Welcome

to the Department of Global and Community Health
at George Mason University.

The Graduate Student Handbook has been developed to introduce you to the program requirements and student policies of the Department. Please read through this handbook and become familiar with the requirements, policies, and procedures of your program. The information in this handbook will help you be successful in the program and help you make critical decisions along the way. As questions arise during your studies, this handbook, the Graduate Catalog, and the Graduate Program Coordinator should be where you turn first for answers and guidance.

We welcome you to the Department and hope you find this experience to be both enjoyable and rewarding.

Robert M. Weiler, PhD, MPH
Department Chair

Ali A. Weinstein, PhD
Graduate Program Coordinator
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Department Overview

Guiding Principles

Mission
The Department of Global and Community Health (GCH) brings together faculty and students from the disciplines of biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health and health promotion within public health with three primary missions:

- Provide high-quality undergraduate and graduate educational programs preparing our students to enter the domestic and global public health workforce;
- Conduct innovative research that address pressing and emerging domestic and global health problems;
- Establish partnerships that promote population health and well-being especially among underserved and disadvantaged communities.

Goals
Based on our mission, our disciplines, and our values, the following are our primary departmental goals for 2015-2018:

- Maintain and support high quality educational programs that prepare students to be critical thinkers and successful public health practitioners.
- Expand faculty and student opportunities and involvement in research of consequence.
- Strengthen partnerships with agencies engaged in public health through research, education and training, and service.
- Foster learning opportunities for students to work on global efforts that contribute to healthier populations and communities around the world.
Educational Offerings

The Department of Global and Community Health offers a variety of graduate and undergraduate programs. The graduate level programs include two Masters Degree programs and one Graduate Certificate program. Brief descriptions of each program are provided, with more details available on the department website. For all degrees and the certificate, the most up-to-date information is provided in the University Catalog. To confirm terms that courses will be offered, consult this handbook and your advisor.

Master of Public Health

The Council on Education for Public Health-accredited Master of Public Health (MPH) degree is a professional degree for those wishing to enter or advance in the field of public health. Mason's MPH program provides coursework in the five core disciplines of public health – epidemiology, biostatistics, health administration, social and behavioral sciences, and environmental health – along with advanced training in one of five concentrations:

The Community Health Promotion Concentration prepares health promotion specialists to work in local, state, and federal public health agencies, non-governmental health organizations, the health care sector, and private industry. Students in this concentration examine the social, behavioral, and environmental determinants associated with the most pressing health problems, and design, implement, and evaluate appropriate health promotion programs and preventive services to improve population health. The curriculum and practical experiences for this concentration are aligned with the core competencies for the social and behavioral sciences (Association of Schools and Programs for Public Health (ASPPH)) and the Areas of Responsibilities and Competencies for Health Education Specialists (National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc., 2015) and prepare students for the Certified Public Health (CPH) examination and both the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) and the Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) examinations.

The Epidemiology Concentration prepares students to investigate and analyze factors that influence the occurrence, distribution, prevention, and control of disease. Emphasis is placed on the development of such skills as study design, data collection and management, data analysis and interpretation, and communication of research findings.

The Global Health Concentration prepares students to apply the tools of public health to the promotion of health in communities, countries, regions, and the world. Concentration coursework emphasizes comparative global health metrics; the socioeconomic, environmental, and other risk factors associated with transnational health concerns; and ethical and effective strategies for preventing and controlling infectious and non-communicable diseases in diverse populations. Students gain professional communication skills and develop competencies in program planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

The Health Policy Concentration addresses the nature and importance of policy and policymaking in today’s public health system. Through course work and opportunities for practical application, students are introduced to the context and process for policymaking in public health, including the current political, economic and legal environment for health policy, and the basic elements of the public policymaking process and government payment systems. Students graduate with the knowledge and abilities needed to engage with public health and advocacy organizations on policy issues, and to analyze and support policy approaches in an era of scarce public resources and ever-changing priorities.
The Public Health Communication Concentration prepares students to effectively use communication strategies to inform and influence individual and community decisions that affect health. This highly specialized concentration links the fields of communication and public health and is increasingly recognized as a necessary element of efforts to improve personal and public health. The public health communication concentration emphasizes designing, evaluating, and implementing effective communication strategies and messages to address the health needs of diverse audiences.

