



TOURO UNIVERSITY

C A L I F O R N I A

**College of Education and
Health Sciences**

Public Health Program

Master of Public Health

Student Handbook

2024 - 2025

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TOURO UNIVERSITY CALIFORNIA CEHS PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

SECTION I GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

Accreditation

The Master of Public Health Program, which began operations in 2003, is recognized by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Effective February 18, 2005 regional accreditation has been transferred from the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSCHE) to the Accrediting Commission on Higher Education for Senior Colleges and Universities, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). With the successful transfer of TUC to WASC, all programs previously recognized by the MSCHE are now accredited under WASC.

The Touro University California (TUC) Public Health Program is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). On December 1, 2022, the TUC Public Health Program received notice of accreditation from the Council regarding the decision of its Board of Councilors to reaccredit the MPH Program at TUC for a 7-year term, the maximum period of accreditation for a graduate public health program. Previously, in June 2015, the TUC MPH Program received accreditation from the Council for a 7-year term.

DEGREES AWARDED

Master of Public Health (MPH): The Public Health Program offers a Master of Public Health (MPH) with three distinctive Concentrations: Community Action for Health, Health Equity and Criminal Justice, and Global Health. The Community Action for Health Concentration is designed for students interested in working in federal, state, and community agencies, nonprofit health agencies, the private sector and hospitals. Students choosing the Health Equity and Criminal Justice Concentration will be prepared to advocate for and address the needs of justice involved populations - both incarcerated and post-release – in county, state, federal and nonprofit agencies. The Global Health Concentration prepares graduates to assume leadership roles in managing the needs of populations in developing countries working in international health agencies, such as WHO, UNHCR, PAHO, federal agencies, non-governmental agencies, immigrant and migrant health services, research institutions and academia, and the private sector. MPH students are required to complete a total of 42 units, 400 contact hours of field experience, and a capstone research project to culminate their learning experience.

Joint Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies/MPH (MSPAS/MPH): The MSPAS/MPH is a 32-month integrated joint degree program that consists of instruction and clinical experiences in both the medical and public health disciplines. Students attending the Joint MSPAS/MPH Program must pursue the Master of Public Health concurrently with the MSPAS Degree. Joint MSPAS/MPH students are required to complete a total of 30 units towards the MPH degree and 200 contact hours of field experience during the 32-month program. Joint students may choose between concentrations in: Community Action for Health, Health Equity and Criminal Justice or Global Health.

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine/MPH (DO/MPH) Dual Degree: The DO/MPH degree provides an interdisciplinary academic program of study that fosters skill acquisition and competency in key areas of public health practice, both current and emerging, by facilitating the articulation of shared public health/health promotion and clinical practice approaches within the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Students attending the DO Program can pursue the Master of Public Health concurrently. DO/MPH students are required to complete a total of 30 units towards the MPH and 200

contact hours of field experience during their four-year study in the DO Program. DO/MPH students may choose between concentrations in: Community Action for Health, Health Equity and Criminal Justice or Global Health.

TUN-TUC Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine/ MPH Dual Degree: Modeled after the current training opportunities offered to DO and MSPAS students at TUC, effective Summer 2018, TUN COM students will be eligible for admission in the dual degree MPH Program in collaboration with TUC. In a dual degree format, students take 30 additional units through the TUC Public Health Program, offered in a distance learning and hybrid format and the remaining 12 units of the MPH degree are credited through completion of the clinical program at TUN. DO/MPH students are required to complete a total of 30 units towards the MPH and 200 contact hours of field experience during their four-year study in the DO Program. DO/MPH students may choose between concentrations in: Community Action for Health, Health Equity and Criminal Justice and Public Health or Global Health.

Invitational MPH This option is available, by invitation only, to those who previously applied but did not get accepted into another TUC academic program (Osteopathic Medicine, or Physician Assistant Studies) and who wish to enroll in the Public Health Program to broaden their health care knowledge and improve upon their academic portfolio. **Invitational MPH applicants submit a direct application to TUC but no application fee is required.** Most required documents may be copied from the previous application.

Visiting Students: This option is generally selected by candidates who have completed a Bachelor's Degree and are exploring the possibility of pursuing a career in public health. It may also include: Professionals currently working in public health and interested in a continuing education experience; TUC faculty, staff or students who would like to take a course without formally applying to the program, but are interested in receiving credit/transcripts to document the experience. Special Study Status allows enrollment for up to a maximum of twelve (12) units in either concentration. Should a student following this option subsequently decide to enroll in the MPH Program after completing the maximum number of units, their coursework would be fully transferable.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: Social justice as a framework for reducing health disparities in local and global communities.

Mission: The Public Health Program mission is to develop outstanding public health professionals who believe that health is a human right and that health inequity must be addressed in collaboration with communities and with an understanding of the historical roots and structural causes of injustice.

The distinguishing feature of the TUC MPH Mission is the blending of clinical and public health knowledge into one, in its joint and dual degree programs; and converging the inward focus on community health and outward focus on global health, in its independent MPH program.

By providing an educational program that fosters collaboration, students are empowered to enhance the health and well-being of diverse populations at the local, state, national and global levels.

Based on the “social justice” motto of the University, the Master of Public Health Program works in partnership with the public and private sectors to build on community strengths and increase the capacity of the underserved communities’ response to public health problems.

