

Criterion V.G – Joint Degree Program

If the school offers joint degree programs, the required curriculum for the professional public health degree shall be equivalent to that required for a separate public health degree.

Expected Documentation

1. Identification of joint degree programs offered by the school and a description of the requirements for each.
2. Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met.

Criterion V.G – Joint Degree Programs

1. Joint Degree Programs

The UIC School of Public Health offers students the opportunity to earn the following joint degrees: MBA/MPH, MD/MPH, DDS/MPH, MPH/MS in Nursing, DVM/MPH and MD/PhD (http://www.uic.edu/sph/special_joint.htm). The School also offers a Coordinated JD/MPH degree in partnership with the Chicago Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology. The School uses the terms “joint” and “combined” interchangeably. Note, all joint degrees are undergoing review and will be revised as necessary to comply with the 2005 accreditation criteria. These degree programs are described more fully in the Student Handbook at: http://www.uic.edu/sph/shandbook_jtdegree.htm#ba.

Joint MBA/MPH Degree Program

The College of Business Administration and the School of Public Health offer a program of study leading to the Combined Master of Business Administration and Master of Public Health. Students are admitted into one of the four divisions within the School of Public Health. Students elect areas of concentration from within their SPH division. To satisfy the MPH component of the joint degree, students must meet the requirements of the School of Public Health division to which they are admitted. Approved School of Public Health courses also can fulfill the elective requirements for the MBA.

Credit sharing:

The joint MBA/MPH program requires a minimum 70 semester hours of coursework (36 sh of MBA coursework; and between 34 and 39 sh of MPH coursework. (The latter is equivalent to the School’s current Professional Enhancement Program requirements). The field practicum experience may be waived based on prior experience. A capstone project is required of all students. Most students should be able to complete the program on a full-time basis in 2 ½ years, or in 3 ½ years on a part-time basis.

Both colleges recognize completion of the second degree as satisfying their degree’s elective requirements. (The MBA degree requires a minimum of 54 semester hours. The comprehensive MPH program is typically between 48 and 52 sh.)

Public health courses:

Five of the six core MPH courses are required: BSTT 400 Biostatistics I (3 sh); EPID 400 Principles of Epidemiology (3 sh) or EPID 403 Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods (3 sh) (depending on division requirement); CHSC 400 Public Health Concepts and Practices (3 sh); EOHS 400 Principles of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (3 sh); and CHSC 401 Behavioral Sciences in Public Health (3 sh). The sixth core MPH course, HPA 400 Principles of Management in Public Health (3 sh) is not required because of the intensive focus in the MBA core on management theories and skills.

Joint DDS/MPH Degree Program

A combined DDS/MPH degree program is available for students in good standing in the

College of Dentistry at UIC. There are two tracks for this joint degree program: a) registration in a full dental curriculum and 4 credit hours per semester concurrently in the School of Public Health. Two summer semesters would be available to complete the additional semester hours of SPH course work and the field practicum; or b) registration in dentistry and use of vacation and alternate semesters to carry a full-time course load in the School of Public Health.

Credit sharing:

The joint DDS/MPH degree program is a five year program of study. Students must complete 34 to 39 semester hours of MPH coursework (equivalent to the Professional Enhancement Program (PEP)) and satisfy four years of the required DDS program of study. SPH recognizes completion of the dental degree as satisfying elective requirements of the MPH comprehensive program.

Public health courses:

Students must complete the six core MPH courses: BSTT 400 Biostatistics I (3 sh); EPID 400 Principles of Epidemiology (3 sh) or EPID 403 Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods (3 sh) (depending on division requirement); CHSC 400 Public Health Concepts and Practices (3 sh); EOHS 400 Principles of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (3 sh); CHSC 401 Behavioral Sciences in Public Health (3 sh); and HPA 400 Principles of Management in Public Health (3 sh); in addition to satisfying the PEP requirements of their SPH Division. The field practicum experience may be waived based on prior experience. A capstone project is required of all students.

Joint MD/MPH Program

Students entering the joint MD/MPH program have two options for completing the joint degree. The first option is a five-year program of study. For exceptional students, a second option is a four-year intensive program of study primarily intended for James Scholars (a select group of highly motivated and gifted students who pursue the learning objectives of the College of Medicine through an individualized curriculum). (<http://www.uic.edu/depts/mcam/students/combined.shtml>)

Credit sharing:

The joint MD/MPH degree program is a five year program of study. Students must complete 34 to 39 semester hours of MPH coursework (equivalent to the Professional Enhancement Program (PEP)) and satisfy four years of the required Medical Degree program of study. Up to 12 semester hours of MD program electives may be satisfied by coursework taken to satisfy the MPH requirements. SPH recognizes completion of the medical degree as satisfying elective requirements of the MPH comprehensive program.