The MPH program prepares professional public health practitioners to address contemporary public health challenges of local, national and global communities. Through its multidisciplinary approach to learning, research, and community engagement, students acquire the competencies and skills for the effective delivery of public health programs, policies, and services.

The MPH Program reflects the following set of Core Values:

- **Community** - We believe that enabling participation and fostering collaboration among stakeholders helps create healthy communities.
- **Diversity** - We promote a learning environment that allows students, faculty, and staff to realize their full potential by integrating individual strengths, developing talents and creativity, and maintaining mutual respect.
- **Innovation** - We reward excellence and welcome creative achievement for advancing public health.
- **Justice** - We believe individuals should have equitable access to resources and knowledge that support their right to achieve and freely participate in the improvement of individual and population health.
- **Professionalism** - We foster the development of public health professionals who will hold the highest ethical standards with competence, enthusiasm, respect, integrity, responsibility, accountability, and a commitment to life-long learning.
- **Science** - We are committed to scientific rigor, critical analysis, and sound reasoning in public health research and practice.
- **Sustainability** - We are dedicated to environmental, social, and economic stewardship in public health research, practice, and workforce development.

**Master of Science in Global Health**

The Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Global Health prepares students to conduct multidisciplinary research on health issues of global importance. Students complete course work spanning epidemiology and biostatistics, cross-cultural perspectives on health issues, community health assessment, program evaluation, international health systems and organizations, and international health research. Coursework and the Research Capstone provide students an opportunity to explore current dilemmas, demands, and health services with a global focus and perspective.

**Graduate Certificate in Public Health**

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health is designed to provide health professionals with a fundamental understanding of the principals and foundations of the five core areas of public health (social and behavioral health, epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, and health systems) and the basic skills necessary for working in public, community, and population health-related agencies and organizations.
Degree Requirements

Master of Public Health Program

Degree requirements are designated by the academic year during which they were published in the Graduate Catalog. Students are responsible for meeting the degree requirements that were stipulated in the Graduate Catalog at the time of enrollment into the program. Degree requirements for the 2016-2017 Academic Year are listed below. Links for degree requirements from previous academic years can be found in archived graduate catalogs.

Program of Study
Students must complete 42 credits of graduate course work. Each course can be used to fulfill only one requirement. A graduate course in which a grade of C or below is earned may be repeated only once. Graduate students may repeat no more than two courses in their stated program of study. Students must maintain a 3.00 GPA to graduate. Students who fall below a 3.00 GPA will become subject to dismissal from the program. Students may take classes on a part-time or full-time basis, but must complete all program requirements within six years of first enrollment.

Public Health Core (21 credits)
- GCH 543 - Global Health (3 credits)
- GCH 560 - Environmental Health (3 credits)
- GCH 600 - Health Promotion Methods (3 credits)
- GCH 601 - Introduction to Biostatistics (3 credits)
- GCH 645 - U.S. and Global Public Health Systems (3 credits)
- GCH 691 - Project Management in Public Health (3 credits)
- GCH 712 - Introduction to Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 792 - Culminating Experience (0 credits)*

Practicum Requirement (3 credits)
- GCH 780 - Practicum Seminar (0 credits)*
- GCH 790 - Practicum in Public Health (3 credits)

* These courses do not carry any credits, because they usually meet for one hour or less each week. These courses are required for the program of study but do not incur any added tuition costs.

Community Health Promotion Concentration Requirements (15 credits)
- COMM 620 - Health Communication (3 credits)
- GCH 610 - Health Behavior Theory (3 credits)
- GCH 611 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation (3 credits)
- GCH 651 - Behavioral Research Methods (3 credits)
- GCH 772 - Social Epidemiology (3 credits)