GOALS

- **Instructional:** The Public Health Program will provide the instruction necessary to ensure that graduates demonstrate public health competencies, knowledge, and skills in the core areas of public health.
- **Scholarship:** To develop, engage in, and disseminate high quality research and scholarship to inform public health practice, advocacy efforts and policy
- **Service:** To engage in community partnerships through participatory action and collaborative approaches that strengthen the public health workforce and address regional and global health issues
- **Social Justice and Health Equity:** To promote social justice and health equity in all aspects of our work including programming and community partnerships

VALUES

The PH Program has four overarching values that describe the ethos of our mission and approaches to developing outstanding public health professionals. Our mission and values serve as a guide for our students, institution, and all key stakeholders.

- **Participatory Action:** We advance participatory and collaborative approaches with local and global communities to advocate for and support community health, self-determination and social change.
- **Justice:** We value systemic and transformative change to advance health equity and social justice using a critical lens to address the social and structural determinants of health in our teaching, research and service.
- **Humility:** We value critical self-reflection to promote a lifelong process of learning in order to understand ourselves and the needs of our communities.
- **Scientific Integrity:** At the intersection of science and justice, we strive to mitigate health inequities using empirical evidence and best practices.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: PROGRAM FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES


The Public Health Program will provide the instruction necessary to ensure that the instruction necessary to ensure that all MPG graduates demonstrate public health competencies with a focus on the underserved and can demonstrate knowledge and skill in the core areas of public health. MPH graduates will be able to:

- Apply epidemiological methods to settings and situations in public health practice
- Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software, as appropriate
- Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy or practice
- Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings
- Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and systemic levels
- Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health
- Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation or critique of public health policies or programs
- Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention
- Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management
- Select methods to evaluate public health programs
- Discuss the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence
- Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes
- Advocate for political, social or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations
- Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity
- Apply leadership and/or management principles to address a relevant issue
- Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges
- Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors
- Communicate audience-appropriate (i.e., non-academic, non-peer audience) public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation
- Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content
- Integrate perspectives from other sectors and/or professions to promote and advance population health
- Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE

Directory

As students progress through the Program, the PH faculty and staff are here to ensure that the academic experience is positive and rewarding. They are excellent resources for any questions concerning their areas of expertise or the program in general.

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Faculty Committees

The Public Health Program has the following standing and ad hoc committees to address the different aspects of the program and to insure its ability to fulfill its mission and goals and to conform to the conditions for accreditation.

- Core Self-study Task Force (ad hoc)
- Curriculum
- Academic Progress
- Recruitment and Admissions
- Community Action Advisory Council

Core Self-study Task Force (ad hoc)	
Member	Position
Carinne Brody	Member
Sharon Chesney	Member
Gayle Cummings	Chair
Nemesia Kelly	Member
Trina Mackie	Member
Sarah Sullivan	Member
Deidra Wilson	Member

Curriculum Committee	
Member	Position
Trina Mackie	Chair
Sahai Burowes	Member
Alexandra Hernandez	Member
Zahra Goliaei	Member
Nemesia Kelly	Member
Deidra Wilson	Member

Academic Progress Committee	
Member	Position
Carinne Brody	Chair
Alexandra Hernandez	Member
Sarah Sullivan	Member
Deirdra Wilson	Member

Recruitment and Admissions Committee		
Member	Position	Affiliation
Carinne Brody	Chair	PH
Sharon Chesney	Member	PH
Charleane Williams	Member	PH
Gayle Cummings	Member	PH
Natalie Cvetic-Jones	Member	Admissions
Steven Davis	Member	Admissions
Naisha Bible	Member	Admissions
Jodi Rogers	Member	Admissions

Community Action Advisory Council		
Member	Affiliation	Position
Annette Aalborg	TUC PH	Co-Chair
Corrine Quinn	Community Resident	Co-Chair
Gayle Cummings	TUC PH	Member
Brittney Conrad	TUC MPH Student	Coordinating and planning member
Marganick Bien Aime	TUC MPH Student	Coordinating and planning member
Matthew Green	Solano County PH	Coordinating and planning member
Dr. Shandi Fuller	Solano County PH	Member
Hannah Chen	Kaiser, Community Benefit Napa/Solano	Member
Dr. Rhonda Renfro	Club Stride	Member
Desiree Miranda	Fighting Back Partnership Vallejo	Member
Dr. Robert Moore	Partnership HealthPlan of California	Member
Pati Navalta	Robby Poblete Foundation/Violence Prevention	Member
Andrea Notch	Kaiser Permanente- Workforce Development	Member
Kim DeOcampo	California Tribal Council	Member
Katherine Dang	Kaiser Permanente, Vallejo	Member
Rev. Danny Jefferson	Ministry	Member
Johanna Nowak-Palmer	Education- Solano County Schools	Member
Pat Dobson	Environmental Justice	Member
Kirbee Brooks	Solano County PH	Member
Dr. Ann Finkelstein	Transitions Clinic, La Clinica	Member

CURRICULUM

Master of Public Health Course Requirements: The Master of Public Health (MPH) requires a minimum of 42 semester units of courses in core, concentration, breadth, and culminating experience graduate study.

