

PUBLIC HEALTH (BS)

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

Public health is the study of preventing disease and promoting the health of people and their communities at the local, state, national, and international level. Public health aims to protect the health of populations by promoting healthy lifestyles, researching disease and injury prevention, detecting, preventing and responding to infectious diseases, and promoting healthcare equity, quality and accessibility. The Bachelor of Science in Public Health provides a broad-based curriculum for the study of the core functions of public health, determinants of health, epidemiology, global health, program planning and evaluation, public health research, healthcare systems, and policy and advocacy. Focused concentration areas provide additional background knowledge, skills and evidence-based practices to address community health challenges, healthcare management and administration, and health equity and global health. Students have opportunities to participate in undergraduate research, service-learning, community outreach activities, and internships. Students are also eligible for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam. The program emphasizes problem solving and teamwork through project-based learning to prepare graduates for positions in local, state or federal government health agencies; non-profit/private community-based health organizations and foundations; wellness programs; public/private healthcare settings; research settings; tribal health; international organizations; and graduate programs in public health, healthcare administration, epidemiology or allied health professions. For students who intend to pursue careers in medicine or allied health professions (e.g., MD or DO, nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, physician assistant, podiatry, etc.) additional coursework beyond the bachelor's degree in public health will be required for application to medical school or allied health professions graduate programs.

Concentrations

Community Health Promotion

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The Community Health Promotion Concentration focuses on the influence that behavioral and environmental factors have on people's health and quality of life. This concentration studies the principles and methods for planning, implementing and evaluating public health programs in a variety of communities and populations. Students will be prepared for careers in local, state and federal public health departments; non-profit health agencies and coalitions; college/university settings; and to pursue graduate degrees for the Master of Public Health (MPH) and MS in Community Health, Environmental Health, Health Education or Health Promotion.

Health Equity and Global Health

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The Health Equity and Global Health Concentration focuses on concepts such as health disparities, chronic and infectious disease, access to health care, health care delivery, and the effects of systemic inequality and oppression on burden of disease in the US and internationally. This concentration will prepare students to pursue careers in a variety of fields and settings including non-governmental agencies; local and national health care agencies and coalitions; non-profit agencies, private business; and to pursue the graduate degree for the Master of Public Health (MPH).

Health Management and Administration

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The Health Management and Administration Concentration focuses on the principles of delivery and management of public health and healthcare services. Students will learn about the social, cultural, and demographic factors that impact the structure of US and international healthcare systems. This concentration will prepare students to pursue careers as hospital administrators; public/non-profit health agency professionals; human resource professionals; private business; and to pursue graduate degrees in the Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA), and Master of Business Administration (MBA).

Program Learning Objectives

1. Describe the history, philosophy, and core functions of public health in the U.S. and globally.
2. Analyze factors that affect human health and contribute to health disparities including socio-economic, behavioral, biological, environmental, and systemic factors.
3. Develop, implement, and evaluate public health programs that improve population health outcomes and promote health equity.
4. Apply epidemiological and public health research methods to assess community health needs, assets, and outcomes.
5. Communicate public health information in oral, written, and visual forms through a variety of media.
6. Describe the legal, ethical, structural, and economic dimensions of health care and policy, and the role of different governmental entities in public health.

Degree Requirements and Curriculum

In addition to the program requirements listed on this page, students must also satisfy requirements outlined in more detail in the Minimum Requirements for Graduation (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/#generaleducationtext>) section of this catalog, including:

- 40 units of upper-division courses
- 2.0 GPA
- Graduation Writing Requirement (GWR)
- U.S. Cultural Pluralism (USCP)

Note: Up to 4 units of credit/no credit grading may be selected for courses in Major, Support, or Concentration. In addition, no more than 12 units of cooperative or internship courses can count towards your degree requirements.

