

# WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

## PUBLIC HEALTH – HEALTH EDUCATION TRACK

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

The Association of Schools of Public Health states that “*public health improves the shared conditions and behaviors that affect the health of each and every one of us.*” The combined efforts of public health professionals make our world a safer place in which individuals live, work, and thrive.

### Is the Health Education Track Right for You?

The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Public Health Education track is a great choice for students who:

- Want to be involved in the planning and implementation of programs that improve the health status of individuals and communities.
- Want to complete a 480-hour internship at a public health agency to gain practical experience in the field of health education and begin making professional connections.
- Want to be eligible to work in a variety of settings, including governmental and non-governmental agencies, hospitals/clinics, and corporate wellness, among others.
- Want the opportunity to become a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES), an internationally recognized credential indicating competency and a commitment to professional development in the field of health education.

### 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. This is achieved through a foundation in general education, the biological, social and behavioral sciences, research, and the core content areas of public health enhanced by a semester-long internship in a public health setting.

The goal of the Health Education Track of the BS in Public Health is to prepare public health educators with the skills and knowledge necessary to function effectively in a health education setting and to attain the certified health education specialist credential.

### 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 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 **Health Education** track prepares entry-level health educators who are able to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate a broad range of health promotion and disease prevention programs among a community’s diverse population. Knowledge of health education is achieved through a multi-disciplinary study of physical and natural sciences, education, psychology, and public health.

Practice-based skills are integral components of a carefully designed program. Students become oriented to the profession of health education through the completion of a 12-credit full-time internship during their final semester, at which time they also take the national certification examination to become a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).

### Careers in Public Health Education

With a Bachelor’s degree in Public Health Education and CHES certification, graduates are eligible to pursue a wide variety of positions in the field of health education. Examples of positions held by graduates of the program include:

- Health educators for city, county, and federal departments of health
- HIV/AIDS educators and counselors
- Environmental Health Specialists for health departments and private corporations
- Health educators for family service organizations such as Catholic Charities and Jewish Family Services
- Public education coordinators for non-profit agencies such as the American Cancer Society and the American Red Cross
- Health promotion specialists in corporations and managed care organizations
- Health education coordinators for hospitals and nursing homes

To learn about additional types of opportunities our graduates have pursued, please visit our website and click on “Alumni Profiles.”

# Bachelor of Science in Public Health – Health Education Track

**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 transfer equivalent)
MATH 1300	Elementary Statistics (or MATH 2300; or transfer equivalent)
PBHL 1100	Healthy U (or PBHL 1200; or PBHL 1300; or transfer equivalent)

<b>Core Courses: 24 credits</b>		<b>CR</b>	<b>UCC*</b>	<b>Prerequisite Courses and Restrictions</b>
PBHL 2950	Disparities in Health	3	A4	<i>none</i>
PBHL 3000	Introduction to Public Health	3	-	<i>none</i>
PBHL 3020	Health Care in the United States	3	-	Public Health major
PBHL 3040	Health Research Methods I	3	WI	Public Health major; MATH 1300; Fall only
PBHL 3042	Health Research Methods II	3	TI	PBHL 3040; Spring only
PBHL 3400	Environmental Health	3	-	PBHL 3000
PBHL 3750	Human Disease	3	-	Public Health major; BIO 1140; PBHL 1100
PBHL 4000	Epidemiology	3	-	PBHL 3000

<b>General Track Courses: 22 credits</b>		<b>CR</b>	<b>UCC*</b>	<b>Prerequisite Courses and Restrictions</b>
PBHL 3010	Health Education: Theory & Practice	3	-	Public Health major; PBHL 1100; Fall only
PBHL 3610	Methods of Public Health Education	3	TI	PBHL 3010; Spring only
PBHL 4610	Program Planning	3	-	PBHL 3610; Fall only
PBHL 4962	Introduction to Internship in PH	1	-	PBHL 3042; Fall only; Senior status
PBHL 4972	Internship in Public Health Education ( <i>spring only</i> )	12	-	C or better in all major and co-req courses

**Major Electives:** 3 credits (choose one of the following)

PBHL 2100	Women’s Health	PBHL 3140	Reproductive Rights (UCC 5)
PBHL 2150	Drugs and Health	PBHL 3150	Food and Community (UCC A5)
PBHL 2200	Stress Management	PBHL 3170	Popular Literature in Public Health (UCC WI)
PBHL 2210	Nutrition	PBHL 3180	Tobacco as a Public Health Issue (UCC 5)
PBHL 2700	Concepts and Issues of Aging	PBHL 3210	Lifespan Nutrition ( <i>fall only</i> )
PBHL 2900	Human Sexuality	PBHL 3220	Food and Social Issues ( <i>spring only</i> )
PBHL 3110	Global Health Issues (UCC 6)	PBHL 4300	Counseling Skills for Health Professionals
PBHL 3120	Ethics in Public Health	PBHL 4500	Health Administration
PBHL 3130	Violence as a Public Health Issue	PBHL 4950	Cultural Dimensions of Health (UCC WI)

<b>Co-Requirement: 4 credits (choose one)</b>		<b>CR</b>
BIO 1300	Field Biology	4
BIO 1700	Basic Microbiology	4
CHEM 1310	College Chemistry	4
ENV 1100	Environmental Sustainability	4
PHYS 1100	Introduction to Physics	4

### \*University Core Curriculum (UCC) Courses

WI	= Writing Intensive
TI	= Technology Intensive
A4	= Diversity & Justice
A5	= Community & Civic Engagement
A6	= Global Awareness

Updated: 3/2016