Course #	Core Requirements	Units
PBHC 607	Biostatistics	3
PBHC 618	Epidemiology	3
PBHC 604	Health Policy & Management	3
PBHC 648	Environmental Health	3
PBHC 608	Behavioral & Social Aspects of Public Health	3
PBHC 619	Research Methodology	2
PBHC 647	Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment	3
PBHC 631	Social Justice Lecture Series	0
Total		20

Course #	Concentration Course Requirements for Community Action for Health	Units
PBHC 606	Community Health Promotion	3
PBHC 620	Social Inequities & Health	3
Total		6

Course #	Concentration Course Requirements for Health Equity and Criminal Justice	Units
PBHC 633	Criminal Justice and Public Health	3
PBHC 634	Criminal Justice Law & Public Health Advocacy	3
Total		6

Course #	Concentration Course Requirements for Global Health	Units
PBHC 614	Essentials of Global Health	3
PBHC 602	Emerging Health Threats	3
Total		6

Course #	Breadth Courses	Units
Breadth courses offered vary but may include the above concentration courses for students in other concentrations. Breadth courses also may include Maternal and Child Health, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Public Health, Grant Writing and Program Management, Public Health Leadership and other options.		
Total		10

Course #	Culminating Course Requirements	CR
PBHC 600	Field Study (6 units for IMPH, 4 units for Joint MPH/MSPAS, 4 units for Dual MPH/DO)	6 or 4
PBHC 645 or 646	Capstone Project or CPH Exam Preparatory	0
Total		6 or 4

- Joint degree MPH/MSPAS and Dual degree MPH/DO students are required to complete 30 units from the Public Health curriculum and 12 units from courses relevant to public health from the Physician Assistant Program or the College of Medicine curriculums.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM
INDEPENDENT MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRACK (42 Units)

Fall 2024 Start

Community Action for Health Concentration

Fall 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2025 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled
		☑			☑
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2)	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 1)	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 620: Social Inequities and Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 648 Environmental Health (Block 2)	3		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment (Block 2)	3	
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1 & 2) asynchronous	0		<i>PBHC 606: Community Health Promotion (Block 2)</i>	3	
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	12	

Summer 2025 - Session 3	Units	Enrolled
		☑
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3	
PBHC 619: Research Methods	2	
BREADTH CLASS 1 asynchronous	1	
TOTAL	6	

Fall 2025 - Session 4	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2026 - Session 5	Units	Enrolled
		☑			☑
BREADTH CLASS 1 (Block 1)	3		PBHC 600-6 Field Study	6	
BREADTH CLASS 2 (Block 1)	3				
BREADTH CLASS 3 (Block 2)	3				
PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project* (Block 2)	0				
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	6	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating MPH Courses

Italicized – Concentration courses

Students are required to take a total of 10 Breadth units.

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** or **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in fall 2025.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM
INDEPENDENT MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRACK (42 Units)

Fall 2024 Start

Health Equity and Criminal Justice Concentration

Fall 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2025 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled
		☑			☑
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2)	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 1)	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 633: Criminal Justice and Public Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 648 Environmental Health (Block 2)	3		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment (Block 2)	3	
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1 & 2) asynchronous	0		<i>PBHC 634: Criminal Justice Law & Public Health Advocacy (Block 2)</i>	3	
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	12	

Summer 2025- Session 3	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3	☑
PBHC 619: Research Methods	2	
BREADTH CLASS 1 asynchronous	1	
TOTAL	6	

Fall 2025 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2026 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled
		☑			☑
BREADTH CLASS 2 (Block 1)	3		PBHC 600-6 Field Study	6	
BREADTH CLASS 3 (Block 1)	3				
BREADTH CLASS 4 (Block 2)	3				
PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project* (Block 2)	0				
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	6	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating MPH Courses

Italicized – Concentration courses

Students are required to take a total of 10 Breadth units.

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

*Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in fall 2025.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM
INDEPENDENT MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRACK (42 Units)

Fall 2024 Start **Global Health Concentration**

Fall 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled ☑	Spring 2025 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled ☑
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2)	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 1)	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 614: Essentials of Global Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 648 Environmental Health (Block 2)	3		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment (Block 2)	3	
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1 & 2) asynchronous	0		<i>PBHC 602: Emerging Health Threats (Block 2)</i>	3	
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	12	

Summer 2025 - Session 3	Units	Enrolled ☑
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3	
PBHC 619: Research Methods	2	
BREADTH CLASS 1 asynchronous	1	
TOTAL	6	

Fall 2025 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled ☑	Spring 2026 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled ☑
BREADTH CLASS 2 (Block 1)	3		PBHC 600-6: Field Study	6	
BREADTH CLASS 3 (Block 1)	3				
BREADTH CLASS 4 (Block 2)	3				
PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project* (Block 2)	0				
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	6	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating MPH Courses

Italicized – Concentration Courses

Students are required to take a total of 10 Breadth units.

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in fall 2025.

**ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM
INDEPENDENT MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRACK (42 Units)**

Summer 2024 Start

Community Action for Health Concentration

Summer 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment	3	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3	
TOTAL	6	

Fall 2024 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2025 - Session 3	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2)	3		PBHC 619: Research Methods (Block 1)	2	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 620: Social Inequities and Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 648 Environmental Health (Block 2)	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 2)	3	
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1&2) asynchronous	0		<i>PBHC 606: Community Health Promotion (Block 2)</i>	3	
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	11	

Summer 2025 - Session 4	Units	Enrolled	Fall 2025 - Session 5	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 600-6 Field Study	6		BREADTH CLASS 1 (Block 1)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 2 (Block 1)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 3 (Block 2)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 4 (Block 2) asynchronous	1	
			PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project* (Block 2)	0	
TOTAL	6		TOTAL	10	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating MPH Courses

Italicized – Concentration Courses

Students are required to take a total of 10 Breadth units.

