

Public health as a field of study encompasses many academic disciplines – therefore careers in public health have something to offer to everyone.

The combined efforts of public health professionals make our world a safer place in which individuals live, work, and thrive.

Is the General Track Right for You?

The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Public Health General track is a good choice for students who do not wish to pursue a professional credential at the undergraduate level, but who:

- ✓ Want broad exposure to an exciting and growing field.
- ✓ Want to complete an internship at a public health agency to gain practical experience in the field of public health and begin making professional connections.
- ✓ Want to focus their studies in a specialty area such as environmental health, public health research, global health, sexual health, public health nutrition, or the health aspects of social services.
- ✓ Want to pursue graduate education in epidemiology, biostatistics, health administration, environmental health, or a related public health discipline.

The BS in Public Health

The BS in Public Health prepares students with knowledge of public health practice, principles and methods, and the skills necessary to utilize these to improve the health of the public.



The BS in Public Health at WPU is an internationally recognized high-quality undergraduate public health program fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

The goal of the BS in Public Health is to prepare public health generalists with the skills and knowledge necessary to function effectively from a public health perspective.

Do You Want More Information?

Contact the department at 973-720-2394 to schedule an appointment to discuss your academic plans. We are happy to meet with you about your educational goals.

Program Overview

Designed to be completed in a minimum of four full-length semesters, students who major in Public Health take a variety of courses covering the core areas of public health, including behavioral sciences, health care systems, health research methods, environmental health, epidemiology, and public health practice.

All Public Health majors complete 53 credits in the major, including a specialized “track” that allows for further exploration of the field – either the General track or the Health Education track.

The **Public Health General track** prepares students as public health generalists. In addition to instruction in the core areas of public health, the General track allows students to select from a variety of elective courses to construct an educational program that meets their specific needs and interests.

Working closely with an academic advisor, students may focus their elective course choices in several specialized areas or may select a variety of elective offerings to explore several different areas of public health. Students further explore their interests in the field of public health through the completion of a 6-credit, 240-hour internship during their final semester of study. *The general track, however, does not prepare students for eligibility for any public health certifications or licensures.*

Careers in Public Health

With a Bachelor’s Degree in Public Health – General track, students may pursue a variety of career and graduate education opportunities. While there are many sub-fields within the field of public health, potential career pathways include environmental health, substance abuse prevention, health services research, and health management, to name a few. Students who pursue graduate education in public health can pursue careers in fields such as epidemiology or health administration.

To learn what graduates from our program have achieved, visit our website and click on “Alumni Profiles.”

For additional detailed information on careers in Public Health, consult the following publications available on our website: “You Can Make a Difference: Pursue a Career in Public Health” and “Reach for a Career in Public Health.”

Bachelor of Science in Public Health – General Track (updated July 2017)

Admissions Requirements: (all of the following courses with a grade of C- or better)

BIO 1140	Applied Anatomy & Physiology (or BIO 1120 & 1130; or BIO 1180 & 1190; or BIO 1200)
MATH 1300	Elementary Statistics (or MATH 2300)
PBHL 1100	Healthy U (or PBHL 1200 or PBHL 1300)

Core Courses: 24 credits

		CR	UCC	Prerequisite Courses and Restrictions
PBHL 2950	Disparities in Health	3	UCC 4	none
PBHL 3000	Introduction to Public Health	3	-	none
PBHL 3020	Health Care in the United States*	3	-	none
PBHL 3040	Health Research Methods I* <i>(fall only)</i>	3	WI	MATH 1300
PBHL 3042	Health Research Methods II* <i>(spring only)</i>	3	TI	PBHL 3040
PBHL 3110	Global Health Issues	3	UCC 6	none
PBHL 3400	Environmental Health*	3	-	PBHL 3000
PBHL 4000	Epidemiology*	3	-	PBHL 3000

General Track Courses: 10 credits

		CR	UCC	Prerequisite Courses and Restrictions
PBHL 4301	Public Health Practice* <i>(fall only)</i>	3	TI	PBHL 3042
PBHL 4962	Introduction to Internship in PBHL* <i>(fall only)</i>	1	-	PBHL 3042; Senior status
PBHL 4972	Internship in Public Health* <i>(spring only)</i>	6	-	C or better in all major and co-req courses

Major Electives: 15 credits (choose five of the following)

PBHL 2100	Women's Health	PBHL 3150	Food and Community (UCC 5)
PBHL 2150	Drugs and Health	PBHL 3170	Popular Literature in Public Health (UCC WI)
PBHL 2200	Stress Management	PBHL 3180	Tobacco as a Public Health Issue (UCC 5)
PBHL 2210	Nutrition	PBHL 3210	Lifespan Nutrition <i>(fall only)</i>
PBHL 2700	Concepts and Issues of Aging	PBHL 3220	Food and Social Issues <i>(spring only)</i>
PBHL 2900	Human Sexuality	PBHL 3750	Human Disease* (PBHL 1100 & BIO 1140)
PBHL 2920	LGBTQ Health	PBHL 4300	Counseling Skills for Health Professionals*
PBHL 3120	Ethics in Public Health	PBHL 4500	Health Administration* (PBHL 3020)
PBHL 3130	Violence as a Public Health Issue	PBHL 4950	Cultural Dimensions of Health* (UCC WI)
PBHL 3140	Reproductive Rights (UCC 5)		

Co-Requirement: 4 credits (choose one)

	CR	University Core Curriculum (UCC) Courses
BIO 1300	4	WI = Writing Intensive
BIO 1700	4	TI = Technology Intensive
CHEM 1310	4	UCC 4 = Diversity & Justice
ENV 1100	4	UCC 5 = Community & Civic Engagement
PHYS 1100	4	UCC 6 = Global Awareness

* Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are open to declared Public Health majors only.