

**New Graduate Program (Majors, Sequences, Certificates) Proposal
Illinois State University - Graduate Curriculum Committee**

Program Department Health Sciences

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Title of New Program Public Health

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Campus Address 5220 Health Sciences

Version 5 **ID** 167

Proposed Starting Catalog Year 2023-2024

Associated Course Proposal(s):

New Graduate Course proposal HSC 405 titled *Public Health Leadership*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 406 titled *Global Health*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 407 titled *Public Health Systems*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 445 titled *Environmental Health*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 450 titled *Food Protection*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 458 titled *Epidemiology for Public Health*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 462 titled *Ergonomics*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 478 titled *Principles of Emergency Management*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 486 titled *Resource Development for Public Health Professionals*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 488 titled *Research Methods in Public Health*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 490 titled *Drugs in Society*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 494 titled *Health Aspects of Aging*
 New Graduate Course proposal HSC 496 titled *Health Behavior*

1. Proposed Action

- ✓ New Major
- New Sequence
- New Certificate
- ✓ More than 50% of courses in this program are Distance Education

Degree Type(s)

Other

2. Provide Graduate Catalog copy for new program.

Master of Public Health

The Master of Public Health (MPH) program is designed for students who aspire to work on vital health issues facing the citizens of our country and world. The program is especially relevant to students who have gained an appreciation for the complexity of health problems and recognize the need for developing solutions in thoughtful, systematic, and creative ways. People with various undergraduate degrees in applied health disciplines, life sciences and social sciences will find the program well-suited to advance their careers. Full-time and part-time plans of study are available.

All students are required to complete six hours of professional practice or a research thesis. A minimum cumulative and major GPA of 3.00 is required for retention in the MPH program.

The 42-hour sequence requires:

- 27 hours of core courses: HSC 405, HSC 407, HSC 445, HSC 458, HSC 486, HSC 488, HSC 496, NUR 410, and NUR 511
- 6 hours or professional practice or research thesis: HSC 498 or HSC 499
- 9 hours of elective courses chosen from: CJS 338, CJS 342, CJS 403, CJS 467, COM 324, COM 358, COM 409, FCS 411, FCS 415, FCS 433, FCS 494, GEO 341, GEO 422, GEO 426, HSC 406, HSC 450, HSC 462, HSC 478, HSC 490, HSC 494, POL 431, POL 470, POL 477, SOC 310, SOC 320, SOC 330, SOC 333, SOC 362, SOC 366, SWK 402, SWK 406, SWK 444, SWK 450, SWK455, and SWK486

Additional courses may qualify as electives with approval from the academic advisor or graduate program coordinator.

3. Provide a description for the proposed program.

The MPH program is designed for students who aspire to work on vital health issues facing the citizens of our country and world. The program is especially relevant to students who have gained an appreciation for the complexity of health problems and recognize the need for developing solutions in thoughtful, systemic and creative ways. People with various undergraduate degrees in applied health disciplines, life sciences and social sciences will find the program well-suited to advance their careers. Full-time and part-time plans of study are available.

4. Provide a rationale of proposed program.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects 11 % growth in public health careers by 2026. This is particularly true for public health educators (16% projected growth), epidemiologists (9%) and statisticians (33%). The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) projects the deficit of public health professionals in the State of Illinois to exceed 20,000.

- The MPH at ISU will be truly interdisciplinary in nature with courses, research opportunities and culminating experiences designed to engage students in health issues from various perspectives. Students from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds will be brought together in the program and develop critical public health competencies by pursuing a rigorous program of study.
- The trend toward interdisciplinary approaches to complex health problems is rapidly accelerating throughout research and practice in various public health settings and organizations. The Institute of Medicine described the need to involve students in interdisciplinary approaches as part of their professional preparation.
- Community health problems of today and the future are less likely to be solved by professionals working within the borders of disciplines and will be more effectively addressed by professionals competent in the ability to view and understand community health problems in a systemic way. Based upon these understandings, professionals will be equipped to implement innovative solutions and evaluate their effectiveness with a focus on continuous improvement of the system.
- The MPH is relevant to professionals working in diverse practice settings such as health care, education, business and industry, government and social services.
- Collaboration between the Department of Health Sciences and several other academic units on campus can provide a unique, challenging and highly attractive MPH.
- All academic units involved in the delivery of the MPH program will benefit from the new students and course offerings and through new avenues for research collaboration.
- Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the program and collaboration among several academic units several existing courses can be used to deliver the program resulting in substantial cost savings.
- The Department of Health Sciences is the academic home of several undergraduate health disciplines (medical laboratory sciences, environmental health, health promotion and education, health information management, safety), a well-qualified faculty - several of whom possess advanced degrees in public health, and existing courses that are essential to a public health degree. In addition, the Department of Health Sciences has a highly successful record of delivering applied science programs with excellent professional practice experiences and a rich history of collaboration with health programs and agencies in communities throughout the state.
- Collaborations with health agencies will occur in several ways including bringing speakers to campus, having students conduct research projects with agencies, placing students in professional practice with agencies, and the opportunity for agencies to support the professional development of MPH students with graduate assistantships. This could include a Public Health Fellows program that would function like the Applied Community and Economic Development Fellows Program of the Stevenson Center at Illinois State University. Agencies will provide a monthly stipend for both years of full-time graduate study and Fellows will complete an extended professional practice with the sponsoring agency during the second year of study.
- The MPH Program will enable ISU faculty to pursue research funding that is currently not accessible because of the lack of a graduate level public health program.