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** or **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in fall 2025.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM
INDEPENDENT MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRACK (42 Units)

Summer 2024 Start Health Equity and Criminal Justice Concentration

Summer 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment	3	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3	
TOTAL	6	

Fall 2024 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2025 - Session 3	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2)	3		PBHC 619: Research Methods (Block 1)	2	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 633: Criminal Justice and Public Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 648 Environmental Health (Block 2)	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 2)	3	
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1&2)	0		<i>PBHC 634: Criminal Justice Law & Public Health Advocacy (Block 2)</i>	3	
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	11	

Summer 2025 - Session 4	Units	Enrolled	Fall 2025 - Session 5	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 600-6 Field Study	6		BREADTH CLASS 1 (Block 1)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 2 (Block 1)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 3 (Block 2)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 4 (Block 2)	1	
			PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project* (Block 2)	0	
TOTAL	6		TOTAL	10	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating MPH Courses

Italicized – Concentration Courses

Students are required to take a total of 10 Breadth units.

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in fall 2025.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM
INDEPENDENT MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRACK (42 Units)

Summer 2024 Start

Global Health Concentration

Summer 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment	3	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3	
TOTAL	6	

Fall 2024 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2025 - Session 3	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2)	3		PBHC 619: Research Methods (Block 1)	2	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 614: Essentials of Global Health (Block 2)</i>	3	
PBHC 648 Environmental Health (Block 2)	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 2)	3	
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1&2)	0		<i>PBHC 602: Emerging Health Threats (Block 1)</i>	3	
TOTAL	9		TOTAL	11	

Summer 2025 - Session 4	Units	Enrolled	Fall 2025 - Session 5	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 600-6 Field Study	6		BREADTH CLASS 1 (Block 1)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 2 (Block 1)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 3 (Block 2)	3	
			BREADTH CLASS 4 (Block 2)	1	
			PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project* (Block 2)	0	
TOTAL	6		TOTAL	10	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating MPH Courses

Italicized – Concentration Courses

Students are required to take a total of 10 Breadth units.

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** or **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in fall 2025.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM: JOINT MSPAS/MPH TRACK

MPH Requirements – 42 units

(30 units Public Health curriculum + 12 units PA curriculum relevant to Public Health = 42 Units)

Fall 2024 Start/Class of 2027 Community Action for Health Concentration

Fall 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2025 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2) <i>in person</i>	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 1)	3	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management (Block 1&2) <i>in person</i>	3		<i>PBHC 620: Social Inequities and Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 606: Community Health Promotion (Block 2)</i>	3	
PBHC 648: Environmental Health (Block 2)	3				
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1 & 2)	0				
TOTAL	12		TOTAL	9	

Summer 2025 – Session 3	Units	Enrolled	Fall 2025 – Session 4	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 619: Research Methods	2		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment (In person - Block 1)	3	
TOTAL	2		TOTAL	3	

Spring 2026 – Session 5	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2027	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation (complete by Feb. 1)	0		PBHC 600-4: Field Study	4	
			PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project (if not doing 646)*		
TOTAL	0		TOTAL	4	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating Experience Courses

Italicized – MPH Concentration Courses

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** or **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in spring 2026.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM: JOINT MSPAS/MPH TRACK

MPH Requirements – 42 units

(30 units Public Health curriculum + 12 units PA curriculum relevant to Public Health = 42 Units)

Fall 2024 Start/Class Of 2027

Health Equity and Criminal Justice Concentration

Fall 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2025 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2) <i>in person</i>	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 1)	3	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management (Block 1&2) <i>in person</i>	3		<i>PBHC 633: Criminal Justice and Public Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 634: Criminal Justice Law & Public Health Advocacy (Block 2)</i>	3	
PBHC 648: Environmental Health (Block 2)	3				
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1)	0				
TOTAL	12		TOTAL	9	

Summer 2025 – Session 3	Units	Enrolled	Fall 2025 – Session 4	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 619: Research Methods	2		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment (Block 1)	3	
TOTAL	2		TOTAL	3	

Spring 2026 – Session 5	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2027	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation (complete by Feb. 1)	0		PBHC 600-4: Field Study	4	
			PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project (if not doing 646)*		
TOTAL	0			4	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating Experience Courses

Italicized – MPH Concentration Courses

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** or **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in spring 2026.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM: JOINT MSPAS/MPH TRACK

MPH Requirements – 42 units

(30 units Public Health curriculum + 12 units PA curriculum relevant to Public Health = 42 Units)

Fall 2024 Start/Class of 2027

Global Health Concentration

Fall 2024 – Session 1	Units	Enrolled (v)	Spring 2025 – Session 2	Units	Enrolled (v)
PBHC 607: Biostatistics (Block 1&2) <i>in person</i>	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology (Block 1)	3	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management (Block 1&2) <i>in person</i>	3		<i>PBHC 614: Essentials of Global Health (Block 1)</i>	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (Block 1)	3		<i>PBHC 602: Emerging Health Threats (Block 2)</i>	3	
PBHC 648: Environmental Health (Block 2)	3				
PBHC 631: Social Justice Lecture Series (Block 1)	0				
TOTAL	12		TOTAL	9	

Summer 2025 – Session 3	Units	Enrolled (v)	Fall 2025 – Session 4	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 619: Research Methods	2		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment (Block 1)	3	
TOTAL	2		TOTAL	3	

Spring 2026 – Session 5	Units	Enrolled	Spring 2027	Units	Enrolled
PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation (complete by Feb. 1)	0		PBHC 600-4: Field Study	4	
			PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Project (if not doing 646)*		
TOTAL	0			4	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating MPH Courses

Italicized – GHC Courses

This study plan is for full-time students. Full-time students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation. Part-time students must plan the sequence of their course study in consultation with a Faculty Advisor.