Public health courses:

Students must complete the six core MPH courses: BSTT 400 Biostatistics I (3 sh); EPID 400 Principles of Epidemiology (3 sh) or EPID 403 Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods (3 sh) (depending on division requirement); CHSC 400 Public Health Concepts and Practices (3 sh); EOHS 400 Principles of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (3 sh); CHSC 401 Behavioral Sciences in Public Health (3 sh); and HPA 400 Principles of Management in Public Health (3 sh); in addition to satisfying the PEP requirements of their SPH Division. The field practicum experience may be waived based on

prior experience. A capstone project is required of all students.

Combined MPH and MS in Nursing Degree

The UIC College of Nursing and the School of Public Health offer a program leading to two degrees: the Master of Science (MS) in Nursing with specialization in public health nursing and the Master of Public Health (MPH) with specialization in community health. Nurses interested in this program must be admitted separately to both the School of Public Health through the Community Health Sciences division and the College of Nursing through the Department of Public Health, Mental Health and Administration.

The program is tailored to accommodate full-time students working to complete both degrees in two academic years. The required course work also can be completed on a part-time basis in up to four years.

Credit sharing and public health courses:

Students must complete between 56 and 58 semester hours. The following courses are required. Courses designated with an asterisk (*) meet both College of Nursing and MPH degree requirements in Community Health Sciences.

SPH Core Courses (16 semester hour credits)

*BSTT 400: Biostatistics I (3)

CHSC 400: Public Health Concepts and Practice (3)

EOHS 400: Principles of Environmental Health Sciences (3)

EPID 403: Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods

CHSC 401: Behavioral Sciences in Public Health (was HPA 401) (3)

IPHS 698: Capstone Experience (MPH Master's Paper) (1)

[Note, the sixth core MPH course, HPA 400 Principles of Management in Public Health (3 sh) is not required because of the intensive focus in the Nursing core on management theories and skills.]

CHS Core Requirements (12 semester hour credits)

*CHSC 431: Community Assessment in Public Health (3)

*CHSC 433: Program Planning and Evaluation (3)

CHSC 480: Health Education and Health Promotion (3)

XXXXxxx: Choose one of the following CHSC 527, CHSC 543 or HPA 430 (3)

CHS Field Experience (3 or 5 semester hour credits. Students approved for a 3 sh field experience must complete an additional 2 sh of SPH course-work)

IPHS 650: Field Experience in Public Health--a CHS capstone experience

CON Courses (23-25 semester hour credits)

*NUPH 505: Nursing Systems Operation Management (3)

NUPH 507: Advanced Community Health Nursing: Introductions & Interventions (4)

NUPH 512: Healthcare Human Resource Management (3)

*NUPH 517: Budget and Finance of Health and Nursing Services (3)

*NUSC 526: Nursing Inquiry I (2)

*NUSC 527: Nursing Inquiry II (2)

NUSC 528: Health, Environment, and Systems (2)

NUSC 529: Issues of Advanced Practice in Nursing (1)

NUSC xxx: Choose one of the following NUSC 597 Project Research (3) or NUSC 598 Thesis Research (5)

CHS Field Experience: The curricula for both the MS in Nursing and the MPH include an extensive community based practicum that each student selects. The practicum and the Master's Paper represent the capstone/culminating experience in the CHS curriculum.

Joint DVM/MPH Degree Program

A new joint degree program, the **Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and the Master of Public Health (DVM/MPH)** was first offered in fall 2005 through the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Veterinary Medicine and UIC School of Public Health. The MPH degree is awarded through the division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

Students may complete a portion of their public health course work through distance learning while studying at the UIUC campus. All students must complete a minimum of two semesters in residence at the Chicago campus.

Veterinary students will ordinarily complete Years 1 through 3 of their veterinary training at UIUC, while taking some public health courses online and/or completing courses within the graduate programs of Veterinary Pathology and Veterinary Biosciences deemed equivalent to required SPH courses.

The School of Public Health offers the six required core MPH courses online at least once during the academic year. MPH students taking courses at remote sites (including DVM students at UIUC) have priority registration for these classes. The courses are highly structured sixteen week programs offered via the internet. Instructors have the same course learning objectives and cover material comparable to that of the corresponding in-class sections. Discussions among and between students and faculty take place primarily through the asynchronous features of the Blackboard learning system; although on occasion faculty and/or students will employ the systems "live chat" feature. Course evaluations for both the in-class and online versions of the course are the same, with some additional questions relating to the teaching modality for those attending the technology-mediated courses.

