

Samford University 2019-2020 Graduate Catalog Addendum

School of Public Health

Public Health

Doctoral Programs and Requirements

Degree/Major

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)

Public Health (DrPH) w/a Concentration in Health Management and Policy

Public Health (DrPH) w/a Concentration in Population Health Analytics and Decision-Making

The Department of Public Health offers a doctor of public health degree (DrPH). This 45-hour online degree is an interdisciplinary program drawing from all departments within the School of Public Health. Students will also choose one of two concentrations: health management and policy or population health analytics and decision-making.

Admission Requirements

- Applicants must have an M.P.H., M.H.A. (or M.H.C.A.), M.S.P.H., M.S.W., or other relevant master's degree from an accredited institution, with a minimum GPA of 3.00. Applicants must submit transcripts for all college-level coursework.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Personal statement.
- Writing sample.
- Student must be able attend to DrPH Institutes on campus

Transfer Credit

A maximum of 12 hours may apply towards this program, pending approval of the program director.

Time Limit

All courses required for the doctor of public health must be completed within a period of five years from the academic session of first admission.

Time-to-Degree Completion Plan

The program is designed to be completed in five terms, or approximately one-and-a-half to two years.

Progression Policies

- Upon the recommendation of the faculty, students in good standing with the university, who have completed all requirements of the curriculum, are granted the DrPH degree.
 - Students may not receive any grades lower than B for the DrPH courses and must maintain a 3.00 GPA at all times. Courses with grades lower than B may be re-taken one time. When a course is re-taken, both grades remain on the transcript and both are used in calculating the student's GPA.
 - Students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher and may not re-take more than two courses during their doctor of public health studies. Students whose GPA falls below 3.00 will be placed on academic probation and will not be able to take more than three courses. Students who remain on academic probation for more than two semesters and students who receive a grade lower than B in more than two courses will be terminated from the doctor of public health program.
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Public Health (DrPH) w/a Concentration in Health Management & Policy

The doctor of public health (DrPH) is a practice degree. The primary career orientation of graduates is to provide leaders for the public health sector. While some graduates at some point in their career will enter academia, this is not the central goal of the program. The Samford DrPH degree is an interdisciplinary program drawing from strengths within each department in the School of Public Health. Students in the program receive an advanced education in the scholarship of knowledge translation, the development of a broad understanding of all aspects of public health, through integration of multiple disciplines, and the ability to rigorously apply scientific findings to address complex problems of public health policy and practice. The curriculum is designed to provide mastery of high-level competencies in management, innovation, and analytics. Students will complete a core as well as coursework in one of the concentrations (health management and policy or population health analytics and decision making). All coursework is offered online.

Public Health Core: 24 Credits

- MHCA 603 - Healthcare Management (3)
- MHCA 614 - Healthcare Financial Management and Budgeting (3)
- NURG 710 - Teaching-Learning Principles (3)
- NUTR 611 - Research Methods and Applications (3)
- PHLT 606 - Public Health Planning and Evaluation (3)
- PHLT 608 - Leadership for Health Professionals (3)
- PHLT 610 - Strategic Management of Healthcare (3)
- PHLT 630 - Evidence-Based Decision-Making in Public Health (3)

Health Management & Policy Concentration: 12 Credits

- MHCA 602 - Healthcare Organizational Dynamics and Governance (3)
- MHCA 622 - Healthcare Economics (3)
- PHLT 720 - Applied Statistics for Public Health Policy (3)
- SOWK 665 - Policy Analysis and Advocacy (3)

Doctoral Seminars: 0 Credits

Grant writing, Scholarly Communication, etc.

Applied Practice/Integrative Experiences: 9 Credits

- PHLT 795 - Applied Practice Experience (3)
- PHLT 799 - Integrative Experience (3-6)

Total Required Credits: 45

Public Health (DrPH) w/a Concentration in Population Health Analytics & Decision-Making

The doctor of public health (DrPH) is a practice degree. The primary career orientation of graduates is to provide leaders for the public health sector. While some graduates at some point in their career will enter academia, this is not the central goal of the program. The Samford DrPH degree is an interdisciplinary program drawing from strengths within each department in the School of Public Health. Students in the program receive an advanced education in the scholarship of knowledge translation, the development of a broad understanding of all aspects of public health, through integration of multiple disciplines, and the ability to rigorously apply scientific findings to address complex problems of public health policy and practice. The curriculum is designed to provide mastery of high-level competencies in management, innovation, and analytics. Students will complete a core as well as coursework in one of the concentrations (health management and policy or population health analytics and decision making). All coursework is offered online.

Public Health Core: 24 Credits

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- PHLT 610 - Strategic Management of Healthcare (3)
- PHLT 630 - Evidence-Based Decision-Making in Public Health (3)

Population Health Analytics & Decision Making Concentration: 12 Credits

- HIIM 650 - Introduction to Biomedical Informatics and Analytics (3)
- HIIM 653 - Structured/Unstructured Data Design and Analysis (3)
- HIIM 661 - Visual Analytics and Predictive Modeling (3)
- PHLT 715 - Improving Population Health Outcomes through Analytics (3)

Doctoral Seminars: 0 Credits

Grant writing, Scholarly Communication, etc.

Applied Practice/Integrative Experiences: 9 Credits

- PHLT 795 - Applied Practice Experience (3)
- PHLT 799 - Integrative Experience (3-6)

Total Required Credits: 45