* Students must choose between **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** or **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project**. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.

- Students interested in **PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project** must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project.
- Students who choose **PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation** will take the [National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam](#) in spring 2025.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM: DUAL DEGREE MPH TRACK - 42 Units

30 units Public Health curriculum + 12 units COM curriculum relevant to Public Health = 42

Summer 2024 Start/Class of 2028

Community Action for Health Concentration

Summer 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled ☑	Summer 2025- Session 2	Units	Enrolled ☑
PBHC 607: Biostatistics	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health	3		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment	3	
PBHC 648: Environmental Health	3		PBHC 619: Research Methods	2	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3		<i>PBHC 620: Social Inequities and Health</i>	3	
			<i>PBHC 606: Community Health Promotion</i>	3	
			PBHC 646: Certified Public Health (CPH) Exam Preparation*	0	
TOTAL	12		TOTAL	14	

Culminating Experience (4 credit hours required)	Units	Enrolled ☑
<p>PBHC 600-4: Public Health Field Study (4 Units)</p> <p>The Dual Degree Public Health Field Study (200 hours/minimum of 6 weeks) is carried out as an exclusive MPH course (PBHC 600-4) managed by the PH Program and independent of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Students are strongly encouraged to complete this course during a designated 6-week open block during COM Year 4 .</p>	4	
<p>* PBHC 646: Certified Public Health (CPH) Exam Preparation (0 unit) OR</p> <p>PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project (0 unit)</p> <p>Students must choose between PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students interested in PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project must submit a proposal to the capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project which is generally completed in year 3 or 4 of DO training. Students who choose PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation (rather than 645 Capstone Project) will take the National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam at the end of the second Summer semester (2024) following the completion of all didactic courses. 	0	
Total	4	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating Experience Courses

Italicized – MPH Concentration Courses

Students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM: DUAL DEGREE MPH TRACK - 42 Units

30 units Public Health curriculum + 12 units COM curriculum relevant to Public Health = 42

Summer 2024 Start/Class of 2028 Health Equity and Criminal Justice Concentration

Summer 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled ✓	Summer 2025 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled ✓
PBHC 607: Biostatistics	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health	3		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation & Needs Assessment	3	
PBHC 648: Environmental Health	3		PBHC 619: Research Methods	2	
PBHC 604: Health Policy & Management	3		<i>PBHC 633-3 Criminal Justice and Public Health</i>	3	
			<i>PBHC 634: Criminal Justice Law & Public Health Advocacy</i>	3	
			PBHC 646: Certified Public Health (CPH) Exam Preparation*	0	
TOTAL	12		TOTAL	14	

	Units	Enrolled ✓
Culminating Experience (4 credit hours required)		
<u>PBHC 600-4: Public Health Field Study (4 Units)</u> The Dual Degree Public Health Field Study (200 hours/minimum of 6 weeks) is carried out as an exclusive MPH course (PBHC 600-4) managed by the PH Program and independent of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Students are strongly encouraged to complete this course during a designated 6-week open block during COM Year 4.	4	
* <u>PBHC 646: Certified Public Health (CPH) Exam Preparation (0 unit) OR</u> <u>PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project (0 unit)</u> Students must choose between PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project . Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students interested in PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project must submit a proposal to the capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project which is generally completed in year 3 or 4 of DO training. Students who choose PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation (rather than 645 Capstone Project) will take the National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam at the end of the second Summer semester (2024) following the completion of all didactic courses. 	0	
Total	4	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating Experience Courses

Italicized – MPH Concentration Courses

Students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation.

ACADEMIC PLANNING FORM: DUAL DEGREE MPH TRACK - 42 Units

30 units Public Health curriculum + 12 units COM curriculum relevant to Public Health = 42

Summer 2024 Start/Class of 2028

Global Health Concentration

Summer 2024 - Session 1	Units	Enrolled ✓	Summer 2025 - Session 2	Units	Enrolled ✓
PBHC 607: Biostatistics	3		PBHC 618: Epidemiology	3	
PBHC 608: Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health	3		PBHC 647: Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment	3	
PBHC 648: Environmental Health	3		PBHC 619: Research Methods	2	
PBHC 604: Health Policy and Management	3		<i>PBHC 614 Essentials of Global Health</i>	3	
			<i>PBHC 602: Emerging Health Threats</i>	3	
			PBHC 646: Certified Public Health (CPH) Exam Preparation*	0	
TOTAL	12		TOTAL	14	

Culminating Experience (4 credit hours required)	Units	Enrolled ✓
<u>PBHC 600-4: Public Health Field Study (4 Units)</u> The Dual Degree Public Health Field Study (200 hours/minimum of 6 weeks) is carried out as an exclusive MPH course (PBHC 600-4) managed by the PH Program and independent of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Students are strongly encouraged to complete this course during a designated 6-week open block during COM Year 4.	4	
<u>* PBHC 646: Certified Public Health (CPH) Exam Preparation (0 unit) OR PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project (0 unit)</u> Students must choose between PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project . Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students interested in PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project must submit a proposal to the capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project which is generally completed in year 3 or 4 of DO training. • Students who choose PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation (rather than 645 Capstone Project) will take the National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam at the end of the second Summer semester (2024) following the completion of all didactic courses. 	0	
Total	4	

Bold – Core MPH Courses, Culminating Experience Courses

Italicized – MPH Concentration Courses

Students who deviate from this course sequence can delay their degree progress towards on-time graduation.