Elective - select three credits from the following list
- GCH 515 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Health (3 credits)
- GCH 571 - HIV/AIDS: Concepts, Principles, and Interventions (3 credits)
- GCH 602 - Global Health Issues Related to Violence (3 credits)
- GCH 612 - Interventions in Public Health (3 credits)
- GCH 622 - Mental Health: A Global Perspective (3 credits)
- GCH 626 - Migrant Health (3 credits)
- GCH 640 - Global Infectious Diseases (3 credits)
- GCH 650 - Global Non-Communicable Diseases (3 credits)
- GCH 762 - Environmental Epidemiology (3 credits)
GCH 804 - Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis for Health Care Research I (3 credits)
GGS 540 - Health Geography (3 credits)
GGS 553 - Geographic Information System (3 credits)
NUTR 620 - Nutrition Education (3 credits)
NUTR 630 - Global Nutrition (3 credits)
NUTR 651 - Nutrition Assessment, Monitoring and Surveillance (3 credits)
COMM 637 - Risk Communication (3 credits)
COMM 639 - Science Communication (3 credits)
COMM 660 - Climate Change and Sustainability Communication Campaigns (3 credits)
COMM 721 - E-Health Communication (3 credits)
EVPP 506 - Science of the Environment (3 credits)
EVPP 641 – Environmental Science and Public Policy (3 credits)
EVPP 745 - Environmental Toxicology (3 credits)
SOCI 635 - Environment and Society (3 credits)
BIOL 666 - Human Genetics for Health Care (3 credits)
PUAD 502 - Administration in Public and Nonprofit Organizations (3 credits)
PUAD 630 – Emergency Planning and Preparedness (3 credits)
PUAD 636 - The NGO: Policy and Management (3 credits)

Or advisor-approved elective course

**Epidemiology Concentration Requirements (15 credits)**

- GCH 722 - Infectious Disease Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 732 - Chronic Disease Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 804 - Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis for Health Care Research I (3 credits)

**Choose one of the following research methods courses (3 credits)**

- GCH 726 - Advanced Methods in Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 805 - Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis for Health Care Research II (3 credits)

**Choose one of the following exposure courses (3 credits)**

- GCH 762 - Environmental Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 772 - Social Epidemiology (3 credits)

**Elective - select three credits from the following list**

- GCH 571 - HIV/AIDS: Concepts, Principles, and Interventions (3 credits)
- GCH 726 - Advanced Methods in Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 762 - Environmental Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 772 - Social Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 805 - Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis for Health Care Research II (3 credits)
- GCH 806 - Advanced Multivariate Statistics and Data Analysis for Health Care Research (3 credits)
- GCH 807 - Measurement Theories and Applications in Health Care Research (3 credits)
- GGS 540 - Health Geography (3 credits)
- GGS 553 - Geographic Information System (3 credits)
- GGS 581 - World Food and Population (3 credits)
- CSS 600 - Introduction to Computational Social Science (3 credits)
- STAT 501 - SAS Language and Basic Procedures (1 credit)
- STAT 502 - Introduction to STAT Statistical Graphics (1 credit)
- STAT 503 - SAS Macro Language (3 credits)
- STAT 535 - Analysis of Experimental Data (3 credits)
- STAT 554 - Applied Statistics I (3 credits)
- STAT 560 - Biostatistical Methods (3 credits)
- NUTR 630 - Global Nutrition (3 credits)
- COMM 620 - Health Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 637 - Risk Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 639 - Science Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 640 - Controversies in Science Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 641 - Advanced Communication Skills for STEM (3 credits)
- COMM 642 - Science and the Public (3 credits)
- COMM 660 - Climate Change and Sustainability Communication Campaigns (3 credits)
- COMM 721 - E-Health Communication (3 credits)
- EVPP 506 - Science of the Environment (3 credits)
- EVPP 641 – Environmental Science and Public Policy (3 credits)
- EVPP 650 – Environmental Analysis and Modeling (3 credits)
- EVPP 745 - Environmental Toxicology (3 credits)
- SOCI 635 - Environment and Society (3 credits)
- PHIL 643 - Environmental Ethics (3 credits)
- BIOL 666 - Human Genetics for Health Care (3 credits)
- BIOL 685 - Emerging Infectious Diseases (3 credits)
- BIOS 743 – Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics (3 credits)
- HAP 645 - Introduction to Health Services Research (3 credits)

Or advisor-approved elective course

Global Health Concentration Requirements (15 credits)
- COMM 605/705 - Intercultural Communication/Intercultural Health and Risk Comm (3 credits)
- GCH 611 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation (3 credits)
- GCH 626 - Migrant Health (3 credits)
- GCH 640 - Global Infectious Disease (3 credits)
- GCH 650 - Global Non-Communicable Disease (3 credits)