Credit sharing:

The joint DVM/MPH degree program is a five year program of study. Students must complete 39 semester hours of MPH coursework (equivalent to the Professional Enhancement Program (PEP)) in epidemiology and satisfy four years of the required Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine program of study. The MPH Epidemiology 403 course (3 sh) also satisfies the DVM basic epidemiology course requirement. In addition, 12 semester hours of coursework taken at the UIC School of Public Health will count toward the DVM free electives requirement. Between 3 and 5 semester hours of credit for the public health field practicum and 1 semester hour of credit for the capstone experience may also count toward a student's DVM degree. SPH recognizes completion of the DVM degree as satisfying elective requirements of the MPH comprehensive program.

Public health courses:

Students must complete the six core MPH courses: BSTT 400 Biostatistics I (3 sh); EPID 403 Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods (3 sh); CHSC 400 Public Health

Concepts and Practices (3 sh); EOHS 400 Principles of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (3 sh); CHSC 401 Behavioral Sciences in Public Health (3 sh); and HPA 400 Principles of Management in Public Health (3 sh); in addition to satisfying the PEP requirements of the Epidemiology Division. The field practicum experience is considered an integral part of the program of study and cannot be waived. A capstone project is also required of all students.

Joint MD/PhD Degree Program

The School of Public Health participates in the College of Medicine's Joint MD/PhD program. Medical students who are interested in PhD training in one of the public health sciences (but most choose epidemiology and/or biostatistics) may apply to this program. The program provides an extended period of study in the etiologic and methodologic approaches of population-based health research in concert with a complete medical school education. Application normally is made at the time of application to the College of Medicine; however, applicants also will be considered during their first two years of medical training. Students must apply to the MD/PhD Training Program and to the College of Medicine and indicate in their application that they are interested in a PhD in one of the public health sciences. Students receive a stipend throughout their years of study.

The curriculum for MD/PhD students includes the major portions of the medical school and graduate college curricula in a manner that economizes on time, eliminates duplication, and provides an integrated physician-scientist education. While the exact amount of time it takes to complete both degrees will vary from student to student, the curriculum includes flexibility that makes it possible for many students to finish in seven years.

Additional details about the MD/MPH program, including a recommended progression through the program, may be found at: <http://www.uic.edu/com/mdphd/curriculum.html>.

Coordinated JD/ MPH Degree Program

The UIC School of Public Health and the Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology offer a coordinated program leading to the Juris Doctor (JD) and the Master of Public Health (MPH). Students must apply separately to Chicago-Kent School of Law and School of Public Health through the Health Policy and Administration division.

Both programs may be completed in 3 ½ years for full-time law students and 4 ½ years for part-time law students. Students in the program will be assigned faculty advisors chosen from among the attorneys on the faculty of the School of Public Health and from the faculty members engaged in health-related issues at Chicago-Kent. Students must complete one year of course work (or the equivalent) at SPH through the Health Policy and Administration Division of the school. Students' work at UIC will qualify for 12 hours of elective credit at Chicago-Kent (approximately one semester's work). During the remaining semesters at Chicago-Kent, students will be required to meet all other curricular requirements of the law school. Students may begin their study by attending either school first, but cannot take courses at both schools during the same semester without special approval by both schools.

Students must complete a minimum of 34 semester hours of public health coursework (equivalent to the School's Professional Enhancement Program requirements for the HPA division). Students' work at UIC will qualify for twelve hours of elective credit at Chicago-Kent (approximately one semester's work). During the remaining semesters at Chicago-Kent,

students will be required to meet all other curricular requirements of the law school. SPH recognizes completion of the JD degree as satisfying elective requirements of the MPH comprehensive program.

Public health courses:

Students must complete the six core MPH courses: BSTT 400 Biostatistics I (3 sh); EPID 403 Introduction to Epidemiology: Principles and Methods (3 sh); CHSC 400 Public Health Concepts and Practices (3 sh); EOHS 400 Principles of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (3 sh); CHSC 401 Behavioral Sciences in Public Health (3 sh); and HPA 400 Principles of Management in Public Health (3 sh); in addition to satisfying the PEP requirements of the Health Policy and Administration Division. The field practicum experience may be waived based on prior experience. A capstone project is required of all students.

2. Assessment

The required curriculum of the MPH degree portion of these joint degrees is equivalent to that required for the separate public health degree (in many cases it is equivalent to the professional enhancement program requirements). This criterion is met.