5. Describe the expected effects of the proposed program on existing campus programs (if applicable).

Demand (based on steady-state enrollment of 40+ students, at least 50% of whom are full-time and the availability of at least 12 online elective courses to meet the nine hours of elective credit required):

- It is expected that 20-25 students per year will enroll in NUR 511: Health Policy and NUR 410: Fundamentals of Biostatistics for Public Health, both required courses in the MPH program.
- It is expected that 3-6 students per year will enroll in individual online elective courses

Benefits:

- Opportunities that may exist for future collaboration with Mennonite College of Nursing on an MSN/MPH dual degree, the School of Social Work on an MSW/MPH dual degree or the Stevenson Center as part of the ACED Fellows program could serve to grow enrollments in other programs on campus.

6. Describe the expected curricular changes required, including new courses. If proposals for new courses that will be or have been submitted, please reference those related proposals here:

Expected curricular changes for the Master of Public Health include eight new required core courses, two existing required core courses, six new elective courses and 29 existing electives. New course proposals are highlighted in the list below.

Public Health Core Courses (33 hours)

- HSC 405: Public Health Leadership (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 407: Public Health Systems (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 445: Environmental Health (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 458: Epidemiology for Public Health (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 486: Resource Development for Public Health Professionals (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 488: Research Methods in Public Health (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 496: Health Behavior (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 498: Professional Practice or HSC 499: Independent Research for the Master's Thesis
- NUR 410: Fundamentals of Biostatistics for Public Health (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- NUR 511: Health Policy

General Electives (9 hrs.)

- CJS 338: Alcohol, Drugs and Crime (3)
- CJS 342: Victimology (3)
- CJS 403: Criminal Justice Policy (3)
- CJS 467: Law and Society (3)
- COM 324: Theory and Research in Persuasion (3)
- COM 358: Crisis Communication (3)
- COM 409: Seminar in Health Communication (3)
- FCS 411: Community Nutrition (3)
- FCS 415: Nutrition for Health and Physical Fitness (3)
- FCS 433: Family and Consumer Public Policy (3)
- FCS 494: Sexuality and Family Life (3)
- GEO 341: Climate and Global Environmental Change (3)
- GEO 422: Sustainable Cities (3)
- GEO 426: Environmental Justice (3)
- HSC 406: Global Health (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 450: Food Protection (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 462: Ergonomics (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 478: Principles of Emergency Management (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 490: Drugs in Society (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- HSC 494: Health Aspects of Aging (NEW; proposal has been submitted)
- POL 431: Seminar in Public Administration (3)
- POL 470: Seminar in Community Development (3)
- POL 477: Community Project Design and Management (3)
- SOC 310: Medical Sociology (3)
- SOC 320: Global Development & Economic Change (3)
- SOC 330: Society and Environment (3)
- SOC 333: Political Sociology: Power, Culture and Change (3)
- SOC 362: Population (3)
- SOC 366: Contemporary Social Movements (3)
- SWK 402: Human Behavior (3)
- SWK 406: Social Welfare Policy & Services (3)
- SWK 444: Promoting Social Justice with Diverse Populations (3)
- SWK 450: Psychopathology (3)
- SWK455: Agency Administration & Program Planning (3)
- SWK486: Practice with Substance Use Disorders (3)

7. Anticipated funding needs and source of funds.

The Department of Health Sciences will assume the following responsibilities: - Teach ten courses annually (1.5 FTE - Full Cost Recovery program) - Coordinate and supervise Professional Practice for MPH students - 0.25 FTE (Spring, Summer) - Graduate Program Director: Administrative leadership for the MPH program including curriculum supervision, advising, student recruitment and program assessment - 0.25 FTE (Fall, Spring, Summer) Professional practice will be coordinated by the graduate program director until enrollment reaches a steady-state of 20 or more students. Support for the grad program director and professional practice supervision will come from FCR, future replacement/resignation/non-reappointment hires and internal operating dollars. Future faculty searches in Public Health, Environmental Health, Safety and Sustainability, Health Informatics and Information Management and Medical Laboratory Science will include support for the MPH.

8. **No** Does this program count for teacher education?

9. **The following questions must be answered.**

Yes Have you confirmed that Milner Library has sufficient resources for the proposed program?

Yes Have letter(s) of concurrence from affected departments/schools been obtained?
A departments/school is affected if it has a program with significant overlap or if it teaches a required or elective course in the program.