Elective - select three credits from the following list
- GCH 515 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Health (3 credits)
- GCH 571 - HIV/AIDS: Concepts, Principles, and Interventions (3 credits)
- GCH 602 - Global Health Issues Related to Violence (3 credits)
- GCH 612 - Interventions in Public Health (3 credits)
- GCH 762 - Environmental Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 772 - Social Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 804 - Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis for Health Care Research I (3 credits)
- GGS 540 - Health Geography (3 credits)
- GGS 553 - Geographic Information System (3 credits)
- NUTR 583 - Food and Culture (3 credits)
- NUTR 630 - Global Nutrition (3 credits)
- NUTR 651 - Nutrition Assessment, Monitoring and Surveillance (3 credits)
- COMM 620 - Health Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 637 - Risk Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 639 - Science Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 660 - Climate Change and Sustainability Communication Campaigns (3 credits)
- COMM 721 - E-Health Communication (3 credits)
- EVPP 506 - Science of the Environment (3 credits)
- EVPP 641 – Environmental Science and Public Policy (3 credits)
- SOCI 635 - Environment and Society (3 credits)
- BIOL 685 - Emerging Infectious Diseases (3 credits)
- PUAD 502 - Administration in Public and Nonprofit Organizations (3 credits)
- PUAD 505 - Introduction to Management of Nonprofits (3 credits)
- PUAD 630 – Emergency Planning and Preparedness (3 credits)
- PUAD 636 - The NGO: Policy and Management (3 credits)

Or advisor-approved elective course

Health Policy Concentration Requirements (15 credits)
- HAP 661 - Policy Development and Analysis for Community Health Programs (3 credits)
- HAP 715 - Health Economics (3 credits)
- HAP 750 - Legal Issues in Health Administration (3 credits)
- HAP 764 - Health Policy and Government Payment Systems for Health Services (3 credits)
- HAP 793 - Final Project on Applied Health Policy (3 credits)

Elective - select three credits from the following list
- HAP 511 - Ethics in Public Health (3 credits)
- HAP 632 - Grants Funding and Development (3 credits)
- HAP 652 - Essentials of Health Insurance and Managed Care (3 credits)
- HAP 662 - Health Policy for Elders and People with Disabilities (3 credits)
- HAP 712 - Topics in Public Policy (3 credits)
- HAP 742 - Health Policy Development and Analysis (3 credits)
- HAP 745 - Health Care Security Policy (3 credits)
- HAP 746 - Health Policy Leadership (3 credits)
- HAP 766 - Policy Implementation and Health System Management Dilemmas (3 credits)

Or advisor-approved elective course

Public Health Communication Concentration Requirements (15 credits)
- COMM 620 - Health Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 637 - Risk Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 670 - Social Marketing (3 credits)
- COMM 721 - E-Health Communication (3 credits)
- COMM 820 - Health Communication Campaigns (3 credits)

Elective - select three credits from the following list
- GCH 515 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Health (3 credits)
- GCH 571 - HIV/AIDS: Concepts, Principles, and Interventions (3 credits)
- GCH 602 - Global Health Issues Related to Violence (3 credits)
- GCH 612 - Interventions in Public Health (3 credits)
- GCH 622 - Mental Health: A Global Perspective (3 credits)
- GCH 626 - Migrant Health (3 credits)
- GCH 640 - Global Infectious Diseases (3 credits)
- GCH 650 - Global Non-Communicable Diseases (3 credits)
- GCH 762 - Environmental Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 772 - Social Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 804 - Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis of Health Care Research I (3 credits)
- GGS 540 - Health Geography (3 credits)
- GGS 553 - Geographic Information System (3 credits)
- GGS 581 - World Food and Population (3 credits)
- NUTR 583 - Food and Culture (3 credits)
- NUTR 630 - Global Nutrition (3 credits)
- NUTR 651 - Nutrition Assessment, Monitoring and Surveillance (3 credits)
- COMM 639 - Science Communication (3 credits)
COMM 660 - Climate Change and Sustainability Communication Campaigns (3 credits)
EVPP 506 - Science of the Environment (3 credits)
EVPP 641 - Environmental Science and Public Policy (3 credits)
SOCI 635 - Environment and Society (3 credits)
BIOL 685 - Emerging Infectious Diseases (3 credits)
PUAD 502 - Administration in Public and Nonprofit Organizations (3 credits)
PUAD 505 - Introduction to Management of Nonprofits (3 credits)
PUAD 630 – Emergency Planning and Preparedness (3 credits)
PUAD 636 - The NGO: Policy and Management (3 credits)

**Or advisor-approved elective course**

**Practicum Requirement**
The required 200-hour practicum gives students the opportunity to practice and improve professional skills in a supervised practice setting and is completed in two parts. The first part is completed while enrolled in GCH 780 Practicum Seminar. This zero-credit course helps students identify and arrange their practicum placements in a structured environment. This class will have some class meetings, but will not meet every week, allowing students time to locate their practicum placement sites in the field. Students must complete GCH 780 the semester before enrolling in GCH 790.

