courses and maintaining an overall 3.2 GPA. Students enrolled in the program are also welcomed as members of the ESE community and invited to all departmental events. In addition, students are given access (email [esestudentservices@unc.edu](mailto:esestudentservices@unc.edu) if you have questions) to the following courses during their first two years at UNC: ENVR 089/ENVR 135, ENVR 630 and ENVR 205.

Our Assured Enrollment students are required to complete a survey sent in December of their first and second year at UNC. Students are asked to indicate their continued interest in being an ENHS BSPH degree seeking student. This survey is sent via email and posted on the ESE Undergraduate Canvas site.

### **Other application and admission details**

For information on the application process, admission decisions, and first-steps after admission please

visit our website [here](#).

### **Concentration Competencies**

The degree-specific competencies for the BSPH in Environmental Health Sciences (ENHS) define what students should know and be able to do upon completion of their degree program. They guide our curriculum planning and assessment processes.

1. Define major issues in environmental health, sciences and engineering. ENVR 230 (**Spring**)
2. Provide quantitative answers to complex environmental questions and describe the potential underlying uncertainties. ENVR 205 (**Fall**)
3. Describe linkages between sources of environmental contaminants, ambient concentrations, human exposures and possible solutions. ENVR 403 (**Spring**)
4. Describe the mechanistic basis for environmentally induced disease and methods for prevention. ENVR 430 (**Fall**)
5. Demonstrate written and oral communication skills in environmental health, sciences and engineering within a public health context. Culminating experience: ENVR 593, ENVR 695, ENVR 691H + ENVR 692H, or ENVR 698 (**Spring**).

### **Bachelor's to Master's**

Any student with sufficient STEM coursework at UNC Chapel Hill (BS or BSPH) is eligible to apply for a Master's degree (MS or MPH) at ESE. A BA student may apply for the Bachelor's-to-Master's BA/MPH with adequate completion of STEM courses. This allows UNC students to complete a Bachelor's and Master's degree in an accelerated time frame.

- A participating UNC student may take 12 credit hours toward the MS or MPH degree while pursuing a Carolina undergraduate degree and double count those credits toward the Carolina graduate degree program. The double counted work must be at the more advanced graduate level (at minimum, numbered 400 and above).
- Before applying for the MS, the student must have:
  - A research mentor: Interested students should identify a mentor as soon as possible, preferably by the fall of the junior year. This enables a student to begin research on the thesis project well before formally starting the master's
  - A STEM major from UNC-Chapel Hill (BS or BSPH)

Undergraduate students interested in the **MPH program**, are eligible to take the MPH core in their senior year if they **pre-apply in the junior year**.

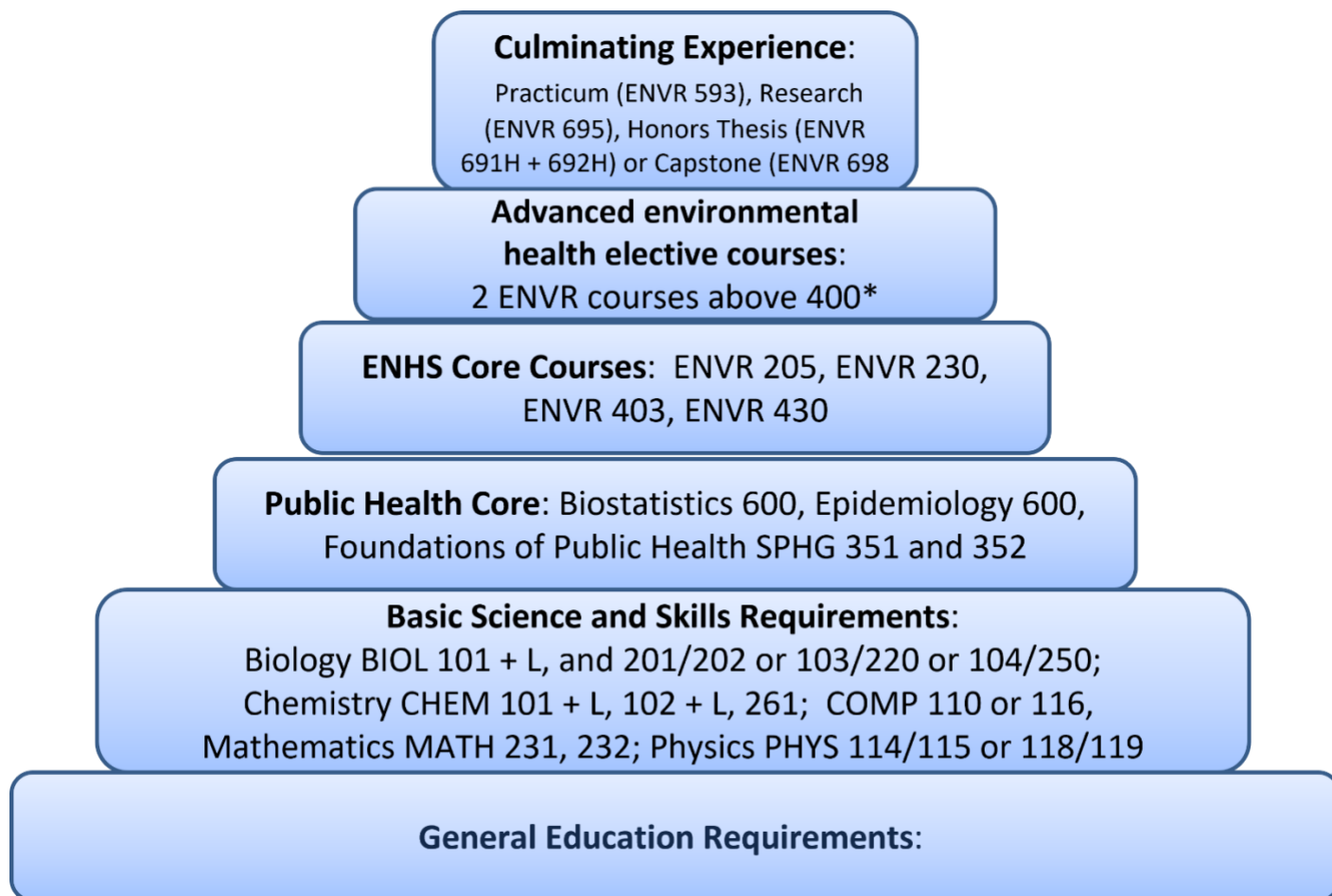
The overall graduate requirements for any Bachelor's-to-Master's degree are the same as for the regular Master's degree. Likewise, the degree-specific competencies are the same as those for the corresponding stand-alone master's degree. Full details about the Bachelor's-to-Master's option can be found in the ESE Master's Student Handbook and at the [website](#).

### **Department Specific Degree Completion Requirements ([Requirements / Curriculum](#))**

The degree requirements of the BSPH in Environmental Health Sciences build upon the University wide General Education Requirements, [Ideas in Action](#) (see below). In addition, the EHNS degree requires a

strong background in Basic Science and computer skills. The Gillings School of Public Health requires all undergraduate students to complete the Public Health Core to ensure strong foundational knowledge in the field of Public Health. Environmental Health Sciences majors also take four required environmental health courses and two advanced environmental health electives with a course number greater than 400. The degree is completed with a culminating experience (see below).

### Summary of ENHS Curriculum



\* Or two electives as specified for the Environmental Health Biology, Environmental Chemistry or Environmental Physics Concentrations.

\*\* Additional basic science requirements: For the Environmental Chemistry Concentration, MATH 233 and 383, CHEM 481, PHYS 118 and 119; For the Environmental Physics Concentration, MATH 383.

### BSPH Sample Plan Required

#### Course Sequences

- **ENVR 205** (offered Fall semester) should be taken as early as possible after completing MATH 231. More mathematically inclined students who have completed MATH 231 may choose to take it their first year at Carolina. Others should aim to take ENVR 205 Fall of their sophomore or junior year.
- **ENVR 430** (offered Fall semester) is usually taken during Senior year. All students must complete

CHEM 101/L, 102/L, CHEM 261 before taking ENVR430.

