

PUBLIC HEALTH

Program Director: Dhitinut (DT) Ratnapradipa, PhD
Program Office: 2nd Floor, Vinardi Center (Old Gym)

Graduate Study in Public Health

Promote Positive Change

The Master of Public Health program prepares current and future leaders in public health to expertly practice within rural, urban community, public and private sector locations. We are a distance education program with a national and international student body. Graduates of the program will be engaging with a variety of communities across the world. The program prioritizes national and global populations experiencing health inequity, including those who are vulnerable, at risk, or marginalized.

Our vision is to ignite innovative engagement that promotes optimal physical, mental, and social well-being to eliminate health inequity in national and global communities.

Our Values

Jesuit Values, Health Equity, Commitment to Diversity, Cultural Humility, Social Justice, Health as a Public Good and Fundamental Right.

Our Jesuit values align with Creighton's Catholic Jesuit values of social justice and service to others. We value critical self-reflection, service to others and taking responsible action. We promote the highest standard of accountability, transparency, and respectful practice which fosters an environment of trust and integrity. We are committed to excellence in teaching, service and scholarship.

Program Goals

The MPH program adheres to national standards in public health and the program goals align with these standards and learning objectives. A graduate of the MPH program will achieve 22 foundational public health competencies and specific concentration competencies in ethics and/or healthcare management.

Goal Statement 1: Teaching

Prepare public health professionals committed to health equity grounded in competencies (knowledge, skills, beliefs, attitudes) in the foundations of public health to serve at-risk, marginalized, and vulnerable communities through practice in health care ethics or health care management.

Goal Statement 2: Scholarship

Foster public health scholarship to promote health equity within priority communities that are at-risk, marginalized and vulnerable, while advancing public health knowledge and practice. The MPH program prioritizes national and global populations experiencing health inequity, including those who are vulnerable, at-risk, or marginalized.

Goal Statement 3: Service

Promote culturally responsive community engagement through outreach, education, and partnerships.

Admission Requirements

- **Baccalaureate degree or higher:** Applicants for the Master of Public Health must have a baccalaureate or higher degree. Applicants who

do not hold a post-baccalaureate degree must have an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 in the last 60 hours of undergraduate study.

- **Application and application fee of \$50.**
- **Curriculum vitae:** Applicants should include relevant education, employment history, certifications and licensures, teaching and research experience, publications, presentations, awards, honors, affiliates, professional associations, experience and background in health, public health or health care.
- **Essay:** In two pages or less, applicants should respond to the following questions:
 1. Describe how your personal qualities, accomplishments, academic background and professional experience will contribute to your success in the Creighton MPH program.
 2. Explain how successful completion of this program will assist you in achieving your professional goals.
- **Recommendation forms:** Applicants are required to provide three recommendation forms, to be completed and submitted by persons other than family members who are capable of assessing their performance in an academic or work setting.
- **Transcripts:** Applicants must submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities they previously attended. Issuing institutions must send the transcripts directly.
- **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):** All international applicants must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by submitting a minimum TOEFL score of 100 iBT (213 CBT/550 PBT). International applicants who received their baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited institution in the U.S., United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand are not required to submit a TOEFL score report.

General Requirements

The Master of Public Health is a 44 credit-hour program that is offered fully online (no residency requirement) and includes 22 credit hours of core courses, 15 credit hours in your chosen concentration, 4 credit hours of practicum experience and 3 credit hours for a capstone research project. Students choose one of two possible areas of concentration:

Health Care Ethics or Healthcare Management. Since the program targets working professionals, all courses are offered as eight-week modules and most students will be enrolled part-time, usually taking only one course per eight-week term. Students who take one course each term will complete the program in about two-and-a-half years. Students who successfully complete core and concentration courses in the MPH program will then begin their practicum experience. This experience consists of three courses culminating in a Capstone course with a final paper. Students will identify a practicum site/agency within their own communities, and will work with a preceptor to develop a master's level project designed to demonstrate mastery of competencies learned in the program.

MPH Degree Requirements (44 credits):

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
IPE 500	Introduction to Collaborative Care	0
IPE 001	Interprofessional Education Passport	0
GRD 601	Writing for Graduate Students	1
MPH 601	Organization and Management of Public Health Services	3
MPH 604	Social and Behavioral Aspects of Public Health	3

MPH 605	Epidemiology	3
MPH 606	Environmental Health	3
MPH 609	Introduction to Community-Based Participatory Research	3
MHE 622 or MHE 603	Public Health Ethics Law and Health Care Ethics	3
MPH 707	Introduction to Mixed Methods	3
Practicum Experience		
MPH 610	Pre-Practice Preparation	1
MPH 611	Practice Experience	3
Capstone		
MPH 612	Capstone	3
Select one of the following concentrations:		15
Health Policy and Ethics Concentration		
MHE 600	Scholarly Reading and Writing	
MHE 601	Health Policy	
MHE 602	Research Ethics	
MHE 603	Law and Health Care Ethics	
MHE 604	Social and Cultural Contexts of Health Care	
Healthcare Management Concentration		
MHM 601	Human Resources for Healthcare Managers	
MPH 608	Health Communication and Informatics	
MPH 633	Health Economics and Finance	
MPH 634	Health Planning and Marketing	
MPH 635	Public Health Leadership	
Total Credits		44

Courses

MPH 561. Exploring Holistic Health - Implications for Care and Policy. 3 credits.

This course explores different understandings of health and how these influence perceptions and practices of care as well as policies pertaining to public health care. Students will compare and contrast their own understandings with those of diverse groups and professionals encountered during a two-week program abroad.

MPH 601. Organization and Management of Public Health Services. 3 credits.