In GCH 790: Practicum in Public Health, students perform work as interns at their selected placement sites for a minimum of 200 contact hours and make final presentations of their experiences to the faculty, fellow students, and invited guests. Students are eligible for enrollment in GCH 790 when they have completed at least 21 credits in the program. Students are advised to take GCH 790 in their final semester of the program.

**Culminating Experience**
The Culminating Experience course (GCH 792) guides students through a praxis experience. This course is only required for MPH students. Students synthesize skills and knowledge gained throughout the curriculum and apply what they have learned to address an issue relevant to public health. Using a project-based format, students identify a public health problem, explore potential solutions, and develop a plan of action. The final product is presented to the faculty and is used to assess student mastery of public health competencies.

- MPH Community Health Promotions and MPH Global Health students complete GCH 792 in the same semester as GCH 611: Health Program Planning and Evaluation.
- MPH Epidemiology students complete GCH 792 in the same semester as GCH 732: Chronic Disease Epidemiology.
- MPH Global Health students complete GCH 792 in the same semester as GCH 611: Health Program Planning and Evaluation.
- MPH Health Policy students complete GCH 792 in the same semester as HAP 793: Final Project on Applied Health Policy.
- MPH Public Health Communication students complete GCH 792 in the same semester as COMM 820: Health Communication Campaigns.

GCH 792 Culminating Experience and its respective corresponding courses (GCH 611 or 732, COMM 820, HAP 793) are only offered in the Fall semester and should therefore be taken in the last Fall semester of a student’s program of study.
Master of Science in Global Health

Program of Study
Students must complete 42 credits of graduate course work. Each course can be used to fulfill only one requirement. A graduate course in which a grade of C or below is earned may be repeated only once. Graduate students may repeat no more than two courses in their stated program of study. Students must maintain a 3.00 GPA to graduate from the master’s program. Students who fall below a 3.00 GPA will become subject to dismissal from the program. Students may take classes on a part-time or full-time basis, but must complete all program requirements within six years of first enrollment.

Global Health Core (15 credits)
- GCH 543 – Global Health (3 credits)
- GCH 626 – Migrant Health (3 credits)
- GCH 640 – Global Infectious Disease (3 credits)
- GCH 645 – U.S. and Global Public Health Systems (3 credits)
- GCH 650 – Global Non-Communicable Diseases (3 credits)

Research Core (15 credits)
- GCH 601 – Introduction to Biostatistics (3 credits)
- GCH 651 – Behavioral Research Methods (3 credits)
- GCH 712 – Introduction to Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 804 – Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis for Health Care Research I (3 credits)

And one of the following research courses:
- GCH 805 – Advanced Quantitative Data Analysis for Health Care Research II (3 credits)
- GGS 540 – Health Geography (3 credits)
- GGS 550 – Geospatial Science Fundamentals (3 credits)

Capstone Experience (3 credits)
- GCH 794 – Global Health Research Capstone (3 credits)

Elective - select nice credits from the following list
- GCH 560 - Environmental Health (3 credits)
- GCH 571 - HIV/AIDS: Concepts, Principles, and Interventions (3 credits)
- GCH 600 - Health Promotion Methods (3 credits)
- GCH 610 - Health Behavior Theory (3 credits)
- GCH 650 - Global Non-Communicable Diseases (3 credits)
- GCH 762 - Environmental Epidemiology (3 credits)
- GCH 772 - Social Epidemiology (3 credits)
- ANTH 687 - Medical Anthropology (3 credits)
- BIOD 620 - Global Health Security (3 credits)
- COMM 705 - Intercultural Health and Risk Communication (3 credits)
- EVPP 637 - Human Dimensions of Global Change (3 credits)
- GGS 540 - Health Geography (3 credits)
- NUTR 583 - Food and Culture (3 credits)
- NUTR 630 - Global Nutrition (3 credits)
- PUAD 630 – Emergency Planning and Preparedness (3 credits)
- PUAD 636 - The NGO: Policy and Management (3 credits)
- PUBP 757 - Public Policy in Global Health and Medical Practice (3 credits)
- PUBP 758 - Global Threats and Medical Policies (3 credits)

Or advisor-approved elective courses
Graduate Certificate in Public Health

Students must have 18 graduate credits and a minimum GPA of 3.00 in course work, with no more than 3 credits with a grade of C to earn the certificate.

