

# ACADEMIC LEARNING PLAN

## *Master of Public Health – Health Promotion, Education and Behavior*

### **Mission Statement**

The Master of Public Health provides students with a high quality, transdisciplinary perspective on public health and prepares them for diverse roles in a dynamic field. The M.P.H. degree is the most widely recognized professional credential for leadership in public health. The Master of Public Health offers three concentrations in Generalist MPH, Global Health (GHLH), and Health Promotion, and Education and Behavior (HPEB). The current Generalist MPH is intended for students who want a broad and general training. The MPH in Global Health is intended for professionals who desire a career in international health and development as well as global health monitoring and evaluation. The Health Promotion, Education and Behavior concentration targets students interested in health promotion and behavior change and CHES certification. All MPH students complete the five foundational core courses in environmental health, epidemiology, social and behavioral sciences, biostatistics, and public health policy, providing them with foundational knowledge related to the principles, theory, and practice of public health, in addition to other required and elective courses within the chosen concentration. The program foundational courses provide students with transdisciplinary and integrated perspective in environmental health, epidemiology, social and behavioral sciences, biostatistics, health services administration, and a practicum at a public health or healthcare setting. The required and elective courses offer students the opportunity to tailor their degree to best fit their career goals in public health. Public Health is a broad field that is open to students from diverse academic disciplines including health sciences, education, business, social and natural sciences, and others. This is a fully **online** program.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

UWF MPH Health Promotion, Education and Behavior graduates should be able to do the following:

#### **Content**

- Assess community health needs and capacity and public health issues utilizing appropriate epidemiologic methods, data collection, data analysis, results interpretation, and systems thinking tools.

#### **Critical Thinking**

- Develop, implement, and evaluate theory-based and community-engaged health and wellness programs for health promotion and disease self-management in community settings.

#### **Communication**

- Compose and deliver culturally competent communication strategies that incorporate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation.

## **Integrity/Values**

- Apply leadership principles in collaboration with other stakeholders in inter-professional teams to develop policies and/or programs to positively influence health outcomes and equity.

## **Project Management**

- Develop population-based public health policies, programs, projects or interventions utilizing budgetary tools and resource management while incorporating knowledge of public health organizations and systems.

## **Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes**

Graduate students in the Master of Public Health program will acquire advanced skills and knowledge that enable them to enter the public health profession or pursue additional graduate studies at the doctoral level. Direct assessment in this program is conducted using examinations, short essays that incorporate public health principles, theories and concepts to problem solving, semester projects, an objective comprehensive exam, and evaluation of student performance in the Internship in Public Health course, which is the required culminating experience at the end of a student's program of study. The internship provides field experience in a public health related area under the direction of a preceptor, requires a written report on the research conducted, and includes a final oral defense (conducted in person or via Web conferencing) of the conclusions and recommendations included in the report. The student will be assessed on abilities to integrate core public health principles of epidemiology, evaluation, and data analysis into practice, collaborate and communicate effectively during the internship to solve public health problems, abide by ethical standards in the conduct of research with humans and animals, make a creative contribution to the field, and work independently on internship research and tasks within reasonable timeframes. Indirect assessment practices in this program include an exit survey and student evaluations of courses.

## **Employment Opportunities for MPH- Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior Graduates:**

- Public Health Analyst (county, state, national, and international opportunities)
- Community Health
- Infection Control
- Medical Research
- Industry
- Health Start Coordinator
- Government
- Education
- Health Professions
- Research Laboratories
- Teaching
- Pollution Control
- Environmental Health

## **Find Out More about MPH- Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior at UWF:**

<https://uwf.edu/ukcoh/departments/public-health/graduate-programs/master-of-public-health/>