- **ENVR 230** Required in Spring of first year in BSPH program.
- **ENVR 403** (offered Spring semester) can be taken after completing CHEM 101/L, 102/L, MATH 231 and MATH 232, although CHEM 261 is also a useful preparation, if taken in advance or concurrently.
- **SPHG 351/352**, the SPH Core courses are taught in sequence (Fall: SPHG 351, Spring: SPHG 352) and are required to be taken in the first year in BSPH program.
- **EPID 600** should be taken fall or Spring of first year in BSPH program.
- **BIOS 600** can also be taken Fall or spring at any time.

### Culminating Experience / Capstone

The culminating experiences provide students an opportunity to synthesize, integrate and apply knowledge and skills learned in coursework and other learning experiences and require students to demonstrate attainment of program competencies. The culminating experience can take the form of an internship or practicum (ENVR 593, see below), research (ENVR 695, see below), an Honors Thesis (ENVR 691 H + ENVR 692H) or completion of Senior Capstone Course (ENVR 698, see below). A minimum of 3 credit- hours are required and are usually completed during the senior year.

### **Internship or Practicum (ENVR 593)**

The practicum provides students an opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills being acquired through their coursework and further develop and demonstrate attainment of program competencies. Students participate in mentored practical extracurricular activities that complement and enrich their studies in Environmental Health Sciences. Such activities typically include internships or volunteer work with an appropriate Agency (e.g., Public Health Departments, non-profits, NGOs) and projects with organizations such as Engineers without Borders. (The University Career Services Office offers resources to help locate internships.) The activity must be environmental health-related, conducive to personal and professional development, and overseen by an identified professional in the field who serves as a mentor rather than merely a supervisor. To earn academic credit, the student must submit an original report that both describes the activity and offers scholarly reflection on the significance and impact of that activity.

The length of the report will be commensurate with the credit-hours undertaken, which in turn reflect the level of effort put into the practicum activities. 3 credit-hours reflect approximately 120 hours of concentrated full-time effort, or the equivalent pro-rated over a longer period. Students are required to take 3 credits of practicum to meet the culminating experience requirement. The report is ~10 pages (single spaced, 12 pt serif font, 11pt sans serif, one-inch margins) for 3 credit hours.

### **Faculty Mentor**

A member of the Faculty of the Department of Environmental Sciences will serve as Practicum Faculty Mentor and will have primary responsibility for grading the practicum report. Register for ENVR 593 under this faculty member's section number.

### **Registering for ENVR 593 - Caution**

ENVR 593 is set up as a variable-credit course (credits commensurate with level of effort, see above) with different section numbers reflecting the different faculty members who will be advising you and grading your report. **Three credits are required to satisfy the Culminating Experience requirement.** Currently ConnectCarolina offers 1 credit and the lowest section number as the default. You will need to click around to get a drop-down menu with a choice of numbers of credit-hours and another menu with

a choice of section numbers, from which you should choose the appropriate ones. Also, after you have registered, go back and check that ConnectCarolina is showing the desired credits/section. If these are incorrect and it is before the end of drop-add period, you should be able to fix this yourself by dropping and reregistering. If it is after the drop/add period or you are having trouble, contact the ESE Academic Coordinator for help at [esestudentservices@unc.edu](mailto:esestudentservices@unc.edu).

### **Learning Contract**

Students must complete the Department Learning Contract, which can be found on the [ESE Undergraduate Students Canvas site](#) (a resource for current students), and [here](#). Students should complete and **[submit the completed Learning Contract to ESE Student Services via this portal](#)** **BEFORE the start of the semester they plan to register for the course.**

### **Senior Capstone Course (ENVR 698)**

ENVR 698: Senior Capstone in Global Public Health Engineering offers students an opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge and skills in addressing complex environmental and public health challenges on a national and global level. This integrative learning experience allows students to critically analyze and utilize their learning through a hands-on project. This course is taken in the spring of the senior year, and it focuses on combining engineering principles, environmental science, and public health strategies to develop practical solutions for improving health outcomes. Through project-based learning and interdisciplinary collaboration, students will tackle real-world environmental and public health issues, analyze, design, and propose practical and sustainable interventions.

This course incorporates various teaching methods, such as lectures, seminars, case studies, hands-on projects, group projects and individual research. It may cover a broad range of topics, including environmental epidemiology, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) assessment, air quality assessment, environmental justice, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and sustainable development strategies. Throughout the course, students will work closely with the Primary Instructor and professionals from the field of environmental science and public health to gain practical insights and guidance. The course aims to develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication skills among students.

### **Undergraduate Research (ENVR 695)**

Students spend a semester working under the guidance of a faculty mentor conducting Environmental health research. This mentored research experience includes directed readings and laboratory study. The project is developed in collaboration with the faculty mentor. Students are required to meet with the faculty member they want to work with to complete and submit an [Independent Learning Contract](#) for the enrolled semester that describes the relevance of the research to the field of environmental health, the work plan and deliverables. The contract will also outline how frequently you will meet and detail how you will be assessed.

Enrollment in ENVR 695 should be in the faculty mentor's section if they are a member of the ESE department. If they are outside of the department, enrollment in the Director of Undergraduate Studies' section is required. Contact the ESE Academic Coordinator if you are not sure who this is. ENVR 695 can be taken for variable credit, but **3 credits are required for the class to count as the capstone.**

### **Learning Contract**

Students must complete the Department Learning Contract, which can be found on the [ESE Undergraduate Students Canvas site](#) (a resource for current students), and [here](#). Students should complete and **[submit the completed Learning Contract to ESE Student Services via this portal](#)** BEFORE the start of the semester they plan to register for the course.

### **Honor Thesis (ENVR 691 H & 692H)**

#### **[Honors Options](#)**

An Honors research project provides Undergraduate Students with the opportunity to plan and carry out research designed to answer a specific research question, under the guidance of a faculty Research Mentor. Participation in Honors research requires a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.3 at all times. Findings are written up in the form of a Senior Honors Thesis and defended in a public seminar (Honors Defense). The Thesis and Defense are evaluated by the student's Undergraduate Honors Committee. The ENHS Director of Undergraduate Studies serves as overall Departmental Honors Mentor.

Students who successfully complete a senior honors thesis project will have the designation 'Honors' or 'Highest Honors' printed beside their names in the commencement bulletins and recorded on their diplomas and transcripts. [Source: [Senior Honors Thesis Guidelines for Academic Units, Faculty Mentors, and Students](#)]

[Students will submit their theses electronically via the Carolina Digital Repository \(CDR\)](#). Submissions are due by the last day of class in the semester in which students complete their theses. The University Library will catalog electronic theses and make them available to the public.

More Honors Thesis information [here](#). [This link](#) also has a lot of good information for students.

### **Learning Contract**

Students must complete the Department Learning Contract, which can be found on the [ESE Undergraduate Students Canvas site](#) (a resource for current students), and [here](#). Students should complete and **[submit the completed Learning Contract to ESE Student Services via this portal](#)** BEFORE the start of the semester they plan to register for the course.

### **Undergraduate Honors Committee**

Your Undergraduate Honors Committee is composed of your faculty Research Mentors, one other faculty member from the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, and a third member who can be a faculty member, a postdoctoral fellow/associate, or a senior graduate student, who has been closely involved in your research. You should start thinking about identifying potential committee members as your research takes shape, and you should formally form your committee by the midsemester break of the semester in which you will be defending your Honors Thesis.

### **Registering for ENVR 691H -ENVR 692H**

Register for ENVR691H (Honors Research) in the fall of senior year and ENVR692H Honors Thesis in the Spring of Senior year when writing and defending the Thesis in the Spring of Senior year or the final semester graduation. (If a December graduate, adjust semesters accordingly).

### **Format of the Honors Thesis**

Length 20 ~ 30 pages double spaced, 12pt, plus appendix if appropriate.

An electronic copy of the final Thesis (after all revisions requested by the Committee have been



completed) [should be uploaded here](#). One electronic copy goes to the student's Research Mentor.

