

Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Department of Prevention and Community Health

Master of Public Health MPH@GW

Women, Youth, and Child Health (WYCH) Concentration

MPH@GW Program Director

Dr. George Gray

Women, Youth, and Child Health Concentration Co-Directors

Dr. Amita N. Vyas, Associate Professor & Director MCH Program

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Concentration Mission Statement

The Women, Youth, and Child Health concentration within the MPH@GW program is grounded in a life course perspective as an organizing framework that acknowledges distinct periods in human development and presents both risks and opportunities for interventions. Further, the concentration explores the social, behavioral and systems-related determinants that are unique to the health and well-being of women, children, adolescents and families in the United States and around the world, and focuses on development of programs, policies, and advocacy strategies.

Course Requirements

All Milken Institute School of Public Health (SPH) MPH students who select the Women, Youth, and Child Health concentration enroll in MPH@GW Core Courses (17 credits), Program-Specific Core Courses (10 credits), Concentration-Specific Required Courses (9 credits), Concentration-Specific Selective Courses (4 credits) and General electives (3 credits). The 45 total credits requirement also includes a 2 credit capstone experience (PUBH 6060/6061- Culminating Experience), in which students apply their classroom education in a WYCH applied endeavor.

As an accredited School of Public Health, students in all GWSPH MPH programs are also required to fulfill both an interprofessional team experience and an applied practice experience. GWSPH has incorporated these requirements into the curriculum as follows:

Interprofessional Education (IPE) Experience (PUBH 6023):

MPH students are required to select an IPE experience from a host of options provided throughout enrollment to participate in a one-time, case-based or activity-based learning experience. The IPE experience is a way to actively participate in a supervised environment to work with people from other professions/programs outside of public health. Students are eligible to enroll in the IPE upon successful completion of most of the MPH core coursework including: PUBH 6002, 6003, 6007, 6011, 6012 and 6021. Students will have many opportunities to register for this zero-credit (no fee) IPE course (PUBH 6023- Interprofessional Education Experience) and will receive credit upon successful completion.

Applied Practice Experience (Practicum & EPR):

The Applied Practice Experience (APEX) may be satisfied with either a practicum or, for experienced public health professionals, through an expedited portfolio review (EPR).

The practicum is a planned, supervised, and evaluated practice experience that aims to provide students with an opportunity to synthesize, integrate, and apply practical skills, knowledge, and training learned through courses, to gain applied experience in a professional public health work environment, and to work on public health practice projects that are of particular interest to you. Information about the Practicum will be introduced through school-wide Practicum Information Sessions held by the Office of Applied Public Health and through meetings with your department practicum staff and faculty.

During the practicum, you will work at least 120 hours in the field under the supervision of the site preceptor who has agreed to directly supervise the work you are conducting. Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the 120-hour practicum to receive credit for PUBH 6000.

If you have had prior work experience, then you will find that the practicum provides the opportunity to hone skills or to gain new experience in a different area. However, if you have substantial public health experience relevant to your department/track, including 5+ years of full-time public health work for students after receiving your undergraduate degree, or 3+ years of full-time work for students who already have a graduate degree prior to beginning the MPH, then you may be able to satisfy the APEx requirement through an EPR instead of doing the practicum, with advanced approval by your program's practicum team.

Professional Enhancement requirement: WYCH students must participate in 8 hours of Public Health-related lectures, seminars, and symposia. Professional Enhancement activities supplement the academic curriculum and help prepare students to participate actively in the professional community. Opportunities for WYMCH-specific professional enhancement are regularly publicized via the MCH/WYCH Listserv and through the program advisors. Students must submit documentation of Professional Enhancement activities to the Office of Student Records. The documentation consists of the Professional Enhancement Form <http://publichealth.gwu.edu/academics/forms> (which includes a prior approval signature from the student's advisor, a description of the program agenda, and proof of attendance).

