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 Class of 2023 and Beyond

1. Core Courses (non-substitutable; 5 required for all students)
   - PHP 0310 Health Care in the United States
   - PHP 0320 Introduction to Public Health
   - PHP 0850 Fundamentals of Epidemiology
   - PHP 1501 Essentials of Data Analysis
   - PHP 1910 Public Health Senior Seminar (required of all non-honors seniors; FALL)

   Or
   - PHP 1915 Pub Health Honors Senior Sem

2. Environmental Health and Policy (select one of the following):
   - 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 1730 Climate Risks and Health Solutions

3. Health, Health Care Systems, and Policy (select one of the following):
   - PHP 0330 Public Health 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

4. Social and Behavioral Science for Prevention (select one of the following):
   - 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 1600 Obesity in the 21st Century: Causes, Consequences and Countermeasures
   - PHP 1610 Tobacco, Disease and the Industry: cigs, e-cigs and more
   - PHP 1650 Race, Racism and Health
   - PHP 1680U Intersectionality and Health Inequities
   - PHP 1690 Technology and Health Behavior Change
   - PHP 1920 Social Determinants of Health

5. Global Health Elective (select one of the following):
   - PHP 0700 Global Public Health Interventions
   - PHP 0720 Public Health and the Environment
   - PHP 1070 Global Burden of Disease
   - PHP 1802S Human Security and Humanitarian Response: Increasing Effectiveness and Accountability

6. Health Disparities Elective (select one of the following):
   - PHP 0400 Intro. to Health Disparities & Making Connection btw Structure, Social Determinants&Health Equity
   - PHP 1650 Race, Racism and Health
   - PHP 1680I Pathology to Power: Disability, Health and Community
   - PHP 1680U Intersectionality and Health Inequities
   - PHP 1810 Community-Engaged Research in Public Health
   - PHP 1820 Designing Education for Better Prisoner and Community Health
   - PHP 1821 Incarceration, Disparities, and Health
   - PHP 1920 Social Determinants of Health

7. Biology (select one of the following):
   - BIOL 0030 Principles of Nutrition
   - BIOL 0200 The Foundation of Living Systems
   - BIOL 0470 Genetics
   - BIOL 0510 Introductory Microbiology
   - BIOL 0530 Principles of Immunology
   - BIOL 0800 Principles of Physiology
   - BIOL 0860 Diet and Chronic Disease

8. Public Health Elective (select any one PHP course OR one of the following Humanities/Fine Arts/Humanistic Social Sciences for Public Health courses)
   - AFRI 0550 African American Health Activism from Emancipation to AIDS
   - AFRI 1060W Policy, Culture and Discourse that Shape Health and Access to Healthcare
   - AFRI 1060Z Race, Sexuality, and Mental Disability History (HMAN 1973A)
   - 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)
   - CLPS 0710 The Psychology and Philosophy of Happiness (PHIL 0650)
   - 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 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
   - HIS 0490A Spanish for Health Care Workers
   - HIS 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
LACA 1503V  Health of Hispaniola
LITR 1151T  Poetry for Healing Territories
PHIL 0060  Modern Science and Human Values
PHIL 0520  Global Justice
TAPS 1281W  Arts and Health: Theory
TAPS 1281Z  Arts and Health: Practice

Total Credits  12

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/ for details or email the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Patricia Risica (patricia_risica@brown.edu) for more information.

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, however, students can petition to have a course considered. Most do not meet the requirements or do not provide the ability for requirements to be assessed. Meet with concentration advisor and be prepared to provide syllabi for courses being considered for transfer (up to 2 per semester). Permission from concentration advisor is required.