The ENHS Honors Thesis includes the following components:

- Title Page
- Abstract 150 to 200 words
- Acknowledgments both personal and institutional e.g., funding
- Table of Contents
- List of Tables (if more than ~ 3 are included)
- List of Figures (if more than ~ 3 are included)
- Introduction
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussion/Conclusions
- References
- Appendix if appropriate

### **Honors Defense**

The Honors Defense is a public seminar in which you will present the results of your research, using visual aids (e.g. PowerPoint) as appropriate. In 30-40 minutes, introduce your Specific Aim(s), describe the Background and context of your research, your experimental design (and hypothesis if appropriate), your experiments and the results that you obtained. Finish with a discussion of the significance of your findings, and the implications for Environmental Health. The general audience will then have the opportunity to ask questions. After the open questions (and possibly a short break, and/or private discussion among the committee), the committee will meet in closed session with the candidate to ask more detailed questions about the research, the presentation and interpretation of the results, the conclusions, and potentially any other material that a student graduating from ENHS could reasonably be expected to know. At the conclusion of the closed session the candidate will be excused while the committee confer among themselves to evaluate the Thesis and the Defense.

### **ESE Independent Learning Contract**

Students enrolled in ENVR 296, ENVR 593, ENVR 695, ENVR 691H and ENVR 692H are required to [complete this form](#) and upload an Independent Study Learning Contract. [This form and the submission portal can be found here](#). A new Learning Contract should be approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies and filed with the ESE Student Services for every semester of enrollment.

For more information about credit hours, see [here](#).

### **GRADING**

For information about grading, please see the [Honors Carolina Student Handbook](#) (also scroll down to Grading section).

### **Additional important Information**

#### **Addressing Students Concerns**

Your well-being and positive student experience are important to us. [Please visit and bookmark this](#)



[page for reference](#). We are committed to addressing issues in a fair, timely and professional manner. We know it will not be possible in some cases, but to help us achieve the best outcome, we ask students to **follow the 5 steps below whenever possible:**

- **Step 1: Contact your instructor, the individual with whom you have a concern, or your faculty mentor as appropriate.** Most concerns can be resolved through discussion between the person(s) involved. If you are uncomfortable interacting directly with the person(s), or if the concern is not resolved satisfactorily, proceed to step 2.
- **Step 2: Discuss the matter with your department's Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) or the ESE Academic Coordinator.** If you have consulted with the DUS, or designee, and still believe the matter has not been dealt with satisfactorily or equitably, proceed to step 3.
- **Step 3: Discuss the matter with your department chair.** If you believe the matter has not been dealt with satisfactorily or equitably, you can proceed to step 4.
- **Step 4: Schedule a meeting with Charletta Sims Evans, the SPH Associate Dean for Student Affairs** ([simsevan@email.unc.edu](mailto:simsevan@email.unc.edu)) if you need further consultation.

#### General Information

- [University Academic Calendar](#)
- [University Academic Integrity Standards](#)
- [University Explanation of Grading](#)

#### Second Majors and Minors

Can I combine a Second Major/a Minor/a Second Minor with the BSPH? Yes, for more information about minors see the section in this handbook on [Adding/ Changing a Second Major/ Minor](#).

#### **MINOR: Engineering for Environmental Change, Climate, and Health**

##### [Program Overview](#)

This minor is designed to train students with an interest in developing engineering skills focused on building public health resilience to climate and environmental change. Climate-related challenges will include droughts, floods, heatwaves, and extreme weather events, which in turn impact air pollution, water availability and quality, toxic releases, food and nutrition, infectious and non-communicable diseases, and will increase migration and conflict pressure and exacerbate health inequities. As environmental scientists and engineers located within the top public school of public health, the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering (ESE) is ideally positioned to provide holistic, intersectoral responses to mitigate and prepare for these upcoming and pressing environmental challenges. Join the minor to learn about climate change, health/risk assessment, environmental processes, and engineering tools to provide quantitative answers to complex environmental questions.

##### [Admissions Requirements](#)

Students may apply for the minor any semester after completing MATH 233. Admitted students must have an average GPA of 3.0 or higher in the minor's prerequisite courses: MATH 231, MATH 232, MATH 233, MATH 383, CHEM 101&101L, CHEM 102&102L, PHYS 118, PHYS 119, COMP 110 or COMP 116 or PHYS 231 or BME 201.

### Minor Requirements/[Curriculum](#)

The following table describes the required courses for the minor. Students must take at least 9 hours of the required courses in-residence at UNC Chapel Hill. In addition, students must earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 in minor core requirements. [For more information visit our webpage about the minor.](#)

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
<a href="#">ENVR 205</a>	Engineering Tools for Environmental Problem Solving	3
<a href="#">ENVR 275 (previously ENVR 475)</a>	Global Climate Change: Interdisciplinary Perspectives	1
Select one health/risk assessment course from the following list:		3
<a href="#">ENVR 430</a>	Health Effects of Environmental Agents	
<a href="#">ENVR 470</a>	Environmental Risk Assessment	
<a href="#">ENVR 601</a>	Epidemiology for Environmental Scientists	
<a href="#">ENVR 610</a>	Global Environmental Health Inequities	
<a href="#">ENVR 630</a>	Systems Biology in Environmental Health	
Select one environmental process course from the following list:		3
Air quality and atmospheric processes		
<a href="#">ENVR 416</a>	Aerosol Physics and Chemistry	
<a href="#">ENVR 675</a>	Air Pollution, Chemistry, and Physics	
Sustainable water resources		
<a href="#">ENVR 419</a>	Chemical Equilibria in Natural Waters	
<a href="#">ENVR 421</a>	Environmental Health Microbiology	
<a href="#">ENVR 453</a>	Groundwater Hydrology	
<a href="#">ENVR 525</a>	Water, Sanitation, Hygiene, and Global Health	
<a href="#">ENVR 685</a>	Water and Sanitation Planning and Policy in Less Developed Countries	
<a href="#">ENVR 755</a>	Analysis of Water Resource Systems	
<a href="#">ENVR 756</a>	Physical/Chemical Treatment Processes	

<a href="#">ENVR 890</a>	Problems in Environmental Sciences and Engineering (section 002)	
Select one engineering tools course from the following list:		3
<a href="#">PLAN 390</a>	Undergraduate Special Topics in Urban and Regional Studies	
<a href="#">ENVR 451</a>	Introduction to Environmental Modeling	
<a href="#">ENVR 468</a>	Temporal GIS and Space/Time Geostatistics for the Environment and Public Health	
<a href="#">ENVR 580</a>	Policy Design for Environmental Health Solutions	
<a href="#">ENVR 582</a>	Sanitation for Development	
<a href="#">ENVR 666</a>	Numerical Methods	
<a href="#">ENVR 671</a>	Environmental Physics I	
<a href="#">ENVR 672</a>	Environmental Physics II	
<a href="#">ENVR 698</a>	Senior Capstone Course	
<a href="#">ENVR 788</a>	Managing Environmental Financial Risk	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>13</b>

#### **MSEE:**

Students who complete the minor in Engineering for Environmental Change, Climate and Health have the prerequisites generally expected from applicants to the Master of Sciences in Environmental Engineering (MSEE). Application to the [MSEE program](#) is open to individuals who have completed undergraduate degrees in engineering or physical/natural sciences. Successful applicants typically will have taken calculus through differential equations, inorganic chemistry, and physics with calculus\*. MSEE students must complete at least one course in biological sciences and one course in probability/statistics prior to enrolling or during the graduate program. Students who are interested in conducting research in addition to meeting the basic MSEE degree requirements are advised to indicate their research interests in their personal statement when they apply.

\*UNC programs of study that meet these requirements include the BSPH with Engineering for Environmental Change, Climate, and Health Minor; the BSPH with Environmental Physics Concentration; and the Applied Sciences and Engineering minor.

## **Health Policy and Management**

[Program Mission/ Overview](#)

[Admission Requirements](#)

[Program Competencies](#)

## [Requirements / Curriculum](#)

### [Sample Plan](#)

#### **Culminating Experience / Capstone**

##### HPM 697 BSPH Capstone

During fall and spring semester of the senior year, students work in teams to complete a major project with a community organization. This capstone project serves as a culminating experience for the program, providing students with an opportunity to synthesize, integrate, and apply knowledge and skills gained through their coursework and further develop and demonstrate attainment of program competencies. These projects are completed under the direction of faculty and with a preceptor, typically within a public health department, community health center, hospital, medical office, or non-profit organization. Teams begin planning and working with their preceptors during their senior fall in HPM 330.

