

Criterion V - Instructional Programs

Criterion V.A

The school shall offer programs reflecting its stated mission and goals, leading to the Master of Public Health (MPH) or equivalent professional master's degree in at least the five areas of knowledge basic to public health. The school may offer other degrees, professional and academic, and other areas of specialization, if consistent with its mission and resources.

The areas of knowledge basic to public health include:

1. **Biostatistics** - collection, storage, retrieval, analysis and interpretation of health data; design and analysis of health-related surveys and experiments; and concepts and practice of statistical data analysis.
2. **Epidemiology** - distribution and determinants of disease, disabilities and death in human populations; the characteristics and dynamics of human populations; and the natural history of disease and the biologic basis of health.
3. **Environmental health sciences** - environmental factors including biological, physical and chemical factors which affect the health of a community.
4. **Health services administration** - planning, organization, administration, management, evaluation and policy analysis of health programs.
5. **Social and behavioral sciences** - concepts and methods of social and behavioral sciences relevant to the identification and the solution of public health problems.

Expected Documentation

1. Identification in matrix form of all of the school's degree programs, including undergraduate degrees if any, showing the areas of specialization possible and distinguishing between those considered by the school to be professional degrees and those considered to be academic degrees. If the school offers degrees in a non-traditional format, these must be included in the matrix and identified as non-traditional.
2. The school bulletin or other official publication which describes all curricula offered by the school for all degree programs.
3. Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met.

Criterion V.A – Degree Programs

1. Degree Programs

<i>Figure V. A: Matrix of Academic Degree Programs</i>				
	MPH	DrPH	MS	PhD
Community Health Sciences (CHS)	X	X	X	X
Generalist	*	*		*
Gerontology	*	*	*	*
Health Promotion and Education	*	*	*	*
Maternal and Child Health	*	*	*	*
Other	*	*	*	*
Health Policy and Administration (HPA)	X	X	X	X
Public Health Policy and Administration	*			
Health Services Administration and Policy	*			
Generalist (PEP Only)				
Chicago	*			
Rockford (beginning Fall 1999)	*			
Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (EOHS) (Students undertake a general program of study unless they are enrolled in one of the following specializations)	X	X	X	X
Occupational Medicine Residency Program	*			
ABET Accredited Industrial Hygiene Program	*			
Epidemiology (EPID)	X		X	X
Biostatistics (BSTT)	Fall 2000		X	X

The MPH and DrPH are considered professional degrees; the MS and PhD are considered academic degrees.

As indicated in Figure V.A, the school offers the following degrees: Master of Public Health, Doctor of Public Health, Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy. These degrees are offered in one of five academic disciplines: Community Health Sciences (CHS), Health Policy and Administration (HPA), Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (EOHS), Epidemiology (EPID), and Biostatistics (BSTT). Currently, the MPH is offered in all disciplines except BSTT. However, the lack of an MPH in biostatistics was identified as a weakness during the self-study process and an MPH in biostatistics is being developed for implementation in fall 2000. It is under review by our Committee on Educational Programs (See minutes from 1/11/99 CEP meeting and Appendix V.A.1.1 for preliminary plans for the degree.) The DrPH is offered in CHS, EOHS and HPA; and the MS and PhD are offered in all five disciplines.

Students pursuing an MPH in CHS or HPA select, sometime after matriculation, a particular track of study (gerontology, health promotion and education, maternal and child health, or generalist for CHS (see pages 23-29 of the Community Health Sciences Student Handbook in Appendix IX.C.1.2), and public health policy and administration or health services administration and policy for HPA students in the comprehensive program or generalist for HPA students in the professional enhancement program (PEP) (see pages 22-24 of the SPH

Student Handbook in Appendix IX.C.1.1). Beginning in fall 1999, an MPH degree program, administered by HPA, will be offered at the UIC College of Medicine in Rockford. This PEP program is designed for public health professionals residing and working in the Rockford area and medical students whose interests focus on public health issues in a rural environment (see Appendix V.A.1.2). Students pursuing an MPH in EOHS may choose a general program, the ABET-accredited program in industrial hygiene, or the occupational medicine residency program (see pages 18-21 of SPH Student Handbook). There are no predefined areas of specialization for students pursuing an MPH in epidemiology. Students pursuing the DrPH follow a highly structured program with emphasis on course work in all five core public health areas along with a selected area of concentration in their chosen academic discipline. MS and PhD degree programs are discussed under Criterion V.E.1.

2. Curricula

The UIC School of Public Health Catalog is in Appendix V.A.2 (see Appendix V.A.1.2 for information regarding the Rockford MPH program). All curricula are presented by academic division within degree programs.

3. Assessment

Because at the time of this self-study report, the MPH program in biostatistics is in the final stages of approval, this criterion is met with commentary. We intend to implement this program fully in the fall 2000 term.

