

Public Health

Public Health is an interdisciplinary concentration through which students examine a variety of health issues, including population health and disease, health policy, cross-cultural and international aspects of health, the organizational and social structures through which health services are delivered and received, and the public health system. Courses in the concentration allow students to explore the ways in which the social, political, behavioral and biological sciences contribute to the understanding of patterns of population distributions of health and disease. The concentration also provides students with courses in basic research methods and statistics necessary for problem solving and critical thinking in the emerging emphasis on evidence-based health care and public health.

Requirements for the Public Health Concentration

1. Core Courses (non-substitutable; 5 required for all students)

PHP 0310	Health Care in the United States	1
PHP 0320	Introduction to Public Health	1
PHP 0850	Fundamentals of Epidemiology	1
or PHP 2120	Introduction to Methods in Epidemiologic Research	
or PHP 2150	Foundations in Epidemiologic Research Methods	
PHP 1501	Essentials of Data Analysis	1
or PHP 1510	Principles of Biostatistics and Data Analysis	
or PHP 2507	Biostatistics and Applied Data Analysis I	
or PHP 2510	Principles of Biostatistics and Data Analysis	
PHP 1910	Public Health Senior Seminar (required of all non-honors seniors; FALL)	1
or PHP 1915	Public Health Honors Senior Seminar	

2. Environmental Health and Policy (select one of the following): 1

PHP 0720	Public Health and the Environment	
PHP 1101	World of Food: Personal to Global Perspectives on Nutrition, Agriculture and Policy	
PHP 1700	Current Topics in Environmental Health	
PHP 1720	Environmental Exposure Assessments in Practice (Rural Public Health)	
PHP 1725	Rural Public Health	
PHP 1730	Climate Risks and Health Solutions	

3. Health, Health Care Systems, and Policy (select one of the following): 1

PHP 0330	Health Law and Policy	
PHP 0650	From Manufacturer to Patient: Why is the Cost of Prescription Drugs So Darn High?	
PHP 1100	Comparative Health Care Systems	
PHP 1450	COVID-19, Public Health, and Health Policy	
PHP 1460	Public Health Law and Policy (I)	
PHP 1480	Introduction To Public Health Economics	
PHP 1580	Pandemic Game Changers: Preparing the Next Generation of Decision-Makers for Emerging Bio Threats	
PHP 1681	Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice	

4. Social and Behavioral Science for Prevention (select one of the following): 1

PHP 0400	Intro. to Health Disparities & Making Connection btw Structure, Social Determinants&Health Equity	
PHP 0700	Global Public Health Interventions	

PHP 1101	World of Food: Personal to Global Perspectives on Nutrition, Agriculture and Policy	
PHP 1300	Parenting Behaviors and Child Health	
PHP 1540	Alcohol Use and Misuse	
PHP 1551	Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, & Policy	
PHP 1610	Tobacco, Disease and the Industry: cigs, e-cigs and more	
PHP 1650	Race, Racism and Health	
PHP 1670	Public Mental Health: A Framework for Studying and Preventing Mental Disorders	
PHP 1680U	Intersectionality and Health Inequities	
PHP 1690	Technology and Health Behavior Change	
PHP 1920	Social Determinants of Health	
PHP 1998	Public Health Nutrition	

5. Global Health Elective (select one of the following): 1

PHP 0700	Global Public Health Interventions	
PHP 0720	Public Health and the Environment	
PHP 1070	Global Burden of Disease	
PHP 1580	Pandemic Game Changers: Preparing the Next Generation of Decision-Makers for Emerging Bio Threats	

6. Health Disparities Elective (select one of the following): 1

PHP 0400	Intro. to Health Disparities & Making Connection btw Structure, Social Determinants&Health Equity	
PHP 1460	Public Health Law and Policy	
PHP 1580	Pandemic Game Changers: Preparing the Next Generation of Decision-Makers for Emerging Bio Threats	
PHP 1650	Race, Racism and Health	
PHP 1680I	Pathology to Power: Disability, Health and Community	
PHP 1680U	Intersectionality and Health Inequities	
PHP 1681	Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice	
PHP 1796	The Historical Determinants of Public Health	
PHP 1810	Community-Engaged Research in Public Health	
PHP 1821	Incarceration, Disparities, and Health	
PHP 1822	Effective Health Communication With Medically Underserved Populations in an Applied Learning Setting	
PHP 1920	Social Determinants of Health	
PHP 1998	Public Health Nutrition	