#### **Honors Options**

Students who meet eligibility criteria have the option of completing a senior honors thesis, which generally includes designing and carrying out a research study or program evaluation. Students defend their proposals in the fall and their theses in the spring. Students pursuing a senior honors thesis enroll in HPM 691H (Fall) and HPM 692H (Spring) for a total of 6 credit hours.

Students potentially interested in pursuing a senior honors thesis are encouraged to contact Dr. Karl Umble, instructor for HPM 691H and 692H, for more information.

#### **Internship**

An 8-week full-time internship (320 hour minimum) is required during the summer between the junior and senior years. The internship provides students an opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills being acquired through their coursework and further develop and demonstrate attainment of program competencies.

Students are not placed in an internship, but rather will work with Cathy Padgett, the department's Career Services Coordinator, and their faculty mentor to search for and secure an internship. Students register for HPM 393 (2 credits) during their senior fall. A field training fee of \$400 is also required.

Detailed information about the internship requirements is available in the HPM 393 syllabus posted on the BSPH Program in HPM Canvas site.

#### **Resources and Support**

There are many resources available to students. Please refer to the table below to determine the first point of contact for various needs.

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Types of support</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Yolonda Childs, Academic Coordinator	General education requirements; course registration; drop/add forms; minor declaration forms; overload forms; graduation audits	<a href="mailto:childsyo@unc.edu">childsyo@unc.edu</a>

Cathy Padgett, Career Services Coordinator	Internship and job search; career services; professional development support	<a href="mailto:cathy_padgett@unc.edu">cathy_padgett@unc.edu</a>
Faculty Mentors	Internship and career exploration; connections with alumni and professionals; supervise internships	Contact information provided by assigned faculty mentor
Melanie Studer, Director of Undergraduate Studies	Program-related issues or concerns	<a href="mailto:melanie_studer@unc.edu">melanie_studer@unc.edu</a>
BSPH Program in HPM Canvas Site	Internship and job resources; professional development resources	<a href="https://canvas.unc.edu">https://canvas.unc.edu</a>
BSPH Program in HPM Weekly Newsletter	Announcements; events; internship and job postings	Distributed weekly via email

## Nutrition

### [Program Mission / Overview](#)

The Department of Nutrition is one of the top-ranked nutrition departments in the country. The Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) Program in Nutrition introduces the undergraduate student to the science of nutrition in health and disease and to social and behavioral aspects of eating in the context of public and individual health. The curriculum offers a wide range of courses in two independent tracks:

1. **Nutrition Science and Research** track provides students in-depth exposure to the science of nutrition and metabolism and function of nutrients while incorporating required research under the supervision of a faculty member. This track prepares students for graduate study in nutrition, medicine, pharmacy, or dentistry or for entry-level positions in public health and/or dietetics that do not require a registered dietitian.
2. **Nutrition, Health and Society** track offers essential education in nutrition while allowing students to explore the role of nutrition in context of a broader interdisciplinary spectrum of social and natural sciences, including sociology, communication, policy and management, anthropology, psychology, sports and exercise sciences, media and journalism, and business and economics. Interdisciplinary research experience is also encouraged.

### [Admission Requirements](#)

#### ***Grade requirements for admission and graduation:***

3. In all prerequisite courses students must receive a C (not C-) or higher. If not, they must repeat the course.
4. In core SPH classes (BIOS 600, EPID 600, SPHG 351, and SPHG 352) – students must receive a C (not C-) or higher. If not, they must repeat the course.
5. In all other courses for the Nutrition major **including** science required courses – students must receive a C (not C-) or higher. If not, the course must be repeated.
6. In other general college courses used to complete the 120-credit hour requirement – students must receive a passing grade.

## Concentration Competencies

Competencies define what students should know and be able to do upon completion of their degree program. Competencies guide our curriculum planning process and serve as a measure against which student achievement is assessed. Listed below are the degree-specific competencies for BSPH in Nutrition by track:

### The BSPH Nutrition Degree (***Both Tracks***)

- Communicate public health information, in both oral and written forms and through a variety of media, to diverse audiences.
- Locate, use, evaluate and synthesize public health information.
- Describe health inequities, identify their root causes at multiple levels of the social ecological framework, and discuss approaches to advancing health equity.
- Describe the nutritional needs of individuals across the life cycle; the psychological, behavioral and social factors that affect food consumption and nutritional status and the programs and services available to help individuals meet their nutritional needs.

### The BSPH ***Nutrition Science and Research Track***

- Demonstrate knowledge of nutritional biochemistry, the metabolism and function of nutrients and the nutritional components of diseases through advanced courses in nutrition.
- Apply the scientific method in the areas of nutritional biochemistry, nutritional epidemiology and intervention and policy.

### The BSPH ***Nutrition, Health and Society Track***

- Understand the role of food and nutrition as an essential element of life – from cell, to an individual, to society
- Demonstrate effective communication of nutrition information within social, multiethnic, and environmental dimensions
- Demonstrate knowledge of the roles of the individual, society, government and business in providing accessible, healthy food supplies and in promoting healthy eating

## Requirements / Curriculum

### RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS

To enhance students' understanding of the Scientific Method and its application in Nutrition science, and also to help them decide whether a research career is something they might pursue in the future, all BSPH nutrition students (both tracks) are required to be involved in nutrition research for at least one semester – namely, the final semester in the program as the student's *Capstone experience*. Many students will complete 3-4 semesters of research during the program. Students may be eligible for Honors research, if they meet the eligibility guidelines. Students register for NUTR 295 (or NUTR 691H/692H in senior year for Honors) under a specific faculty member section number. Each student will complete at least one and up to four semesters (3-credits each) of a capstone project (a total of up to 12-credit hours). In some areas of research, four semesters of research may be required to qualify for and to complete an Honors Thesis. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss the Honors Thesis requirements with their faculty mentors during their first semester in the program.

At the time of admission to the bachelor's program, each student must find a faculty research mentor, preferably a Nutrition faculty member. If a faculty member outside of the Department of Nutrition is identified, the student will also need to seek a secondary mentor in Nutrition to oversee the administrative tasks done by mentors. Interdisciplinary research experience is encouraged for students

in the *Nutrition, Health and Society* track. An *Independent Study Learning Agreement* form must be prepared by a mentor and his/her student and submitted to the BSPH committee at the beginning of each semester. In this form, the goals of student's research for a given semester, major milestones, and a grading schema will be outlined.

Student and faculty communication is viewed as a mutual responsibility. The student and the mentor schedule meetings on a periodic basis. The Academic Coordinator serves as the major source of guidance regarding coursework. The faculty research mentor serves as the major source of guidance to the student in the areas of scientific course of study, research, and career planning. For a complete list of Nutrition faculty and their research, please review the faculty profiles online at <http://sph.unc.edu/nutr/unc-nutrition/nutr-our-faculty-and-staff/>.

Several avenues are available to students should a change in faculty mentor become necessary. Ideally, the student will expedite such a change by discussion with current and intended mentors. In addition, the student must consult with the chair of the departmental BSPH Committee. If this is unsatisfactory, the department chair should be consulted.

