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# Public Health

In the College of Health and Human Services

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**<http://publichealth.sdsu.edu>**

## Faculty

Emeritus: Barnes, Boskin, Burgess, Chang, Kessler, Kitzinger, McTaggart, Noto, Peddecord, Senn, Sorochan  
Director: Stoskopf  
Professors: de Peyster, Koch, Yu  
Associate Professors: Seidman, Usita  
Assistant Professors: Ayala, Chowdhury, Finlayson, Lemus, Lindsay  
Undergraduate Adviser/Division Head: Kreisworth

## Offered by the Graduate School of Public Health

Doctor of Philosophy degree in public health.  
Master of Public Health degree.  
Master of Science degree in public health.  
Master of Public Health and Master of Arts in Latin American studies degrees (concurrent program).  
Master of Social Work and Master of Public Health degrees (concurrent program).  
Major in health science with the B.S. degree in applied arts and sciences.  
    Emphasis in public health.  
Minor in health science.

## The Major

The health science major with an emphasis in public health, provides a broad educational opportunity and exposure of undergraduate students to the field of public health and its many disciplines. The major prepares students to develop, implement, and assess public health programs conducted in varied settings, with diverse populations and aimed at reducing threats to public health. The major prepares students for entry-level positions in a variety of settings, including government agencies, private/voluntary agencies, hospitals, clinics, and international programs. Students develop basic competencies in public health concepts, theories, and methods. Students are exposed to the disciplines of epidemiology, environmental health, occupational health, health services administration, and behavioral science. The program of study uses examples of public health problems from all of these disciplines.

## Impacted Program and Standards for Admission

The health science major with an emphasis in public health is an impacted program. To be admitted to the emphasis in public health, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete at least 29 of the 37 lower division units that are required in preparation for the major with a minimum GPA of 2.50;
- Receive a grade of B or higher in Public Health 101 and 290. These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Health Science Major

**With the B.S. Degree in Applied Arts and Sciences**  
**(Major Code: 12011)**

All candidates for a degree in applied arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

A minor is not required with this major.

### Emphasis in Public Health

**Preparation for the Major.** Public Health 101, 290, 294; Biology 100, 100L, 210, 212; Chemistry 100; Nutrition 107; Psychology 101; Sociology 101; Statistics 119 or 250. (37 units)

Public Health 101 and 290 may not be taken Cr/NC. The minimum grade for Public Health 101 and 290 is B or higher.

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 503W, or Linguistics 305W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** A minimum of 42 upper division units to include Public Health 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 402, 490A, 490B, 490C; Biology 336; and at least 12 units selected from the following:

- Six to nine units of electives from Public Health 331, 345, 353, 362, 450, General Studies 330, 340. Maximum of three units may be included from Public Health 353, General Studies 330, 340. Other electives as selected and offered by the Graduate School of Public Health, with approval of academic adviser.

- Three to six units from one of the following categories:

**Preprofessional.** Science courses selected with approval of Graduate School of Public Health undergraduate academic adviser.

**Research.** Public Health 499 (Special Study) and completion of a senior research paper under guidance of a faculty member.

**Practice.** Public Health 497 (Supervised Field Experience); internship from a list of selected public health agencies.

**Time Limitation.** All public health courses taken for the major must have been taken and completed within seven years of the granting of the undergraduate degree. Courses taken prior to the seven year rule must be repeated. This policy applies to courses taken at SDSU or transferred from another four-year college or university or appropriate courses from a community college. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

## Health Science Minor

The minor in health science consists of a minimum of 18 units, to include nine units of Public Health 101, 290, 301, and nine units selected from Public Health 302, 303, 304, 305.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## Courses (P H)

Refer to *Curricula and Courses and University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

**NOTE: Students who are not pre-health science or health science majors may take the following public health courses with consent of instructor.**

### LOWER DIVISION COURSES

#### P H 101. Introduction to Public Health (3)

Epidemics, environment, and community health challenges, including educational, political, environmental, regulatory, and organizational factors that support health of population groups and communities. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 101.)

#### P H 290. Health Professions and Organizations (3)

Prerequisites: Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 101.

Health organization and agencies, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. Types of public health settings, and responsibilities in different types of health careers and public health positions. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 290.)

#### P H 294. Substance Abuse and Public Health (3)

Threats to public health by use and abuse of psychoactive drugs including alcohol, nicotine, cannabis, hallucinogens, narcotics, designer and prescription drugs; trends in prevention, treatment and early intervention programs with legal, historical, and political aspects of addiction. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 574.)