Course Sequence

Students will start the program by enrolling in MPH core courses. Full-time students should plan to take PUBH 6021 and PUBH 6003 in their first quarter and complete all core courses within the first three quarters. Part-time students should consult with their academic advisor to select an appropriate sequence of courses. Following completion of the MPH core courses, students should complete the MPH@GW program specific courses, and finish with their elective and/or concentration courses. Courses offered in the online format can be found on the GW Schedule of Classes under Online and are designated with a "U" in the section number.

MPH School and Program Competencies

MPH Core Competencies

Upon completion of the program, students should possess the following functional competencies:

- Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice
 - PUBH 6003
- Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
 - PUBH 6002, PUBH 6003, PUBH 6009
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate
 - PUBH 6002, PUBH 6009
- Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice
 - PUBH 6002, PUBH 6003, PUBH 6009
- Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings
 - PUBH 6012
- Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels
 - PUBH 6007
- Assess population needs, assets, and capacities that affect communities' health
 - PUBH 6003, PUBH 6007
- Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs
 - PUBH 6007, PUBH 6021, PUBH 6022
- Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention
 - PUBH 6007
- Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
 - PUBH 6022
- Select methods to evaluate public health programs

- PUBH 6009
- Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
 - PUBH 6011, PUBH 6012
- Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
 - PUBH 6022
- Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations
 - PUBH 6022
- Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity
 - PUBH 6012
- Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision making
 - PUBH 6021, PUBH 6022
- Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges
 - PUBH 6021, PUBH 6022
- Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
 - PUBH 6021, PUBH 6022
- Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
 - PUBH 6012, PUBH 6021, PUBH 6022
- Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content
 - PUBH 6021, PUBH 6022
- Perform effectively on interprofessional teams
 - PUBH 6000, PUBH 6021, PUBH 6023
- Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue
 - PUBH 6007, PUBH 6011, PUBH 6022

MPH@GW Program Competencies

Upon completion of the program, students should possess the following functional competencies:

- Define communities and identify and assess relevant population health needs (e.g., PUBH 6500).
- Assess the functions, capacities, management and governance of governmental, international and non-state organizations that comprise health systems. Translate scientific and program evidence to inform the development of public health programs and policies within the context of health systems (e.g., PUBH 6442, 6500).
- Apply appropriate theories toward the development, implementation, and evaluation of public health interventions to address health risks at the individual, interpersonal, community, and/or population levels and mitigate population health impact. (e.g., PUBH 6500, 6503).
- Apply relevant quantitative tools and concepts to inform different audiences and public health topics (e.g., PUBH 6052).
- Describe how health systems performance is affected by various approaches to health care organization, health law, health workforce development and health care financing (e.g., PUBH 6442).
- Develop communication campaigns and strategies to disseminate health promotion information through media channels (e.g., PUBH 6503).

WYCH Concentration Competencies

- Assess individual, community, organizational and societal needs of women, youth, children, and families. (PUBH 6550, 6552, 6563)
- Apply social and behavior change models and strategies that have been shown to be successful in improving the health and well-being of WYCH populations. (PUBH 6550)
- Develop strategies, policies, and interventions to improve the health of women, youth, children and families. (PUBH 6550, 6552, 6563)
- Implement strategies, policies, interventions to meet the health needs of women, youth, children and families. (PUBH 6550, 6451)
- Apply a life course perspective to the health and well-being of women, children and families. (PUBH 6550)

