

PUBLIC HEALTH

Graduate Degree Program

Department of Health Sciences

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

California State University, Northridge (CSUN) is one of 23 campuses of the California State University system, and is one of the largest universities in California.

The university is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and many of its degree programs are accredited by professional associations. The Master of Public Health Program in Community Health Education is nationally accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health. The MPH Program is located within the Department of Health Sciences which includes academic programs in the following specific health fields: Health Administration, Public Health, and Radiologic Technology. As of Fall 2015, the program has added a MPH concentration in Applied Epidemiology with the first cohort scheduled to start in Fall 2016.

It is the mission of the Department of Health Sciences to enable students to develop the critical knowledge and skills required to assume professional responsibility and leadership in health promotion, disease prevention, administration and clinical practice in a variety of health-care settings. Health Sciences faculty are committed to student-centered learning, scholarship and service.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The mission of the MPH Program in **Community Health Education** is to prepare professional community health educators to enhance the general health and wellbeing of diverse human populations and communities. The Program believes that through public health education, practice and scholarship, the student will develop multidisciplinary skills to identify and assess the needs of the communities; plan, implement and evaluate programs to address these needs; and achieve good health and quality of life in the multicultural communities they serve. The program is designed to enable health educators to meet the increasing responsibilities of leadership, supervision, administration and consultation in professional health education practice.

The mission of the MPH Program in **Applied Epidemiology** is to prepare professional public health epidemiologists with the necessary problem-solving, critical-thinking and technological skills that will allow them to assess, implement and evaluate programs in diverse human populations and communities. Students will be trained to describe how epidemiologic evidence informs public health practice, design epidemiologic studies, identify risk factors, collect and analyze data using appropriate methodologies, use statistical software and evaluate the strengths and limitations of epidemiologic investigations and incorporate into study interpretations and implications.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications to the MPH Program are accepted for the Fall semester only. The application can be found online through the Department website. All materials are to be submitted online - we do not accept paper applications. Please pay special attention to the checklist and submission instructions on the application.

The following criteria are used for evaluating prospective applicants to the MPH Program:

- Overall grade point average
- Graduate Record Examination (for GPA<3.0)
- Bachelor's Degree
- Work experience in health education related area.
- Three (3) Letters of recommendation. While not required, it is recommended that at least one letter come from an instructor who can attest to the applicant's academic performance.
- TOEFL – Test of English as a Foreign Language**
- Personal Statement

The MPH application period opens each year in early October. Please check the MPH website for more details.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The University makes a full range of financial assistance available to students. For information, contact the Financial Aid Office, (818) 677 - 4085.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION

Prospective students applying from outside the United States will need to contact International Admissions at <http://www.csun.edu/admissions-records/international> or call (818) 677-3760

**Applicants who do not possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited university where English is the language of instruction must submit a passing English Language exam (TOEFL) result.

REQUIRED COURSEWORK

The MPH Degree in Community Health Education and Applied Epidemiology requires a minimum of forty-two semester units of course work beyond a Bachelors degree.

1. Required Public Health Core Courses (21 units)

- EOH 554MPH Seminar: Environmental and Occupational Health Problems (3)
- HSCI 533 Advanced Concepts of Health Behavior (3)
- HSCI 541 Administration, Supervision and Consultation in Public Health (3)
- HSCI 587 Seminar: Epidemiology (3)
- HSCI 592 Advanced Biostatistics for the Health Sciences (3)
- HSCI 693A/C Supervised Field Training (2/1)
- HSCI 694 Research Design (3)

Community Health Education

2. Required Community Health Education Core Courses (9 units)

- HSCI 531 Seminar: Health Education Program Planning and Evaluation (3)
- HSCI 535 Curriculum Development in Health Education (3)
- HSCI 538 Seminar: Community Health Action (3)

3. Electives (9 units minimum)

With approval of the graduate advisor, students may take 500- and 600-level courses in such areas of study as Communications, Health Administration, Environmental and Occupational Health, or related areas of interest.

4. Culminating Experience (3 units)

HSCI 698C/D Thesis/Graduate Project (3)

Applied Epidemiology

2. Required Applied Epidemiology Core Courses (12 units)

- HSCI 591 Quantitative Demography for Health Science (3)
- HSCI 592A Advanced Biostatistics II (3)
- HSCI 695 Public Health Program Evaluation (3)
- HSCI 696 Advanced Epidemiologic Research Methods (3)

3. Epidemiology Elective (3 units minimum)

Choose one of the following:

- HSCI 588 Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases (3)
- HSCI 589 Epidemiology of Common Chronic Diseases (3)

4. Additional Electives (3 units minimum)

With approval of the graduate advisor, students may take 500- and 600-level courses in areas of study such as Health Administration, Environmental and Occupational Health (e.g., EOH 560: Environmental and Occupational Health Epidemiology), or related areas of interest.

5. Culminating Experience (3 units)

HSCI 698C/D Thesis/Graduate Project (3)