Code	Title	Units
MAJOR COURSES		
HLTH 1101	Introduction to Public Health	3
Select from the following: (4B) ¹		3
HLTH 1155	Multicultural Perspectives and Health	
HLTH 1160	Women's Health and Society	
HLTH 2261	Social Determinants of Health	3
HLTH 3316	Environmental Health	3
HLTH 3318	Applied Epidemiology	4
HLTH 3322	Public Health Policy and Advocacy (Upper-Division 4) ¹	3
HLTH 3344	Health Care Systems	3
HLTH 4402	Research Methods in Public Health Settings	4
HLTH 4410	Global Health	3
HLTH 4434	Health Promotion Program Planning	4
HLTH 4435	Health Promotion Program Implementation and Evaluation	3
Select from the following:		2
HLTH 4460	Senior Project - Experiential	
HLTH 4461	Senior Project - Report	
HLTH 4462	Senior Project - Research	
HLTH 4463	Senior Project - Internship	
Concentration		
(See list of Concentrations below)		12
SUPPORT COURSES		
ANT 2201	Cultural Anthropology	3
or SOC 1110	Comparative Societies	
BIO 1151	Life: Molecules and Cells (5B & 5C) ¹	4
BIO 2231	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BIO 2232	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
CHEM 1120	Fundamentals of Chemical Structure and Properties (5A) ¹	4
FSN 2202	Introduction to Human Nutrition	3
PSY 2201	Introductory Psychology	3
MCRO 2221	Introduction to Microbiology	4
STAT 1110	Applied Statistical Concepts and Methods (2) ¹	3
STAT 3520	Statistics II	3
GENERAL EDUCATION (GE)		
(See GE program requirements below)		27
FREE ELECTIVES		
Free Electives ²		8
Total Units		120

¹ Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

² If a General Education (GE) course is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.

Concentrations

Community Health Promotion

Code	Title	Units
REQUIRED COURSES		
HLTH 3305	Drugs in Society	3
HLTH 3310	Injury Prevention	3
HLTH 3348	Public Health and Mental Health	3
Select from the following:		3
COMS 4418	Health Communication	
FSN 2250	Food and Nutrition: Culture and Customs	
FSN 3305	Nutrition and Exercise for Health and Disease Prevention	
NUTR 3310	Maternal and Child Nutrition	
KINE 4401	Leadership in Health and Physical Activity Programs	
KINE 4412	Physical Activity and Public Health	
MCRO 3342	Public Health Microbiology	
Total Units		12

Health Equity and Global Health

Code	Title	Units
REQUIRED COURSES		
HLTH 3348	Public Health and Mental Health	3
HLTH 4413	Health Promotion for Special Populations	3
HLTH 4444	Comparative Health Care Systems	3
Select from the following: ¹		3-4
ANT 3345	Human Behavioral Ecology	
EDES 3350	The Global Environment	
GEOG 3325	Climate and Humanity	
MCRO 3342	Public Health Microbiology	
POLS 2225	Introduction to International Relations	
POLS 3328	Politics of Developing Areas	
POLS 3332	World Food Systems	
SOC 4435	Sociology of Health and Illness	
Total Units		12

¹ Units in excess of total will be applied towards major's free electives.

Health Management and Administration

Code	Title	Units
REQUIRED COURSES		
BUS 2212 or ECON 2001	Financial Accounting for Nonbusiness Majors Survey of Economics	3
HLTH 4444	Comparative Health Care Systems	3
KINE 4401	Leadership in Health and Physical Activity Programs	3
Select from the following: ¹		3-4
BUS 2207	Legal Responsibilities of Business	
BUS 3346	Principles of Marketing	
BUS 3382	Leadership and Organizations	
BUS 3384	Human Resources Management	

ECON 2021	Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems
PSY 3302	Organizational Behavior
Total Units	12

¹ Units in excess of total will be applied towards major's free electives.

General Education (GE) Requirements

- 43 units required, 16 of which are specified in Major and/or Support.
- If any of the remaining 27 Units is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.
- See the complete GE course listing (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/#generaleducationtext>).
- A grade of C- or better is required in one course in each of the following GE Areas: 1A (English Composition), 1B (Critical Thinking), 1C (Oral Communication), and 2 (Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning).

Lower-Division General Education

Area 1	English Communication and Critical Thinking	
1A	Written Communication	3
1B	Critical Thinking	3
1C	Oral Communication	3
Area 2	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning	
2	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (3 units in Support) ¹	0
Area 3	Arts and Humanities	
3A	Arts	3
3B	Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English	3
Area 4	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.)	
4A	American Institutions (Title 5, Section 40404 Requirement)	3
4B	Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 units in Major) ¹	0
Area 5	Physical and Life Sciences	
5A	Physical Sciences (3 units in Support) ¹	0
5B	Life Sciences (3 units in Support) ¹	0
5C	Laboratory (may be embedded in a 5A or 5B course) (1 units in Support) ¹	0
Area 6	Ethnic Studies	
6	Ethnic Studies	3

Upper-Division General Education

Upper-Division 2/5	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning or Physical and Life Sciences	3
Upper-Division 3	Arts and Humanities	3
Upper-Division 4	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.) (3 units in Major) ¹	0

Total Units	27
--------------------	-----------

¹ Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

Coming soon