Milken Institute School of Public Health		Master of Public Health (MPH@GW) Women, Youth, and Child Health Concentration	
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY		Program-at-a-Glance	
Required Core Courses (17 credits)			
		Credits	Quarter Offered
PUBH 6000	MPH Applied Practice Experience	0	All
PUBH 6002	Biostatistical Applications for Public Health	3	All
PUBH 6003	Principles and Practice of Epidemiology	3	All
PUBH 6007	Social and Behavioral Approaches to Public Health	2	All
PUBH 6009**	Fundamentals of Program Evaluation	2	All
PUBH 6011	Environmental & Biological Foundations of Public Health	3	All
PUBH 6012	Fundamentals of Health Policy	2	All
PUBH 6021	Essentials of Public Health Practice & Leadership 1: Leading Self and Teams in Public Health	1	All
PUBH 6022	Essentials of Public Health Practice & Leadership 2: Managing Organizations & Influencing Systems in Public Health	1	All
PUBH 6023	Interprofessional Education Experience	0	All
	Total MPH Core Credits	17	
Required Program Specific Courses – MPH@GW (10 credits)			
PUBH 6500	Program Planning and Evaluation	3	All
PUBH 6052	Practical Data Analysis for PH	2	All
PUBH 6442	Comparative Global Health Systems	2	All
PUBH 6503	Introduction to Public Health Communications and Marketing	3	All
	Total Program-Specific Credits	10	
Required Concentration Courses – Womens, Youth, and Child Health (9 credits)			
		Credits	Semester Offered
PUBH 6550	Maternal and Child Health I: Foundations	3	Spring 2
PUBH 6552	Women’s Health	2	Fall
PUBH 6563	Global Child Health	2	Spring 2
PUBH 6451	Sexual and Reproductive Health Monitoring	2	Fall
	Total Required Concentration	9	

Selective Courses – Women, Youth and Child Health (choose 4 credits)			
PUBH 6054	Community Engagement & Advocacy	2	Spring 1
PUBH 6058	Researching Violence Against Women and Girls	2	Spring 1
PUBH 6335	Public Health & Law	3	Spring 2
PUBH 6400	Global Health Frameworks	2	Spring 2
PUBH 6480	Public Health in Humanitarian Setting	2	Summer
PUBH 6514	Preventing Health Disparities	2	Spring 2
PUBH 6452	Social and Behavior Change Communication in Middle- to Low-Income Countries	2	Summer
PUBH 6489	Evaluation of Nutrition Programs	1	N/A
PUBH 6455	Global Vaccinology	3	Summer
General Electives (3 credits)			
Any Graduate Course(s)		3	
Culminating Experience (2 credits)			
PUBH 6060	Culminating Experience I	1	All
PUBH 6061	Culminating Experience II	1	All
Course Distribution		Credits	
Public Health Core Courses		17	
Required Program Specific Courses		10	
Required Concentration Courses		9	
Selective Concentration Courses		4	
General Electives		3	
Culminating Experience		2	
Total Degree Credits		45	

Note: MPH@GW students may take up to 15 credits on campus.

** Students should take PUBH 6500 prior to enrolling in PUBH 6009

Milken Institute School of Public Health MPH Graduation Requirements

1. **Graduate Credits:** 45 graduate credits are required.
2. **Courses:** Successful completion of the Core Courses and the Program-Specific Courses are required.
3. **Applied Practice Experience:** Students are required to fulfill all requirements of the Applied Practice Experience (APEX) to receive credit for PUBH 6000.
4. **Interprofessional Education Experience (IPE):** Students are required to enroll, participate and complete an authorized IPE activity (PUBH 6023).
5. **Grade Point Average:** A 3.0 (B average) overall grade point average is required.
6. **Time Limit:** The degree must be completed within five years.
7. **Transfer Credit Policy:** Up to 12 graduate credits that have not been applied to a previous degree may be transferred to the MPH upon approval. Credits must have been earned from an accredited institution in the last 3 years with a grade of B or better (grade point of 3.0 and higher).
8. **CITI Training :** All students are required to complete training regarding human subject protection regulation and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). To fulfill this requirement, you must complete the Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) Course in The Protection of Human Research Subjects.
9. **Academic Integrity Quiz:** All students are required to review the George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity and take the quiz within their first semester of study. The Code of Integrity and step-by-step instructions can be found here: <http://publichealth.gwu.edu/integrity>.
10. **Professional Enhancement Hours:** Students must participate in 8 hours per degree program of Public Health-related lectures, seminars, and symposia related to your field of study. Professional Enhancement activities

supplement the academic curriculum and help prepare students to participate actively in the professional community. Opportunities for professional enhancement are regularly publicized via the Milken Institute SPH Listserv and through your department or advisor. Students must submit documentation of Professional Enhancement activities to the Office of Student Records. Find the Professional Enhancement submission form [here](#) and include a description of the program agenda and proof of attendance.

Course Descriptions and Registration information can be found on in the University Bulletin [here](#).