## **NUTRITION DEPARTMENT COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Courses to Meet School of Public Health Requirements**

SPHG 351	Foundations of Public Health (3)
SPHG 352	Public Health Systems and Solutions (4)
BIOS 600	Principles of Statistical Inference (3)
EPID 600	Principles of Epidemiology (3)

### **Department of Nutrition Required Courses**

#### **Nutrition (Both Tracks)**

NUTR 240	Introduction to Human Nutrition (3)
NUTR 611	Nutrition Across the Life Cycle (3)
NUTR 295 <sup>1</sup>	Undergraduate Research in Nutrition (3)
NUTR 691H*	Honors Research in Nutrition (Fall) (3)
NUTR 692H*	Honors Research in Nutrition (Spring) (3)
NUTR 722*	Nutrition Thesis Seminar (1)

#### **Nutrition Science and Research Track**

NUTR 400	Introduction to Nutritional Biochemistry (3)
NUTR 600	Human Metabolism: Macronutrients (3)
NUTR 620	Human Metabolism: Micronutrients (3)
BIOL 103 <sup>2</sup>	How Cells Function (3)
CHEM 241	Modern Analytical Methods for Separation and Characterization (2)
CHEM 241L	Laboratory in Separations and Analytical Characterization of Organic and Biological Compounds (1)
CHEM 262	Introduction to Organic Chemistry II (3)

CHEM 262L Laboratory in Organic Chemistry (1)  
 and Biological Compounds II (2)  
 PHYS 114 General Physics I: For Students of the Life Sciences (4)  
 PHYS 115 General Physics II: For Students of the Life Sciences (4)

**Nutrition Health and Society Track**

NUTR 175 Introduction to Food Studies (3)  
 NUTR 245 Local Sustainable Food Systems (3)  
 NUTR 405 Nutrition Policy (3)  
 NUTR 470 Foundations of Nutrition Interventions (3)  
 NUTR 630 Nutrition Communication and Culture (3)

*Additional 18 credit hours from another field of study*

\* Required for BSPH Nutrition students planning to complete the honors thesis during their senior year.

<sup>1</sup>The Capstone course for the degree; can also be NUTR 692H, if completing honors thesis. All students, regardless of how many semesters of research they choose to complete, must take the research course in their final semester of the program as the Capstone course.

<sup>2</sup> Students may also consider talking BIOL 220 (molecular Genetics) for which BIOL 103 is a prerequisite.

**Example of BSPH Coursework**

**Nutrition Science and Research Track**

**Junior Year**

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>	
CHEM 241	Modern Analytical Methods	2
CHEM 241L	Laboratory in Separation and Analytical Characterization of Organic...	1
BIOL 103	How Cells Function	3
EPID 600 <sup>1</sup>	Principles of Epidemiology	3
NUTR 295 <sup>2</sup>	Nutrition Research	3
SPHG 351 <sup>1</sup>	Foundations of Public Health	3
Total semester credits	15	

Spring Semester

CHEM 262	Introduction to Organic Chemistry II	3
CHEM 262L	Laboratory in Organic Chemistry II	1
NUTR 295 <sup>2</sup>	Nutrition Research	3
NUTR 400	Introduction to Nutritional Biochemistry	3
SPHG 352 <sup>1</sup>	Public Health Systems and Solutions	4
Total semester credits	14	

**Senior Year**

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>	
NUTR 691H <sup>2</sup>	Nutrition Research	3
NUTR 722 <sup>3</sup>	Nutrition Thesis Seminar	1
NUTR 600	Human Metabolism: Macronutrients	3
NUTR 611	Nutrition Across the Lifecycle	3
PHYS 114	General Physics I: For Students of the Life Sciences	4



BIOS 600 <sup>1</sup>	Principles of Statistical Inference	3
Total semester credits	16-17	

Spring Semester

NUTR 620	Human Metabolism: Micronutrients	3
NUTR 692H <sup>2</sup>	Nutrition Research	3
PHYS 115	General Physics II: For Students of the Life Sciences	4
Elective	General Elective	3-4
Total semester credits	13-14	

**Suggested Elective Courses:**

CLAS 125	Word Form and Etymology (also available as self-paced)	3
CLAS 126	Medical Word Formation and Etymology (also available as self-paced)	3
ANTH 147	Comparative Healing System	3
ANTH 470	Medicine & Anthropology	3
GEOG 445	Medical Geography	3

<sup>1</sup> SPH required course – students should plan to take SPHG 351, SPHG 352, and EPID 600 during the first year

<sup>2</sup> Students who do not take four semesters of research should complete their minimum required one semester during the spring of their senior year. An additional elective should be taken during semesters in which students are not registered for nutrition research.

<sup>3</sup> Students completing an Honors Thesis should take NUTR 722 to guide them in developing specific aims and other preliminary research and thesis planning.

**Nutrition Health and Society Track**

**Junior Year**

Fall Semester

Credits

Additional Coursework	Elective Credits	3
NUTR 175	Intro to Food Studies	3
NUTR 240	Intro to Human Nutrition	3
BIOS 600 <sup>1</sup>	Principles of Statistical Inference	3
SPHG 351 <sup>1</sup>	Foundations of Public Health	3
Total semester credits	15	

Spring Semester

Additional Coursework	Elective Credits	3
NUTR 245	Sustainable Local Food Systems	3
EPID 600 <sup>1</sup>	Principles of Epidemiology	3
SPHG 352 <sup>1</sup>	Public Health Systems and Solutions	4
Total semester credits	16	

**Senior Year**

Fall Semester

Credits

Additional Coursework	Elective Credits	6
NUTR 630	Nutrition Communication and Culture	3
NUTR 611	Nutrition Across the Lifecycle	3
NUTR 405	Nutrition Policy	3

NUTR 691H <sup>2</sup>	Honors Nutrition Research	3
Total semester credits	15-18	

### Spring Semester

Additional Coursework	Elective Credits	6
NUTR 470	Foundations of Nutrition Interventions	3
NUTR 691H <sup>2</sup> OR	Honors Nutrition Research	3
NUTR 295	Nutrition Capstone	3
Total semester credits	12	

### **Suggested Elective Credits:**

An additional six courses (18 credit hours) are required from other fields of interest. Students are encouraged to use the 18 credits to obtain a minor in another field of study, such as Anthropology; Psychology (Cognitive Science or Neuroscience); Entrepreneurship; Food Studies; Social and Economic Justice; Exercise and Sport Science; Coaching Education; Composition, Rhetoric, and Digital Literacy; Education; Global American Studies; Medicine, Literature, and Culture; Health & Society (Sociology) or others as approved by the Program Director of Undergraduate Studies.

<sup>1</sup> SPH required course – students should plan to take SPHG 351, SPHG 352, and EPID 600 during the first year

<sup>2</sup> Students who do not take four semesters of research should complete their minimum required one semester during the spring of their senior year. An additional elective should be taken during semesters in which students are not registered for nutrition research.

### Culminating Experience / Capstone

Students must take NUTR 295 in their last semester as a capstone course. Student will enroll in their selected mentors section of the course. If a student is participating in the Honors Thesis, additional hours of NUTR 295 are required.

### Honors Options

## **UNDERGRADUATE HONORS RESEARCH: The Senior Honors Thesis**

For more information, please see the Honors Carolina website.

(<https://honorscarolina.unc.edu/research/senior-honors-thesis/>)

### **Who is eligible for the Honors Program?**

The Department of Nutrition provides an opportunity for honors study for qualified students. To be eligible for admission to the Honors program, students must have, at a minimum, a cumulative grade point average of 3.3 at the beginning of their senior year and maintain the GPA throughout the major if they intend to pursue Honors. Students must have a conversation with their PI to determine suitability for Honors and will need to contact the Academic Coordinator to confirm eligibility. This conversation should happen around the end of Junior year so the student has time to register for 691H for Fall senior year.

Ideally, students register for NUTR 295 (3 credits) in the first year, and then, NUTR 691H/692H (3-credits) in their final two semesters while completing an Honors Thesis in Nutrition. Typically, students complete at least 3 semesters of research to complete an Honors Thesis, but exception may be possible per Faculty Mentor's and BSPH Committee's approval. NUTR 722 should also be taken in fall of senior year.

### **How do I register for the Honors Program credit and what is required?**

Students are required to carry out a special project and prepare a thesis based on the project. Length of the honors thesis will depend on the type of project that the student is involved with. All nutrition honors theses are written as scientific manuscripts that are generally between 20-40 pages long, and in the appropriate style for the topic (e.g., nutritional biochemistry, nutrition epidemiology, or nutrition intervention and policy, or interdisciplinary topics for the Nutrition, Health and Society track). An oral defense of the thesis before the Faculty Mentor and a second reader (suggested by the Faculty Mentor – see below) is required. Students may graduate from the University with "honors" or "highest honors," if they complete and successfully defend their theses.

The student and faculty mentor should select a second reader for the thesis and notify the Academic Coordinator by November of senior year. Second Readers can be other faculty members, doctoral students, or postdocs.

