

GLOBAL COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCE AND BEHAVIOR, DRPH

The DrPH program in Global Community Health and Behavioral Sciences is an applied professional degree that prepares leaders in applied public health program development, evaluation, and program-relevant research in promoting community health in a global context. The GCHB DrPH program has a strong focus on field applications of program planning and monitoring and evaluation and emphasizes advanced study in social determinants of health, health systems, health policy, grant writing, qualitative methods, and research methods. A focus on health disparities and cultural competence are common themes throughout the coursework. Graduates are expected to have responsibilities that would include program leadership, evaluation, applied research, and teaching.

Program Competencies

Students who graduate from this degree program can expect to develop the following competencies as they successfully meet and complete the program degree requirements.

- Incorporate knowledge of the qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, and policy analysis research and evaluation methods to address public health issues and population health at multiple levels (individual, group, organization, community and population)
- Develop the professional leadership and management skills to coordinate community organization and mobilization, develop needs assessments and strategic plans, and design interventions in diverse global health settings
- Critically analyze the impact of social and behavioral determinants on individual, community and population health
- Demonstrate the ability to conduct and apply the interpretation of formative research to develop public health interventions in diverse contexts
- Demonstrate advanced knowledge of program planning and development of implementation plans
- Demonstrate advanced knowledge of evaluation theory and be capable of implementing monitoring and evaluation systems
- Demonstrate culturally competent capacity to understand the role of gender, culture, social, economic, and historical contexts in demonstrating and implementing global public health programs
- Demonstrate knowledge of health literacy and effective communication related to health education and messaging

Admission Requirements

To be eligible for the DrPH program, students must have completed an MPH degree or equivalent with an outstanding academic record.

Applicants must meet the school's admission requirements, submit the application through SOPHAS and include in their application three letters of reference from individuals who are familiar with their academic and/or professional performance.

Practical experience in public health is highly preferred. A post-bachelor's degree GPA of 3.5 or higher and GREs in the upper 50th percentiles are also preferred. All applicants will be reviewed by faculty members prior to acceptance in order to assess interest and ensure that department faculty members have the expertise to mentor applicants' chosen areas of study.

Complete applications must be received by the priority deadline of December 1 to be considered for fellowships and other student funding. To be considered for admission to GCHB doctoral programs without funding, the completed application must be received by January 15.

A complete application includes all required documentation –career statements, letters of recommendation and verified transcripts and GRE scores. We recommend applications and required documentation be submitted in sufficient time for SOPHAS to receive and verify transcripts and GRE scores to meet the respective deadlines.

For further details regarding admissions requirements to the school, see the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine "Policies and Procedures for Doctoral Programs (<https://tulane.app.box.com/v/doc-handbook-102015>)" guide.

Requirements

The DrPH degree in Global Community Health and Behavioral Sciences requires a total of 72 post-baccalaureate credits, 36 of which must be fulfilled through advanced doctoral study at Tulane SPHTM. Up to 36 credits may be applied from a MPH or equivalent degree; however, only those that fulfill the GCHB DrPH competencies will be accepted. If a prerequisite course or equivalent has not been fulfilled, the student must take the prerequisite course.

Additional prerequisites may be required above the 36 credits of advanced doctoral study if a student has not fulfilled prerequisite requirements for the MPH degree.

Prerequisite Coursework (from prior master's degree)

Course ID	Title	Credits
GCHB 6030	Soc & Beh Aspects of Glo HI (or equivalent)	3
GCHB 6340	M&E of Global Health Programs (or equivalent)	3

SPHL 6020	Foundations in Public Health (or equivalent)	3
SPHL 6050	Biostatistics for Public Health (or equivalent)	3
SPHL 6060	Epidemiology for Public Health (or equivalent)	3
SPHL 6070	Health Systems Policy and Mgmt (or equivalent)	3
SPHL 6080	Design Strategies in PH Prgms	3

Advanced Doctoral Study

Course ID	Title	Credits
GCHB 7250	Evdnc Bsed Mthds Scial & Beh	3
GCHB 7280	Qual Mthds: Basic Foundations	2
or GCHB 7290	Qual Mthds II - Theory and Mth	
GCHB 8200	Evaluation Theory	3
GCHB 8820	Adv Pro Plan:Grant Writing:Res	3
GCHB 8800	Senior Grad Rsch Seminar I	1
or GCHB 8830	Senior Grad Rsch Seminar II	
Select courses from each category:		
Advanced Public Health 1 Social Determinants/Health Communication ¹		3
Advanced Public Health 2 Health Policy ¹		3
Advanced Public Health 3 Health Systems Course ¹		3
Advanced Monitoring and Evaluation, select 1 of the following:		3
GCHB 7070	Scial Impct of HIV/AIDS	
GCHB 7120	Mnting and Eval of Maternal	
GCHB 7210	Srvy Data Anlysis in Fmly Plng	
Electives		
Additional credits may be needed to obtain a total of 72 credits		12
Total Credit Hours		36

¹ TBD in consultation with student's advisor

Research Ethics

Doctoral students are required to take online research ethics study via CITI or another equivalent training program in research ethics. This certification must remain current throughout the duration of the student's academic program.

Practicum

The practicum requirement is a 300 hour advanced field experience where students demonstrate competencies in advanced practice skills under the direction of a qualified preceptor in the practice setting. The advisor works with each student to develop measurable learning objectives prior to the practicum experience. This practicum should focus on developing advanced leadership skills in public health disciplines, including the skill of reflective practice and assessment of self, teams, peers, and supervisors.

Comprehensive Exam

On completion of the coursework listed above, students will be required to pass a comprehensive examination (<https://tulane.box.com/v/gchb-comprehensive-july2018>) to demonstrate doctoral program competencies as well as knowledge related to their content area of expertise.

Dissertation

DrPH students must complete a dissertation focused on public health that advances the field of knowledge, practice, or policy. Dissertations may include demonstration projects with a strong monitoring and evaluation component, in-depth policy analyses, detailed programmatic proposals, implementation of routine or standardized instruments, secondary analyses, and other applied emphases, consistent with the purpose of the DrPH program.

Academic Standards

Students in the DrPH program are required to maintain standards of performance required by the School.

1. Achieve an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.3 out of a 4.0. GPAs below 3.3 cannot be rounded up.
2. Not have a grade below a B in more than 2 courses.
3. Not receive an F in any course.