This course examines the organization, delivery, and financing of health care services from a managerial and policy perspective. Specific focus will be given to the role, responsibilities, and functions of public health services; the integral relationship of public health within the larger health system; and management principles and practices applicable to public health organizations.

MPH 604. Social and Behavioral Aspects of Public Health. 3 credits.

This course is an exploration of concepts and methods of social and behavioral sciences relevant to the identification and solution of public health problems. This course will focus on the basic set of competencies that is central to the field, including identifying theories, concepts, and models from a range of social and behavioral disciplines that are used in public health research and practice.

MPH 605. Epidemiology. 3 credits.

This course offers a foundation for the study of the distribution, history, and determinants of disease and disability in human populations. In addition to examining the biological basis of health, the course will explore social epidemiology and the interrelationship between the social and biological determinants of health.

MPH 606. Environmental Health. 3 credits.

This course examines the environmental factors that impact population health. This course focuses on the biological, physical and chemical agents affecting human health. Additional topic areas that will be explored include the regulatory framework for environmental health, workplace health, and contemporary issues in environmental justice.

MPH 607. Biostatistics. 3 credits.

This course focuses on descriptive and inferential statistical concepts, methods, and the applications of statistical methods in the analysis and assessment of population health.

MPH 608. Health Communication and Informatics. 3 credits.

This course provides a foundation for understanding the concepts and best practices in health communication and for developing skills in building effective communication campaigns with multiple and culturally diverse audiences. Recognizing the importance of informatics in health communication, this course will also address skills in the use of information technology for the retrieval, management and dissemination of information that promotes population health.

MPH 609. Introduction to Community-Based Participatory Research. 3 credits.

This course provides an introduction to Community-based Participatory Research (CBPR). This course is NOT a methodology course; CBPR is an approach to conducting research that can be used with many research designs and methodologies. It is intended to provide students a grounding in the goals and application of CBPR; the theoretical background that informs CBPR; an introduction to theories of race, ethnicity, power, difference, gender and sexuality; the formation and maintenance of community partnerships; the use of CBPR to promote health equity and social justice; and the introduction of CBPR techniques to institutional review boards and funders.

MPH 610. Pre-Practice Preparation. 1 credit.

Opportunity to establish site, preceptor and focus of the practice experience. Complete site requirements and learning contract prior to beginning MPH 611. P. MPH 601, MPH 602, MPH 604, MPH 605, MPH 606, MPH 607, MPH 608, MPH 609.

MPH 611. Practice Experience. 3 credits.

Opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills acquired through core courses and elective/area of concentration under the supervision of a qualified preceptor who is a public health professional. P. MPH 601, MPH 602, MPH 604, MPH 605, MPH 606, MPH 607, MPH 608, MPH 609, MPH 610, and 9 credit hours of MPH electives.

MPH 612. Capstone. 3 credits.

In this final required course of the degree program, students are expected to integrate insights gained and competencies acquired throughout the program. Applying methods of scholarly inquiry and composition, students will synthesize insights and findings from their practice experience in a publishable-quality article or commentary and will present the findings to fellow students and faculty. P. MPH 601, MPH 602, MPH 604, MPH 605, MPH 606, MPH 607, MPH 608, MPH 609, MPH 610, MPH 611, and 9 credit hours of MPH electives.

MPH 615. Ethical Issues in Population Health: A Global Perspective. 3 credits.

This course provides students with a foundational understanding of the ethical issues related to public health as a discipline and to its practice. The course will emphasize the global dimension of these issues along with their national and local repercussions. While students will explore the theoretical issues with the discipline itself (in regards to the ethical framework best fits population health enterprise), there will also be a more in-depth study of concrete cases that will highlight the multiple and global dimensions of health and healthcare. Global public health ethical issues will be explored within the context of the social and systemic factors that affect population health across the globe. Concrete cases that will be explored may include (but will not be restricted to): globesity, pandemics and vaccination, disasters and humanitarian aid, conflict of interest in screening and medical guidelines, medical research agenda and global justice, and healthcare professionals' education and migration.

MPH 633. Health Economics and Finance. 3 credits.

The course examines fundamental theories in health economics and health care finance and the application of these theories in public health administration. The course emphasizes and understanding of economic issues within the larger social and political context in which public health operates. Economic and finance theories and practices pertinent to the public health sector as well as concepts and practices in financial management that support the successful leadership and administration of public health organizations will be explored in this course.

MPH 634. Health Planning and Marketing. 3 credits.

This course focuses on the understanding and application of health planning and health care marketing models and practices. The course encompasses a range of health planning and marketing models, methods and applications including health systems planning, strategic planning and marketing, program planning and social marketing for public health services. Recognizing the integral role of program evaluation in the planning process, this course will also review best practices for the integration of program evaluation as a component of the overall plan.

MPH 635. Public Health Leadership. 3 credits.

The purpose of this course is to explore leadership theories, identify leadership challenges, and analyze best practices in public health leadership. Emphasis is given to reflection and self-development of decision-making and leadership styles in assuming leadership roles within public health organizations.

MPH 707. Introduction to Mixed Methods. 3 credits.

This course provides an overview and introduction to mixed methods research, which involves collecting, analyzing, and integrating both quantitative and qualitative research in a study. After a brief review of the similarities and distinctions between quantitative and qualitative research, this introduction consists of defining mixed methods research and its foundations. We will then examine the types of mixed methods designs available and discuss the process of research as it relates to each of these designs. Throughout the course, we will cover the components of rigorous mixed methods.

MPH 795. Selected Topics MPH Pre-Practicum. 1-3 credits.

Students will complete the necessary pre-practicum requirements for their practicum placement in MPH 611. To achieve a successful practicum placement, MPH 795 Selected Topic Pre-Practicum requires the student to work in collaboration with their practicum course director and practicum course instructor. P. MPH 610.