

# Master of Public Health

The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree is the most widely recognized and highly regarded credential for public-health professionals. The MPH program at UTEP is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health and prepares students for public-health careers in the public, non-profit, and private sectors. The program is directed toward individuals with previous health experience or who have a strong commitment to public health. The Hispanic and Border Health concentration prepares students for public-health practice in Hispanic and border communities.

Students in the 42-hour MPH program take core courses designed to develop knowledge, analytical, and technical skills in five fundamental public health competencies: Social and Behavioral Sciences, Health Services Administration and Policy, Epidemiology, Environmental Health, and Biostatistics. The required practicum provides MPH students an opportunity to apply the public-health theory and skills they have learned in a practice setting. Students also learn through the completion of a “culminating experience” which requires a student to synthesize, integrate, and apply knowledge and skills gained through coursework and other learning experiences. The culminating project for the MPH Program at UTEP consists of a thesis or graduate research project.

Graduate students must maintain a minimum CGPA of 3.0 to remain in good academic standing.

- Students must get a grade of B or higher in any course for which they are enrolled while they are graduate students in this program
- A student obtaining a C grade in a MPH core course is required to retake that course and earn a grade of B or higher prior to enrolling in the Practicum course (PUBH 5662).
- Students who receive a D, F or two C grades in their courses will be dismissed from the MPH program.

## Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission into the MPH Program, prospective applicants must submit an application and the following documents to the UTEP Graduate School. The cohort program has fall-semester admission only.

- Completed baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. institution or recognized foreign institution
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on 4.0 scale for prior degree(s)
- GRE and/or MCAT scores are optional
- Applicants whose degrees are from non-English speaking institutions are required to demonstrate English proficiency. Please consult the Graduate School (<https://www.utep.edu/graduate/future-students/applicant-timelines.html>) website for required scores.
- Three letters of recommendation from professional references who have graduate degrees. At least one of these should be from an academic reference (e.g., a former professor).
- A 500-word essay describing prior public health-related experience, and reasons for pursuing the MPH
- Current curriculum vitae or professional resume
- English language writing sample authored solely by the applicant (e.g., class paper or research report)
- Teleconference (Zoom or Skype) meeting with the Admissions Committee

## Application Process

An application can be submitted by March 15 for fall enrollment. Go to Graduate School website (<https://www.utep.edu/graduate/>) and select Apply Now under Quick Links in order to process the application.

## Degree Requirements

The Master of Public Health (MPH) is an interdisciplinary program that requires students to complete 42 credit hours of coursework: 15 credit hours of core courses, nine (9) credit hours in the Hispanic and Border Health Concentration, six (6) hours of practicum, and the remaining credit hours from a combination of course electives and a culminating experience (thesis or graduate project). Students who participate in internships with agencies or school districts requiring background checks must successfully pass the background check to complete the practicum requirement. Elective courses are chosen in conjunction with the faculty mentor with Graduate Advisor approval.

## Degree Plan

### Master of Public Health with a concentration in Hispanic and Border Health

Required Credits: 42

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Master of Public Health (All courses require a grade of C or better)</b>		
All courses listed below are required:		
PUBH 5302	Epidemiology for Pub Hlth Prof	3
PUBH 5304	Environmental Health	3

PUBH 5305	Biostatistics in Public Health	3
PUBH 5307	Health Services Admin & Policy	3
PUBH 5321	Resp to Chron, Infect Diseases	3
PUBH 5322	Eliminating Health Disparities	3
PUBH 5353	Social and Behavioral Approach	3
PUBH 5352	Public Health Eval & Research	3
PUBH 5662	Practicum in Public Health	6

**Elective Course Menu - select two courses from list below** **6**

**Social and Behavioral Sciences**

ANTH 4346	Global Health	3
COMM 5343	Seminar - Communication Theory	3
PSYC 5351	Behavioral Medicine	3
PUBH 5357	Selected Topics-Public Health	3

**Bioinformatics and Biological Sciences**

BINF 5351	Intro. Bioinformatics I	3
BIOL 5360	Aquatic Ecology	3

**Research Methods and Statistics**

SOCI 5320	Seminar in Research Methods	3
SOCI 5322	Seminar in Qualitative Methods	3

**Health Services Administration and Policy**

NURS 5338	Health Policy and Advocacy	3
NURS 5365	Managing Quality in Nurs Pract	3
PAD 5350	Public and Nonprofit Manage.	3
PAD 5365	Pol Anal & Decision Making	3

**Research Thesis Option**

Code	Title	Hours
PUBH 5398 & PUBH 5399	Thesis I and Thesis II	6
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>6</b>

**Project Thesis Option**

Code	Title	Hours
Select one from the following:		3
PUBH 5395	Graduate Project I	
PUBH 5396	Graduate Project II	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>3</b>