7. Biology (select one of the following): 1

BIOL 0200	The Foundation of Living Systems	
BIOL 0380	The Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Disease	
BIOL 0420	Principles of Ecology	
BIOL 0470	Genetics	
BIOL 0500	Cell and Molecular Biology	
BIOL 0510	Introductory Microbiology	
BIOL 0530	Principles of Immunology	
BIOL 0800	Principles of Physiology	
PHP 2130	Human Biology for Public Health	

8. Public Health Elective (select any one PHP course OR one of the following Humanities/Fine Arts/Humanistic Social Sciences for Public Health courses) 1

AFRI 0550	African American Health Activism from Emancipation to AIDS	
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AFRI 1060W	Policy, Culture and Discourse that Shape Health and Access to Healthcare
AFRI 1060Z	Race, Sexuality, and Mental Disability History (HMAN 1973A)
AFRI 1920	Health Inequality in Historical Perspective
AMST 1600C	The Anti-Trafficking Savior Complex: Saints, Sinners, and Modern-Day Slavery
AMST 1601	Health and Healing in American History (STS 1110, GNSS 1960B)
COLT 0610Y	Women's Writing in the Arab World
COLT 1810P	Literature and Medicine
COST 0032	Music and Meditation
COST 0100	Introduction to Contemplative Studies
ENGL 1030C	Writing Science
ENGL 1050R	Writing about Health and Healthcare
ENGL 1140D	Writing Diversity: A Workshop
ETHN 1750B	Treaty Rights and Food Fights: Eating Local in Indian Country
GNSS 0090C	Reproductive Health: Science, Politics, and the Media
GNSS 0120	Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies
GNSS 1300	Gender-Based Violence Prevention
HISP 0490A	Spanish for Health Care Workers
HISP 0750Q	Health, Illness and Medicine in Spanish and Spanish American Literature and Film
HIST 0150H	Foods and Drugs in History
HIST 0270B	From the Columbian Exchange to Climate Change: Modern Global Environmental History
HIST 0286A	History of Medicine I: Medical Traditions in the Old World Before 1700
HIST 0286B	History of Medicine II: The Development of Scientific Medicine in Europe and the World
HIST 0537B	Tropical Delights: Imagining Brazil in History and Culture
HIST 1080	Humanitarianism and Conflict in Africa
HIST 1830M	From Medieval Bedlam to Prozac Nation: Intimate Histories of Psychiatry and Self
HIST 1960Q	Medicine and Public Health in Africa
HIST 1977I	Gender, Race, and Medicine in the Americas
HMAN 1975G	Planning the Family: Gender, Reproduction, and the Politics of Choice.
LACA 1503V	Health of Hispaniola
LITR 1151T	Poetry for Healing Territories
PHIL 0060	Modern Science and Human Values
PHIL 0520	Global Justice
SAST 0700B	Introduction to Modern South Asia: Public Health From Theory to Practice
TAPS 1281W	Arts and Health: Theory
TAPS 1281Z	Arts and Health: Practice
Total Credits	

12

Study Abroad/Study Away: The best semester to travel abroad/away is Spring of junior year. Courses taken away/abroad will likely NOT count for any of the concentration requirements, with the exception of the Elective requirement, and it must be a course related to a Public Health topic. Meet with concentration advisor and be prepared to provide syllabi for course being considered for transfer. Permission from concentration advisor is required.

Honors:

Honors Track, Classes of 2023 & Beyond

For Classes of 2023 & beyond, Honors track students enroll in PHP 1915, Public Health Honors Senior Seminar during Fall semester of their senior year as well as PHP 1980, Honors Thesis Prep during both semesters of their senior year to conduct research and write the honors thesis. Thus, for Classes of 2023 & beyond, fourteen courses are required for completion of the concentration requirements for an honors track student.

Please visit <https://www.brown.edu/academics/public-health/undergraduate/curriculum> (<https://www.brown.edu/academics/public-health/undergraduate/curriculum/>) for details or email the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Patricia Risica (patricia_risica@brown.edu) for more information.