Required Courses (18 credits)
- GCH 560 – Environmental Health (3 credits)
- GCH 600 – Health Promotion Methods (3 credits)
- GCH 601 – Introduction to Biostatistics (3 credits)
- GCH 645 – U.S. and Global Public Health (3 credits)
- GCH 691 – Project Management in Public Health (3 credits)
- GCH 712 – Introduction to Epidemiology (3 credits)
Course Planning

Academic Advisement

Dr. Ali Weinstein, Graduate Program Coordinator, serves as the advisor for all of the graduate students in GCH. Dr. Weinstein meets with students to discuss course planning, programs of study, and answer other academic questions. Students wishing to meet with Dr. Weinstein should contact her via email to make an appointment.

- Students should plan to meet with Dr. Weinstein in the middle of fall term to plan for spring classes and in the middle of spring term to plan for summer and fall classes.
- Students who do not discuss course planning on a regular basis risk taking courses in the wrong order, missing important requirements, and potentially delaying graduation.
- Ignorance of program requirements or changes does not constitute a valid reason for those requirements to be substituted.

Students interested in research opportunities in their concentration are encouraged to contact a faculty member working in their area of interest. For questions about or mentoring in specific topical areas, students are encouraged to research the faculty areas of expertise and schedule a meeting with an appropriate faculty member.

Helpful hints when contacting faculty:
1. Establish during initial contact the faculty member’s preferred means for communicating (phone, email, in person).
2. Ask the faculty member’s preferred means for making appointments (online scheduler, by phone, by email).
3. Students should plan that faculty may not be available during university breaks, holidays, and weekends.
Master Course Schedule

In order to help students with academic planning, courses will be offered each year in accordance with the Master Schedule described below. Please note that the weekly meeting days and times will change each term. Check the Schedule of Classes on Patriot Web each term for specific meeting times, dates, and locations.

### Fall Courses:

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<td>GCH 543</td>
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<td>GCH 601</td>
<td>Introduction to Biostatistics</td>
<td>GCH 611</td>
<td>Health Program Planning &amp; Evaluation</td>
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<td>Global Non-Communicable Diseases</td>
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<td>Behavioral Research Methods</td>
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<td>GCH 780</td>
<td>Practicum Seminar</td>
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<td>GCH 782</td>
<td>International Research Ethics &amp; Methods</td>
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<td>Culminating Experience</td>
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### Spring Courses:

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### Summer Courses:

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<td>GCH 790</td>
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Note that some degree programs require courses that are offered by other departments at Mason (indicated by a course prefix other than GCH). Check with the respective departments to identify when these courses are offered. Courses may be offered in additional semesters from time to time. However, students coming into this catalog year should anticipate that courses will be offered as indicated here. The department reserves the right to make alterations based on unusual circumstances. Electives in the department may not be listed here, and students can check with the Graduate Program Coordinator regarding when the course may be taught.
Recommended Course Sequences

On the next few pages are recommended course sequences for the MPH (All Concentrations) and MS in Global Health program. Students in the graduate certificate program should contact the MPH Program Coordinator for help with course planning.
**Recommended Course Sequences: MPH (Community Health Promotion Concentration)**

**Option 1:** for students attending full-time (2 academic years)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Fall</th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Spring</th>
<th>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Summer</th>
<th>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Fall</th>
<th>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Spring</th>
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**Option 2:** for students attending full-time (2 full years)

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**Option 3: for students attending part-time**

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**Code Legend:**

EL      Select an Elective course. Only one elective course is required for the degree. See Program of Study for list of required courses.

* Indicates a zero-credit course that does not contribute to the overall credits earned for the term.
### Recommended Course Sequences: MPH (Epidemiology Concentration)

**Option 1: for students attending full-time (2 academic years)**

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**Option 2: for students attending full-time (2 full years)**

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**Option 3: for students attending part-time**

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**Code Legend:**

- **EX/RM/EL**: Select an Exposure course, Research Methods course, or Elective course. In total, one exposure course, one research methods course, and one elective are required for the degree. See Program of Study for list of required courses.