Courses of Instruction

PBHC 600- 4, 6 Public Health Field Study (4 or 6 units)

The Public Health Field Study is required for all MPH students. As part of the MPH Culminating Experience, this field study is a structured and practical experience in a professional public health setting which allows the student to apply and integrate the knowledge and skills acquired during the didactic period into public health practice. The Field Experience is also an opportunity for students to explore public health careers, cultivate their public health skills, and to develop their professional goals and contacts for future employment through networking. It allows them to apply their academic knowledge to “real world” situations, projects or tasks and make meaningful contributions to a public health organization.

Course Prerequisites: To be eligible to begin the Public Health Field Study, students must have completed all MPH core and concentration-required courses. In addition, all new students are required to complete the TRAIN.org courses listed below through Canvas as part of the TUC_MPH Program Assignments Organization. Effective Fall 2016, these online course prerequisites are required for all students (new and continuing).

- Online Training Course on Professionalism for MPH Students - TRAIN.org
- Cultural Diversity, Health Disparities, and Public Health Online Training - TRAIN.org
- Unite for Sight Cultural Competency Online Course - **Global Health Concentration Students ONLY**

Students who are solely pursuing the MPH degree (Independent MPH students) are required to enroll in **PBHC 600-6: Public Health Field Study (6 units) and complete the Field Study over a 10 to 12-week period.**

Part-time Independent MPH and MPH Dual Degree students enrolled in the Community Action for Health Concentration may complete part-time field study placements over the course of two academic sessions (approximately 12-24 weeks). Students who receive approval to conduct part-time field studies are required to complete a minimum of 20 field study hours per week.

DO (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine)/MPH) Dual and Joint Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies/Master of Public Health (MSPAS/MPH) degree students must enroll in **PBHC 600-4 (4 units) and complete the Field Study over a 6-week period.** (Two units are transferred from the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM), and PA Program curricula towards the Field Study for MPH dual and joint degree students.)

Students enrolled in either the **Community Action for Health, Health Equity & Criminal Justice or Global Health Concentration** conduct their field studies under the guidance of preceptors at affiliated public health field study organizations that serve as field study placement sites. **Community Action for Health field study sites** include, but are not limited to: county, state and federal health agencies, community health organizations, hospitals, clinics, academic institutions, and non-profit organizations. The **HECJ Concentration** requires students to complete a Field Study at either a California correctional facility or with community-based organizations that serve people with a history of incarceration, their families, and communities. **Global Health Concentration students** conduct their field studies at sites in Bolivia, Cambodia, Uganda, Nepal, and Ethiopia under the guidance of course coordinators and preceptors at public health institutions, universities, ministries of health, non-governmental organizations, and United Nations agencies.

PBHC 600A Field Placement Continuation Course (0 units)

This course is available to students who have received an “Incomplete” for the Field Study course. These students are required to register for the zero-unit Field Study Continuation course in the following academic session in order to begin or continue the Public Health Field Study. By enrolling in this zero-unit credit course, students will maintain "active MPH student status" while completing their field study placement. Students may register for PH 600A for up to a maximum of two (2) times following initial registration in the Field Study course.

PBHC 602 Emerging Health Threats (3 units)

The course is an overview of current emerging and re-emerging infections worldwide and contributing factors. TB, Malaria and other re-emerging infectious diseases; SARS, Mad Cow's disease, Avian flu and other new viral communicable diseases; and biological weapons, made of bacterial, viral, fungal, and toxins will be examined. Special attention is directed toward local, regional, national, and international response preparedness and effectiveness. The role of public health workers in the prevention, and management of such pandemics will be examined critically.

PBHC 603 Maternal and Child Health (3 units)

The purpose of the course is to orient students to a maternal and child public health perspective for meeting the health needs of women, children, adolescents and families by examining the historical and current principles, programs, policies, and practices related to these populations. It is also designed to introduce students to global MCH, the presence of wide gap in maternal child health outcome between the developed and developing countries and its effect internationally.

PBHC 604A Health Policy and Management (3 units)

Health policy and management is a multidisciplinary field of inquiry and practice concerned with the delivery, quality and costs of health care for individuals and populations. This definition assumes both a managerial and a policy concern with the structure, process and outcomes of health services including the costs, financing, organization, outcomes and accessibility of care.

PBHC 606 Community Health Promotion (3 units)

This course is designed to provide an introductory understanding of the basic concepts, skills, models and resources currently utilized in the field of health education and promotion. Health care professionals have an obligation to educate their clients as well as promote healthy lifestyles towards the community. This course will assist health care providers and public health professionals to holistically approach their work and acquire the essential tools to deliver information and strategies to improve health with a focus on underserved populations.

