

Pre-Public Health Advising Sheet

Public health consists of various specialty areas that address the physical, mental and environmental health concerns of communities and populations at risk for disease and injury. Public health is a field open to all undergraduate students in a variety of majors, from biological sciences to social sciences. The master's in public health degree (MPH) is a professional health degree that is oriented towards practice in public health settings such as careers as practitioners of public health in traditional health departments, managed care organizations, community-based organizations, hospitals, consulting firms, international agencies, state and federal agencies, among others. Many institutions now only require a baccalaureate degree or equivalent from an accredited institution. Most have the common prerequisites below. Check with the program website.

Common Pre-Public Health Prerequisite Courses		
Biology	One year is required	BIO 1210/L, BIO 1220/L,
General Chemistry	One year is required	CHM 1210/L, CHM 1220/L
Organic Chemistry	One semester is required;	CHM 2010/L;
	Some programs require one year of organic chem	CHM 3140/L, CHM 3150/L
Statistics	One semester is required	STA 1200 OR STA 1300
Calculus	One semester is required;	MAT 1200;
	Some programs require one	MAT 1140, MAT 1150
	year of calculus	
English	One semester is required, but some programs prefer an upper-division course	ENG 1103, ENG 2105, ENG 3150
Common Prerequisite Courses depending on Program Emphasis		
Anatomy/		BIO 2340, BIO 2350, BIO 4240,
Physiology		BIO 4460
Anthropology		ANT 1020
Biochemistry		CHM 3210/L OR CHM 3270/L
Child Development		ECS 3100, ECS 3200, ECS 3700,
		PSY, 3305, PSY 3310, PSY 3311
Communications		COM 1103, COM 3327

Ethics	PHL 3330
Ethnic Studies	EWS 1250, PLS 2080
General	BIO 3600
Epidemiology	
Health Promotion	KIN 2700, KIN 4080, KIN 4650/A,
Microbiology	BIO 2060/L
Nutrition	NTR 2350, NTR 2280/3280, NTR
	3930, NTR 3940, NTR4460, NTR
	3450, NTR 5446
Political Science	PLS 2010, PLS 2020, PLS 2080,
	PLS 3420
Psychology	PSY 2201, PSY 4401, PSY 3305,
	PSY 4200, PSY 4150
Sociology	SOC 2201

Resources

- Association of Accredited Public Health Programs (AAPHP): http://www.aaphps.org
- Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health: https://www.aspph.org
- California Department of Public Health Programs: www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/DEFAULT.aspx
- Council on Education for Public Health: http://ceph.org/