- *****: Indicates a zero-credit course that does not contribute to the overall credits earned for the term.
### Recommended Course Sequences: MPH (Global Health Concentration)

**Option 1: for students attending full-time (2 academic years)**

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9 credits 9 credits 6 credits 9 credits 9 credits

**Option 2: for students attending full-time (2 full years)**

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**Option 3: for students attending part-time**

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6 credits 6 credits 3 credits 6 credits 6 credits 3 credits 6 credits 6 credits

**Code Legend:**

EL Select an Elective course. Only one elective course is required for the degree. See Program of Study for list of required courses.

* Indicates a zero-credit course that does not contribute to the overall credits earned for the term.
**Recommended Course Sequences: MPH (Health Policy Concentration)**

**Option 1: for students attending full-time (2 academic years)**

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**Option 2: for students attending full-time (2 full years)**

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**Option 3: for students attending part-time**

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**Code Legend:**

EL  Select an Elective course. Only one elective course is required for the degree. See Program of Study for list of required courses.

* Indicates a zero-credit course that does not contribute to the overall credits earned for the term.
### Recommended Course Sequences: MPH (Public Health Communication Concentration)

#### Option 1: for students attending full-time (2 academic years)

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#### Option 2: for students attending full-time (2 full years)

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#### Option 3: for students attending part-time

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6 credits   6 credits   3 credits   6 credits   6 credits   3 credits   6 credits

### Code Legend:

- **EL**: Select an Elective course. Only one elective course is required for the degree. See Program of Study for list of required courses.

- *****: Indicates a zero-credit course that does not contribute to the overall credits earned for the term.
Recommended Course Sequences: MS in Global Health

Option 1: Full-Time Study

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Option 2: Part-Time Study

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<th>3rd Fall</th>
<th>3rd Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GCH 543</td>
<td>GCH 645</td>
<td>R/EL</td>
<td>GCH 650</td>
<td>GCH 640</td>
<td>R/EL</td>
<td>GCH 651</td>
<td>GCH 794</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCH 601</td>
<td>GCH 804</td>
<td>GCH 712</td>
<td>GCH 626</td>
<td>R/EL</td>
<td>R/EL</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 credits 6 credits 3 credits 6 credits 6 credits 3 credits 6 credits 6 credits

Code Legend:

R/EL Means choose a Research course or Elective course. In total, one Research course and three elective courses are required for the degree. See Program of Study for list of required courses.
Changing Programs or Concentrations

Students are admitted for specific programs and concentrations within programs and are expected to complete the programs for which they were admitted. Students may request to change concentrations (e.g. MPH-Epidemiology to MPH-Global Health), but approval for these requests is not automatic, and students should not expect all courses to transfer from one concentration to another. Changing programs (e.g. MS to MPH) requires a new application and students should meet and discuss options with the MPH Program Coordinator. Guidelines for making such requests are provided below.

Changing Programs
GMU students enrolled in a graduate program and who are interested in changing to a different degree program (i.e., from the M.S. in Global Health to the MPH program) must meet admission criteria and apply through SOPHAS. Students who are currently enrolled in one program at Mason do not receive special consideration when applying to a new program.

Please Note: Changing from the MS Global Health to any concentration within the MPH is considered a program change.

Changing Concentrations
Students in the MPH program who wish to switch concentrations should consult with the MPH Program Coordinator regarding the procedure to request a concentration change. The form and instructions for changing concentrations can be found at the GCH Student Resources page at: http://chhs.gmu.edu/gch/student-resources.cfm > Select ‘Academic Forms’ > Select ‘Request to Change MPH Concentration Form’ > fill out the form and follow the directions written on the form. Please remember that this is a request and not a guarantee.

Communication and Mason Email

All Mason students are provided with a Mason email account. Students are expected to use their Mason email accounts when communicating with university faculty and staff. University officials will use electronic mail as the most expeditious means of communicating with students. Students are responsible for:

- Activating their Mason email accounts
- The content of all university communication sent by e-mail
- Checking their Mason email accounts regularly

University faculty, staff, and administration are not responsible for and will not respond to any email sent via non-Mason accounts. This measure is taken to protect student privacy and ensure that email messages are not lost through spam filters. Please see mail.gmu.edu for further information about your e-mail and other communication services.