PBHC 607 Biostatistics (3 units)

This course covers statistical techniques and data analytical approaches for graduate-level study in public health. It includes central tendency measures, variability, sampling distribution, t-tests, analysis of variance, chi-square tests, correlations, and regression analyses.

PBHC 608 Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health (3 units)

This course provides grounding in the behavioral sciences with applications to public health. It examines individual, institutional and societal responses to the psychosocial factors influencing health and illness.

PBHC 610 Public Health in Times of Conflict (3 units)

This course will provide an overview of the direct and indirect effect on health and the challenges public health workers confront in times of armed conflict. It will begin with a review of the history and the consequences of conflict for public health and health care delivery. It will then move to discussion about the health challenges and ethical dilemmas a health professional goes through in times of conflict and lessons learned from such experiences. The proactive strategies to challenge health crisis and to prevent conflict will conclude the course. Class discussion will be enhanced by visits from people who had first-hand experience of armed conflict and the challenges it presents to health workers. Active student involvement highly encouraged.

PBHC 611 Grant Writing and Management (3 unit)

Public health institutions are financed through a combination of public and private sources. An important component of this financing for many public health programs is grant funding. These funds are available from a variety of private foundations and government sources. Every healthcare professional in a public health

institution must be aware of these sources of funding and the means by which these funds are awarded. This course provides the student with an understanding of the grant writing process from proposal development, to funding, and on to implementation. Students will explore grant funding sources and prepare sample submissions based on real life scenarios from local Bay Area non-profit programs.

PBHC 613 Public Health Advocacy and Policy: A Global Perspective (3 units)

This three-unit course introduces students to the global health policymaking process and provides them with the information and skills needed to become effective advocates for health policies globally. Through lectures, case studies, and class discussions, the class will discuss the organization and financing of global health initiatives, describe the main policy actors and their changing influence in the international arena, review key policies and treaties, and examine innovative arrangements aimed at overcoming critical global health governance challenges. Students will also gain practical experience in identifying, developing, and using advocacy tools for policy change through interactive exercises and class projects.

PBHC 614 Essentials of Global Health (3 units)

This course introduces students to the field of global public health with an emphasis on the developing world. The course orients students to the skills necessary for understanding patterns of health and illness in resource-poor countries. It explores the continuum between health and sickness in populations around the world, and emphasizes the influence of both global and domestic factors in contributing to variation in health. Students are introduced to the major health problems currently impacting the developing world, and alerted to the importance of global approach to solving these health problems. Additionally, they will be introduced to the major players in international health: the donor communities, Ministries of Health, and UN agencies.

PBHC 618 Epidemiology (3 units)

Descriptive and analytic epidemiology, determinants of health and disease in populations and application of the epidemiologic methods to disease control and prevention are introduced in this course.

PBHC 619 Research Methodology (2 units)

This is a course on interdisciplinary research methodologies widely used in the social sciences and public health prevention studies. As such, this course is an introduction to social theory, conducting a literature review, framing research questions, research design, data collection and/or conducting fieldwork, and analyzing or interpreting research findings for presentation in a report or thesis. The course will address mixed methods, and qualitative data collection and analytical techniques.

PBHC 620 Social Inequities and Health (3 units)

This course will examine the contextual factors of primary health care and health disparities within the US. Current trends will be described and discussed utilizing case study methodology to examine health indicators among the US population. Students will gain an increased understanding of the impact of current trends such as increased negative health outcomes among minority and underserved populations. Issues of community organizing, community partnerships, empowerment, and community participation and their relevance in public health strategies, interventions, and policy-making efforts that address health disparities will also be examined.

PBHC 621 Global Health Economics (3 units)

This course examines global public health interventions from an economic perspective and looks at the role that economic factors play in shaping health systems and driving health outcomes. It gives students a general introduction to micro-economic theory as it relates to health and introduces them to the tools used to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of health interventions and policies.

PBHC 624 Public Health and the Media (3 units)

This course will introduce students to the basic components of media in the U.S., and analyze how the media environment may serve as an influence on and determinant of individual and population health. Through lectures, in-class viewings, readings, assignments and lively class discussions, students will be challenged to

explore the relevance of the media in their own lives, to connect this awareness to public health, and to consider how the media environment may be shaped to contribute to a society that promotes and enhances the public's health.

PBHC 627 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Issues (3 units)

This course provides a background in the field of drug abuse prevention and cessation. Basic definitions used in the field are taught, along with predictors of drug abuse, types of drug abuse prevention program, types of drug abuse cessation programs, and relapse of prevention programs. Additionally, basic needs for mental and emotional wellness are explored.

PBHC 628 (A, B, C) Independent Study A (1-3 Units)

Independent Study is a specialized study between 1 and 3 units arranged by a student in conjunction with and the approval of a faculty member in studying a particular area of interest. Students must have completed at least 15 units of the core courses in Public Health, have a GPA of 3.0 (average of 80) or above and should come prepared with a specific area of interest or project in which they would like to pursue further study. Unit value of a particular Independent Study course is arranged with the faculty sponsor. The workload determination should take into consideration the following formula: 1 unit = 3 hours of work per week over the 15 week semester (including meetings with the faculty member, research, etc.). All Independent Study courses must be taken Pass/No Pass, and a maximum of 3 units of Independent Study may be counted toward the requirements of the MPH degree. Application requires faculty sponsorship and approval of the Program Director prior to enrollment. Independent Study provides an opportunity for students to learn more about a specific topic of interest that is not included among existing TUC course offerings. Study is conducted under the guidance of a PH faculty sponsor who assists the student in planning and implementing the course of study. The independent study topic must be approved by the student's academic advisor to ensure that the proposed course of study is relevant to the student's educational goals. The faculty sponsor for the course must agree to be available to the student throughout the duration of the course.

