PUBLIC HEALTH MAJOR (B.S.)

Purpose

The purpose of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health major is to provide students with the necessary skill sets for careers in health-related professions including health education specialists in the healthcare industry, business, government, and nonprofit organizations. Upon graduation, students qualify and are encouraged to take the national Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) examination. Graduates are also prepared for entrance into Master of Public Health programs and clinical practice schools such as medical, physician assistant, physical and occupational therapy, or other allied health programs. The Bachelor of Science in Public Health: Health Promotion and Master of Public Health: Community Health Promotion dual degree program is designed to provide an opportunity for accelerated bachelor's and master's degrees in public health with a concentration in health promotion for qualified students

Program Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

- Investigate population health status, needs, and resources using appropriate assessment and analytical methods, integrating biblical perspectives on health and wellness.
- Develop and evaluate public health interventions that address health disparities in the context of culture, race, gender, and economics.
- Communicate health information through written, oral, and electronic methods.
- Apply a biblical worldview to public health leadership, systems thinking, group process, social justice, and ethical decision-making principles.

Health Promotion Concentration

The student will be able to:

- Assess community health needs and resources, including determinants of health, across the socio-ecological gradient, and the community capacity for response.

Nutrition Concentration

The student will be able to:

- Examine major nutritional challenges within the contexts of gender, socioeconomic status, culture, and religion.

Pre-Clinical Concentration

The student will be able to:

- Identify social, cultural, and behavior factors that influence health disparities and impact population health.

Fee and Expenses

In addition to university tuition and fees, students may incur additional expenses. These expenses include, but are not limited to: first aid and CPR certifications, professional memberships, transportation costs associated with off-campus internship and related experiences, TB (PPD) skin test, cost of medical examination and background check, if required by internship site.

Program Standards

- **GPA in Major:** Students must achieve a "C" or better in upper level courses within the major.
- **Overall GPA:** Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.35 in order to register for HLTH 499 Professional Internship in Health Promotion (1-12 c.h.).
- Upon declaring the major, students must review and abide by the policies and standards of the major.

Internship

Health Promotion students (and Pre-Clinical students who choose and meet the requirements) complete an internship at the end of the curriculum sequence. Students are required to select their internship site and have it approved by the internship coordinator. They may choose from a variety of sites offering health and wellness programming and must work with a qualified site supervisor. The internship experience provides exceptional opportunities for students to apply their knowledge, skills, and abilities acquired through the Public Health program in a professional setting as well as the opportunity to experience various career paths available to them upon graduation.

Prerequisite:

- Senior Status;
- Completion of HLTH 452 Methods and Materials in Community Health Education (3 c.h.) and HLTH 453 Program Planning and Evaluation in Health Education (3 c.h.);
- minimum overall GPA of 2.35 or better;
- current First Aid and Adult, Child, and Infant CPR certified; or
- consent of the Public Health Program Director.

Programs of Study
Delivery Format: Residential Only

- Public Health (B.S.) - Community Health Promotion - Resident
- Public Health (B.S.) - Nutrition - Resident
- Public Health (B.S.) - Pre-Clinical - Resident

Career Opportunities

- Community Health Advocate/Worker
- Community Health Assessment Coordinator
- Environmental Health Inspector
- Food Safety Inspector
- Global Health Worker
- Grant Writer
- Hospital Administrator
- Industrial Hygienist
- Medical Supply/Pharmaceutical Sales Representative
- Public Health Communication and Marketing Specialist
- Substance Abuse Counselor
- Wellness Programmer
- Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Case Manager