### **How many students are awarded honors each year?**

Generally, most students who register for the Honors Program are awarded "honors" each year. However, a student may earn "highest honors" based on their exceptional performance on the honors thesis and presentation.

### **Who directs the Honors Program in the Nutrition Department?**

Professors Ian Carroll & Ximena Bustamante Marin, Co-Directors of the BSPH program in Nutrition, administers the Nutrition component of the Public Health Program, under the overall direction of the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs in Gillings School of Global Public Health.

### **When is the Honors thesis due?**

Most importantly, the final defense of your thesis is due in early-April, so all students wishing to graduate with "honors" or "highest honors" must keep this timing in mind. There are also specific deadlines by the Honor's Office that can be found on their website. Your thesis must be presented/defend to your mentor and second reader by the date on the [Honors Carolina Website](#). Final copies of your thesis must be uploaded by the last day of classes for the semester.

### **With whom can I do research?**

Nutrition faculty profiles along with their research interests, resume, etc. can be found at: <http://sph.unc.edu/nutr/unc-nutrition/nutr-our-faculty-and-staff/>. Additional information on faculty research and availability can be provided by the Academic Coordinator or BSPH Committee.

### **How do I fund Honors Thesis Research?**

Undergraduate Research Awards from Honors Carolina may be used to support any legitimate cost directly connected to the undertaking of the honors project: laboratory equipment or supplies, computer software or time, costs related to field research, artistic supplies or equipment, books or periodicals not available through normal library sources, illustrations--among others. Travel will be supported only where such travel is absolutely essential to the project and only for the actual cost of transportation. Except in unusual circumstances, individual awards will not exceed \$500. Any equipment or non-expended supplies purchased under the program become the property of the department at the conclusion of the project. University accounts will be set up for all successful applicants in their departments as the means of dispersing funds. Applications for Research Awards become available and are typically due during the month of September through the Honors Carolina Program.

**Please note: Projects with an international dimension may qualify for a supplemental award** of up to \$500 from The University Center for International Studies (UCIS) in addition to the Undergraduate Research Award from the Honors Office. Priority for these supplementary grants from UCIS will be given to proposals which pertain to an international topic and which involve travel either within the United States or abroad. A student must receive an Undergraduate Research Award in order to receive the supplemental award from UCIS. If a student receives both awards, the letter of notification from the Honors Office will contain that information. Because the summer can obviously be a convenient time for students to undertake a research trip, students pursuing an international topic should be encouraged to apply for this round of Undergraduate Research Awards.

The application is available on the Honors Carolina website: <http://www.honors.unc.edu>.

There are two rounds of honors research awards given during the academic year. Students are encouraged to view the Honor's website and communicate with the Academic Coordinator about specific deadlines.

Students are encouraged to apply for other research awards from the School or the University (e.g., the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF), which is awarded by the Office of Undergraduate Research) or from professional societies to support their research projects. The Academic Coordinator or Faculty Research Mentor will assist students in identifying and applying for these awards.

### **Course Plan for the BSPH Nutrition Science and Research Track**

Course #	Course name	Credit Hours	Suggested Term	Pertinent Notes
<b>General Education Requirements</b>				
	<i>Please refer to Tar Heel Tracker to ensure completion of all General Education Requirements</i>			
<b>Pre-Requisite Courses</b>				
BIOL 101	Principles of Biology	3		
BIOL 101L	Principles of Biology Lab	1		
CHEM 101	General Descriptive Chemistry I	3		
CHEM 101L	General Descriptive Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHEM 102	General Descriptive Chemistry II	3		
CHEM 102L	General Descriptive Chemistry II Lab	1		
BIOL 252	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy & Physiology	3		
BIOL 252L	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy & Physiology Lab	1		
CHEM 261	Introduction to Organic Chemistry I	3		
NUTR 240	Introduction to Human Nutrition	3		Offered Fall only

SPH Core Courses				
SPHG 351	Foundations of Public Health	3	Fall Year 1	Should be taken first fall
SPHG 352	Public Health Systems & Solutions	4	Spring Year 1	Should be taken first spring
EPID 600	Principles of Epidemiology	3	Spring Year 1	Should be taken first year
BIOS 600	Principles of Statistical Inference	3	Fall Year 1	
NUTR Courses				
MATH 231	Calculus of Functions of One Variable	4		
NUTR 400	Introduction to Nutritional Biochemistry	3	Spring Year 1	Offered Spring only
NUTR 600	Human Metabolism: Macronutrients	3	Fall Year 2	Offered Fall only
NUTR 611	Nutrition Across the Lifecycle	3	Fall Year 2	Offered Fall only
NUTR 620	Human Metabolism: Micronutrients	3	Spring Year 2	Offered Spring only
BIOL 202	Molecular Biology & Genetics	4	Fall Year 1	
CHEM 241	Modern Analytical Methods for Separation & Characterization	2	Fall Year 1	
CHEM 241L	Lab in Separations & Analytical Characterization	1	Fall Year 1	
CHEM 262	Introduction to Organic Chemistry II	3	Spring Year 1	
CHEM 262L	Introduction to Organic Chemistry II Lab	1	Spring Year 1	
PHYS 114	General Physics I: For Students of the Life Sciences	4	Fall Year 2	
PHYS 115	General Physics II: For Students of the Life Sciences	4	Spring Year 2	
Research & Capstone*				
NUTR 295	Undergraduate Research in Nutrition (1-4 semesters)			Must be taken at least once during the program and should be done in the final semester as a capstone
NUTR 691H	Honors Research in Nutrition (Fall – only for those students completing a Senior Honors Thesis)			
NUTR 692H	Honors Research in Nutrition (Spring – only for those students completing a Senior Honors Thesis)			
NUTR 722	Nutrition Thesis Seminar		Fall Year 2	Fall only; taken only by students who plan to compete the Honors Thesis

Additional formal coursework				
	<b>Total credits required for graduation = 72 for the major, 120 for the degree</b>			

\*Research hours must be formally agreed upon by a faculty mentor prior to registration, with an Independent Study Agreement completed and approved by the first Friday of courses for the semester. Students wishing to complete a Senior Honors Thesis should plan to complete at least 3 consecutive semesters of research and be otherwise eligible.

### Course Plan for the BSPH Nutrition, Health and Society Track

Course #	Course name	Credit Hours	Suggested Term	Pertinent Notes
<b>General Education Requirements</b>				
	<i>Please refer to Tar Heel Tracker to ensure completion of all General Education Requirements</i>			
<b>Pre-Requisite Courses</b>				
BIOL 101	Principles of Biology	3		
BIOL 101L	Principles of Biology Lab	1		
CHEM 101	General Descriptive Chemistry I	3		
CHEM 101L	General Descriptive Chemistry I Lab	1		
CHEM 102	General Descriptive Chemistry II	3		
CHEM 102L	General Descriptive Chemistry II Lab	1		
BIOL 252	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy & Physiology	3		
BIOL 252L	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy & Physiology Lab	1		
<b>SPH Core Courses</b>				
SPHG 351	Foundations of Public Health	3	Fall Year 1	Should be taken first fall
SPHG 352	Public Health Systems & Solutions	4	Spring Year 1	Should be taken first spring
EPID 600	Principles of Epidemiology	3	Spring Year 1	Should be taken first year
BIOS 600	Principles of Statistical Inference	3	Fall Year 1	
<b>NUTR Courses</b>				
NUTR 175	Introduction to Food Studies	3	Fall Year 1	Offered Fall only



Resource	Types of support	Contact Information
U'Ronda Higgs, Academic Coordinator	General education requirements; course registration; drop/add forms; minor declaration forms; overload forms; graduation audits	<a href="mailto:uhiggs@email.unc.edu">uhiggs@email.unc.edu</a>
Lena Hudock, Academic Program Support Coordinator	Financial awards from department, Ambassador Program, Student Events	<a href="mailto:lhudock@email.unc.edu">lhudock@email.unc.edu</a>
Faculty Mentors	Internship and career exploration; connections with alumni and professionals; supervise internships	Contact information provided by assigned faculty mentor
Dr. Ian Carroll Co-Direct of NUTR BSPH Program	Program-related issues or concerns	<a href="mailto:ian_carroll@med.unc.edu">ian_carroll@med.unc.edu</a>
Dr. Ximena Bustamante Marin	Program-related issues or concerns	<a href="mailto:xmbmarin@med.unc.edu">xmbmarin@med.unc.edu</a>

## General University Academic Information and Policies

### Academic Calendar

The Academic Calendar contains important dates, deadlines, holidays, and exams per academic year at the University of North Carolina. Please visit: <https://registrar.unc.edu/academic-calendar/>

### Course Credit Guidelines

### Grading Basis

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's official [Explanation of Grading System](#) is located on the Office of the University Registrar's website. Grade points are assigned as outlined in the [Undergraduate Grade](#) definitions.