#### P H 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

### UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

#### P H 301. Foundations and Practice of Public Health (3)

Prerequisites: Public Health 101 and 290 with grades of B or better. Open to health science majors and minors.

Organization of public health field, role of government and voluntary agencies in protecting and promoting health of individuals, groups, and communities. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 560.)

#### P H 302. Communicable and Chronic Disease (3)

Prerequisites: Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 301. Open to health science majors and minors.

Impact of infectious and chronic diseases on health of the population. Epidemiologic methods, behavioral and biologic determinants, modes of transmission, and risk factors. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 470.)

#### P H 303. Health Behavior in Community Settings (3)

Prerequisites: Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 301. Open to health science majors and minors.

Behavior change theory, principles, predictive models, and their application to health behavior change programs. Review of research methods related to individuals and communities. Analysis of major health behavior change programs. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 401.)

#### P H 304. Environment and Public Health (3)

Prerequisites: Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 301. Open to health science majors and minors.

Environmental hazards of living and working in both industrialized and lesser developed societies. Chemical, biological, and physical agents in food, air, water, and soil. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 350.)

#### P H 305. Medical Care Organization and Delivery (3)

Prerequisites: Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 301. Open to health science majors and minors.

Organizational, economic, financial, political, and cultural factors affecting finance and delivery of health and medical services in the U.S. Topics include insurance, managed care, reimbursement, private and public programs, and regulation. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 561.)

#### P H 331. Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (3)

Prerequisites: Public Health 301.

Roles and responsibilities of public health in disaster preparation, mitigation, planning, and response to epidemics, pandemics, natural disasters and bioterrorism, includes disaster assessment, surveillance, risk management, and principles of disaster planning. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 331.)

#### P H 345. Injury Prevention (3)

Prerequisites: Public Health 301.

Epidemiology of traumatic injury within developmental, social, legislative, economic, and political contexts. Behavioral dilemmas in injury prevention and risk management. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 345.)

#### P H 353. Human Sexuality and Disease (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Development of sexual values, attitudes, and behaviors across ages, including evolution and occurrence of sexually transmitted infections worldwide. Focus on biological, medical, psychological, sociocultural, and political factors. Not open to students with credit in Community Health Education 353 and 475.

#### P H 362. International Health (3) [GE]

Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Population dynamics, vital statistics, global disease patterns, and analysis of variations among nations and cultures with respect to health problems and health care services. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 362.)

#### P H 402. Public Health Communications (3)

Prerequisites: Public Health 301. Open only to health science major.

Effective communication techniques used in public health campaigns, social marketing, and risk communication. Use of technology to design and conduct public health campaigns which focus on recognizing and overcoming communication barriers, including cross-cultural issues. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 402.)

#### P H 450. Public Health Policy (3)

Prerequisites: Credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 302, 303, 304, 305.

Political, economic, cultural, institutional, and social factors influencing development and implementation of policy. U.S. and international private and public health organizations and their roles in shaping health policy. Public health advocacy by organizations.

#### P H 490A. Health Data Analysis (3)

Prerequisites: Public Health 301 and credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 302. Open only to health science major.

Identifying, retrieving, and using health data, with emphasis on statistical applications and interpretation of results for changing policy and health programs.

#### P H 490B. Planning Public Health Programs (3)

Prerequisites: Public Health 301 and credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 490A. Open only to health science major.

Public health programming models, including community needs assessment, goals, objectives, and strategies for effective public health interventions. Preparation of grant proposals. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 406.)

P H

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### **P H 490C. Public Health Program Evaluation (3)**

Prerequisites: Public Health 301, 490A, and credit or concurrent registration in Public Health 490B. Open only to health science major.

Quantitative and qualitative evaluation methods in public health programs. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 490.)

### **P H 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

### **P H 497. Supervised Specialization in Public Health (1-6)**

Prerequisites: Senior standing in public health and Public Health 301, 302, 303, 304, 305.

Tailored experience in one of three areas of specialization selected in consultation with major adviser: Preprofessional, Research, or Practice. Maximum credit six units. (Formerly numbered Community Health Education 497.)

### **P H 499. Special Study (1-3)**

Prerequisites: Consent of special study adviser.  
Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

**GRADUATE COURSES**  
**Refer to the *Graduate Bulletin*.**

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