### Online Courses

The following policies apply to distance-learning courses:

1. The maximum number of credit hours that can be counted toward an undergraduate degree in the College of Arts and Sciences is 24. There can be no exceptions to this upper limit.
2. First-semester, first-year students may not enroll in for-credit online courses unless unusual circumstances prevail, nor may first-year students take an online course in the summer prior to matriculation.
3. Full-time undergraduate students may enroll in a maximum of one for-credit online course per regular semester (after the first semester, if they are a first-year student) and a maximum of two for-credit online courses per summer session (courses offered over the full summer would count in both Summer Session I and Summer Session II).
4. Degree-seeking students who are not enrolled may take a maximum of two for-credit online courses in a regular semester or summer.
5. No more than two for-credit online courses may count toward a major (core requirement) or minor in the College of Arts and Sciences.
6. Self-paced courses cannot count toward a degree in the College of Arts and Sciences.
7. It is the responsibility of the senior associate dean for undergraduate education, in consultation



with the associate dean and director of the academic advising program, to determine whether students in unusual circumstances warrant an exception to these policies.

### **Pass/ Fail/ Auditing Courses**

The Pass/Fail option provides students an opportunity to enroll in an additional course (beyond the usual load of five academic courses) or to reduce their concerns about competing with prospective majors in a course in which they have considerable interest. Students who declare a course on the Pass/Fail option will receive the grade of PS (pass) when a letter grade of A through D is recorded on the official grade roster and F when the course is failed. For the purpose of computing a grade point average, a PS grade does not count as hours attempted; therefore, a PS grade does not affect a student's grade point average. However, an F under the Pass/Fail option counts as hours attempted and is treated in the same manner as F grades earned in any other course.

Course content and requirements are the same for Pass/Fail registrants as for regular registrants. The minimum performance for a PS grade is equivalent to the minimum performance for the letter grade of D.

Auditing of courses is **permitted only in lecture-based courses** and never in courses that include laboratories or performances. Auditing is not permitted in courses that focus on the development of written or oral communication skills or that rely heavily on class participation.

### **Exemptions and Substitutions**

If you took a course that did not fulfill a specific general education requirement, but you feel it meets the [criteria](#) for that requirement, you may be eligible to submit a course petition. More information about the supporting documentation required for your petition is available [here](#).

### **Tar Heel Tracker**

[Tar Heel Tracker](#) (THT) is Carolina's degree audit system, available in [ConnectCarolina](#). A THT degree audit shows your progress toward degree completion.

## **Registration**

### **Full-time Registration**

Students must be enrolled in at least 12 academic hours to be considered full-time. Those seeking exceptions to these rules must follow appropriate procedures as outlined below.

### **Credit/ Course Load**

The academic course load policy determines the minimum and maximum number of hours students may take during a term as specified by the [Office of the University Registrar](#).

### **Adding/ Dropping**

Course registration begins for students in their ConnectCarolina Student Center when their enrollment appointment opens, and updates can be made through the first five days of classes.

- During this time, students may add courses using the registration system.
- After the first five days of classes, the addition of a course to a student's registration schedule requires permission of the course instructor or the department concerned.

Additionally, students must obtain a Registration/Drop/Add form from their academic adviser, the concerned department, or their school. Students are **required** to have their school dean's signature when registering for the first time or making any course additions after the last day to add a course and the end of late registration.

See the [University Registrar's Calendar](#) for specific dates. In these cases, deans will only approve those registrations or course additions which have first been approved by the instructor, and only for truly exceptional circumstances.

Undergraduate students may drop courses using the registration system during their online access period; however, they are responsible for ensuring that any registration schedule changes do not result in less than a twelve-academic hour semester registration, excluding all one-hour Physical Education Activity (PHYA) 200-level courses from the twelve-academic hour total.

### **Interinstitutional**

One interinstitutional course per regular term, providing the student is registered for the balance / remaining 9 hours (totaling 12 credit hours including the interinstitutional course for undergraduates) of their fulltime load at UNC-CH. All requests will need to be reviewed and approved first by the student's Academic Coordinator and the Senior Executive Director of Academic Advising & Student Affairs. If approved, the request will be sent to the UNC Office of the University Registrar for processing.

More information on interinstitutional enrollment can be found at the Office of the University Registrar's [website](#).

### **Underloads/ Overloads**

#### **Medical Underloads**

##### ***Before the end of the eighth week of classes:***

Students experiencing issues of a medical nature which they believe necessitate enrollment in fewer than 12 academic hours in a fall or spring term must consult with either Campus Health Services or Counseling and Psychological Services about a medical underload. These offices, in turn, recommend medical underloads or suggest alternate courses of action. Students who are approved for a medical underload as recommended by Campus Health Services or Counseling and Psychological Services must see an Academic Coordinator in their BSPH department and submit an online [Course Underload Request](#). The student must initiate a drop request before the end of the last day of classes during the term.

##### ***After the eighth week of classes:***

Students seeking to drop a class or classes with the possible result that they may be enrolled in fewer than 12 academic hours for medical or non-medical reasons after the eighth week of classes must meet with someone in the Office of Student Affairs, 263 Rosenau Hall, about submitting an appeal. Academic Appeals for an Underload

**If a student experiences non-medically related extenuating circumstances** that s/he believes necessitates a schedule of fewer than 12 academic hours in a fall or spring term, the student may appeal to the Office of Student Affairs, permission to drop below 12 hours. Students should communicate with the Office of Student Affairs to discuss the appeal form and submit appropriate documentation. Approval to drop below nine hours is rarely granted.

### **Senior Underload**

**Seniors in their final semester who do not require 12 or more academic hours to complete graduation requirements may request an underload** as part of the graduation application process. Details are available on the Underloads for Seniors section of our web page. Students must see an Academic Coordinator in their BSPH department and submit an electronic [Course Underload Request](#).

Students may request to register to **overload for more than 18 hours** in fall or spring and more than eight in a summer session.

Successful applications to overload typically demonstrate: a) that the student earned a GPA of at least 3.0 in the previous semester and cumulative GPA is at least 2.5; AND b) evidence that the student needs to overload to graduate in the term requested. Overload requests for student not in their final semester may be approved in special circumstances or with special permission for the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs.

Requests for 20 or 21 hours are rarely granted and typically reserved for seniors who need the hours for graduation or students in truly extenuating circumstances.

Students must see their Academic Coordinator in their BSPH department and submit an electronic [Course Overload Request](#).

### **Withdrawals**

An official withdrawal occurs when you, as an enrolled student, decide you must leave the University in each term once the term begins and you have attended at least one class. If you must leave, you are required to notify the University through the withdrawal process and then cease attendance in all classes and/or academic activities. To make an informed decision, carefully read the withdrawal policy before you decide to withdraw. A withdrawal has several important potential impacts that may apply to you. Please review the financial, academic and campus service Impacts of a Withdrawal.

### **Cancellations**

Prior to the first day of classes, if you decide you cannot or will not attend the University that term, you may request to cancel your registration. More information about cancellations is available here. The University will only cancel registration for students who have not attended any classes in a term. A cancellation results in removal of all enrollments for the term. Cancellations are not noted on the permanent record. No tuition or fees are charged, but other charges related to attending the University (e.g., mandatory student health insurance, housing, meal plan) are the responsibility of the student. Students may contact these offices directly for any questions about charges.

If you have never attended a single class this term, and classes have begun, you must request a cancellation of your registration through your department student services office and provide verification of non-attendance from each professor. If you cancel a fall or spring term registration and wish to return to UNC-Chapel Hill in a future term, you must apply for readmission. If you cancel your registration for a summer term, readmission is not required.

### **Post-semester Add/ Drop**

After the last day of courses of any specific term, students must obtain a Registration/Drop/Add form from their Academic Coordinator, the concerned department, and their school. The Senior Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs signature is required when registering or making any course additions after the last day to add a course and the end of late registration (this can be obtained by submitting the form to the Gillings Registrar).

See the [University Registrar's Calendar](#) for the Last Day for Graduate Students to drop courses. Course drops requested after the last day for undergraduate students to drop courses requires approval of the Senior Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs.

## **Grading**

### **Grade Policy**

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's official Explanation of Grading System is located on the [Office of the University Registrar's](#) website. Grade points are assigned as outlined in the Undergraduate Grade definitions.

### **Grade Changes and Appeals**

A grade appeal is a request to change a course grade based on arithmetic or clerical error, arbitrariness, discrimination, harassment or personal malice. Generally, students who wish to appeal a course grade should first attempt to resolve the issue with their instructors. Students also may consult the chair of the academic department that offers the class. Failing a satisfactory resolution, the student may appeal the grade in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Undergraduate Bulletin. Such appeals must be made no later than the last day of classes of the succeeding fall or spring semester to the Office of Student Affairs.

For additional information on The University's Policy on Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment and Related Misconduct, see the [university policy](#).

## **Exams**

### **UNC Exam Schedule**

UNC's final exam schedule is listed each term via the [Chancellors Calendar](#).

### **Exam Excuse Policy**

A student who has three final examinations scheduled by the Office of the University Registrar within a 24-hour period or two scheduled at the same time may request for permission to have one of the scheduled examinations rescheduled. In the event that one of the scheduled examinations is a common-hour exam, that examination is the one to be rescheduled. In all cases in which an examination is to be rescheduled, the instructor may reschedule that examination during the final examination period, but not later than the end of the following semester. Any petition for a change in the examination schedule because of the "three exams in a 24-hour" rule must be submitted to the [Gillings Student Affairs](#), before the first day of the final examinations.

Students are required to take final examinations as scheduled. The only exceptions are for illness as documented by Campus Health Services or for other medically documented or family or personal emergency situations. Students who wish to request an exam excuse should complete an [exam excuse form](#), before the first day of the final examinations, and documentation will be required.

### **Exam Excuse Form**

Examination excuses should be completed and have a description attached to give the Gillings Registrar a short description of why the excuse is needed. Students should complete the [electronic form](#) for processing by the Gillings Registrar. The deadline to submit this form is the last day of class of the semester.

## **Adding/ Changing a Second Major/ Minor**

### **Adding a Second Major**

Undergraduates must obtain written permission from the Gillings School's Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or that dean's designee to declare a second major in the College of Arts and Sciences or in the Gillings School of Global Public Health. Students wishing to pursue a major within the Gillings School and with another professional school must apply and be admitted into both programs and, if admitted, comply with the policies and requirements of each school. Students first must speak with their BSPH program faculty coordinator when the student has their approval, and the student must follow the [Guidelines for Declaring a Second Major](#) in another school or College at UNC-Chapel Hill or the [Guidelines for Declaring a Second Major](#) at the Gillings School. It is the student's responsibility to make sure s/he is making good progress toward completing the second major.

### **Canceling a Second Major**

To cancel a second major, the student should first inform the department of the cancelled major, and then their Academic Coordinator. Once the Gillings Registrar receives the notification of the cancellation of the second major from the Academic Coordinator, the student's Program/ Plan will be updated.

### **Adding a Minor**

Gillings School students must obtain permission from their BSPH Academic Coordinator to declare an academic minors. A minor can be requested through the Electronic Minor Request [form](#). If approved by the Academic Coordinator, the student's Program/ Plan will be adjusted by the Gillings Registrar.

### **Canceling a Minor**

Gillings School students must obtain permission from their BSPH Academic Coordinator to cancel an academic minor. A cancellation of a minor can be requested through the Electronic Minor Request [form](#). Once approved by the Academic Coordinator, the student's Program/ Plan will be adjusted by the Gillings Registrar.

### **Academic Ineligibility**

Students who began an enrolled term with a status of Alert and who do not raise their cumulative UNC-Chapel Hill grade-point average to 2.000 or higher at the end of the term.

Students with an academic status of Ineligible cannot enroll in any courses in any term. Students with an academic status of Ineligible may appeal to the Friday Center.

Further information on Academic Ineligibility can be found [here](#).

### **Non-payment of Tuition and Fees**

The UNC Cashier's Office puts holds on past due accounts, places restrictions on registration, withholds diplomas, and will cancel enrollment. Further information on payment of fees and tuition can be found [here](#).

### **Honor Code**

The Honor System forms a bond of trust among students, faculty, and administrators. The University of

North Carolina at Chapel Hill operates under a system of self-governance, as students are responsible for governing themselves. As such, our University is transformed into a powerful community of inquiry and learning. The Honor Code embodies the ideals of academic honesty, integrity, and responsible citizenship, and governs the performance of all academic work a student conducts at the University. Acceptance of an offer of admission to Carolina presupposes a commitment to the principles embodied in our century-old tradition of honor and integrity.

Further information on the Honor Code and Honor Court can be found [here](#).

### **Failure to Submit Campus Health Requirements**

North Carolina law requires individuals attending college or universities to receive certain vaccines. But in order to be fully protected from vaccine-preventable diseases, individuals should receive all immunizations recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Vaccines to protect against the flu, meningitis, HPV and others are available. Learn more about [recommended vaccines](#).

More information from Campus Health can be found [here](#).

### **Study Abroad**

Students interested in pursuing a study abroad option should start planning early. The first step is for the student to meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and their Academic Coordinator. If the transfer credit is seen as appropriate, study abroad options can be explored [here](#).

### **Petition for an Additional Semester**

The University's academic eligibility rules impose limits on the number of semesters (fall or spring) in which students are allowed to enroll. (There is no limit on summer sessions.) New academic eligibility rules were instituted in 2007. To see the types of appeals that are often granted and those that are not, consult the [Additional Semester Information](#) handout.

- Students who entered UNC as first-years/freshmen are limited to eight semesters. Special permission is required to enroll in a ninth semester for students who have experienced exceptionally extenuating circumstances. You may request permission to enroll for an additional semester beyond the applicable maximum. Students who are permitted to enroll in an additional semester may graduate with only a single major and no minor, even if all the work for the minor or second major has been completed.
- Transfer students (who transfer in 30 or more hours to UNC) will be granted permission to enter a ninth or 10th semester after meeting with the faculty coordinator of their BSPH program and submitting the necessary forms for approval.

To do so, students must fill out and submit a [SPH Petition to Enroll for an Additional Semester](#) form and submit it to the Office of Student Affairs. The request will be reviewed by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs.

## **Graduation Policies**

All students must apply for graduation through their ConnectCarolina account. It is the student's responsibility to work consistently with their Academic Coordinator and monitor their Tarheel Tracker to ensure that they are on an effective path for degree completion.

Directions on how to apply to graduate can be found [here](#).

## **Tarheel Tracker**

Students can monitor their general education, major, and minor progress towards graduation with Tarheel Tracker, the ConnectCarolina degree audit system. Information on Tarheel Tracker can be found [here](#).

## **Graduation**

It is the responsibility of students to complete and meet the minimum number of courses required for graduation. The School of Public Health holds its own May graduation ceremony, usually in Memorial Hall (with ample room for guests) on Saturday afternoon before the Sunday University-wide graduation. The SPH ceremony is a much smaller and more personal affair, each undergraduate gets to walk across the stage and shake hands individually with the Dean, and there is a reception with light refreshments afterwards in the Atrium of the School of Public Health.

## **Honors/ Highest Honors**

Each department has its own honors courses that honors students can enroll in. Each department also has its own Honors Thesis projects. Depending on a student's successful completion of requirements, both will lead to a student receiving a [transcript remark](#) of Honors or Highest Honors. Students should work with the Academic Coordinator for Honors options. More information on Honors status can be found [here](#).