Availability

Independent Study is available for the following students:

- MPH students who already completed PH core and concentration courses; and
- For exceptional circumstances where a student is 1-2 credit units deficient in meeting graduation requirements

Restriction

- An Independent Study cannot be substituted for any Core or Concentration Required requirement;
- Independent Study credits cannot be used to improve a grade in a course the student has already taken; and
- The Independent Study must be conducted in the semester in which the grade is awarded.

Student Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the student to initiate, conduct and complete an Independent Study. The phrase "Independent Study" means that the student proceeds independently with only periodic checks with the supervising professor. Periodic contact between the student and professor ensures satisfactory student progress. At the end of the semester or session, the student submits to the professor the completed study. Grades are based on the quality and scholarship of the completed work and are determined by the professor who directed the study. *Independent Study projects are not initiated by PH Faculty.*

Application Procedures

Students are expected to take the initiative in developing their Independent Study plans. A student should first consult with the faculty who will supervise the Independent Study/advisor to ensure that the description of the activity is accurate and complete. The student then completes the Independent Study form, secures the appropriate signatures, and submits the form to the Director's Office. The Proposal application is available on

the PH Website. Students must complete the **Independent Study Proposal form**, have it signed by the course instructor prior to being registered for the course. Once approved, the student may register for the course. Any assignments required for the project must be submitted to a course at least four weeks prior to the beginning of the semester. The structure of the assignments will depend on the type of project and must be determined in detail as part of the proposal process. The course instructor will assign the grade for the course based on the evaluation criteria stated in the independent study proposal. To obtain credit and a grade for your independent study, students must submit the outcome materials specified in your proposal to the course instructor.

PBHC 630 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Public Health (3 units) This course is designed to provide an overview of the role and applications of GIS within the public health sector. GIS or Geographic Information Systems allows integration, analysis, and visualization of geographic data. It has many applications and has increasingly been used in the public health sector. This class will teach some of the basic tools of GIS, provide public health case examples with data for practice in class labs, and review the role of GIS in a variety of public health contexts. The class will learn how GIS can be used to map and analyze distributions of public health risk factors and health outcomes to address health problems.

PBHC 631 Social Justice in Public Health Lecture Series (Required – 0 units) This course provides an introduction to topics of public health and social justice through a speaker series, viewing and analyzing segments of relevant documentaries, and facilitated discussions on social determinants of health. Each year, the course has a different focus: 2016: Poverty and homelessness; 2017: Health equity and criminal justice; 2018: Immigration and public health; 2019: Environmental justice and public health

PBHC 632-1 Social Justice in Public Health Seminar (1 unit) This course is the discussion section and seminar for the Social Justice in Public Health Lecture Series. In addition to the lecture series, this 1 unit course requires participation in 2 hour discussion sections. Discussion sections will include small group discussions and activities designed to understand and synthesize the topics from the previous week's lecture/presentation.

PBHC 632-3 Social Justice in Public Health Seminar (3 Units)

This course is the discussion section and seminar for the Social Justice in Public Health Lecture Series. In addition to the lecture series, this 3 unit course requires participation in 2 hour discussion sections and a final paper. Discussion sections will include small group discussions and activities designed to understand and synthesize the topics from the previous week's lecture/presentation.

PBHC 633 Criminal Justice and Public Health (3 Units)

This course will provide students with an overview of the intersection between the criminal justice system and public health. Students will gain an understanding of how the U.S. mass incarceration is a public health issue. Topic will include the history and philosophy of incarceration, criminal justice and policy, health issues in prisons, women and incarceration, reintegration after incarceration, the impacts of incarceration on families and communities, prevention, restorative justice, juvenile justice, disability justice, as well as institutional racism, police violence, mass incarceration, and the collateral consequences of incarceration.

PBHC 634 Criminal Justice Law and Public Health Advocacy (3 units)

This course will provide students with a foundation in constitutional law and civic education while focusing on a wide range of important issues in public health law, regulations, and the factors at play when developing advocacy strategies on issues that intersect public health and the criminal justice system. Students will gain an understanding of seminal and precedent-setting public health law cases that have led to policy reform in incarceration, prevention, correctional health, and reentry health.

PBHC 635 Migration and Public Health (3 Units)

The Migration and Public Health course will focus on many public health aspects of the migrant experience, including experiences of refugees, asylum seekers and irregular migrants. The course will introduce key

terminologies and migrant organizations, data and information on migration and migrants and the complex and new emerging migration issues. Issues such as leadership and governance, disinformation, child migrants and unaccompanied minors, climate change, determinants of migrant health, health worker migration, legal frameworks, health risks including mental health, LGBTI migrants, human trafficking, and access to healthcare will be discussed. This hybrid course will be based on case studies of migrants, both within a country and across national borders, on the move in the Americas, Africa, Europe and Asia. Guest speakers will share their migration experiences as well as the work of humanitarian organizations that serve this vulnerable population. The course will review migrant vulnerabilities but will also focus on the cross cutting themes of human rights and migrants' contributions to societies. Students will be required to complete quizzes, contribute to class discussions and online discussion groups, work in small groups and write a final paper related to migration and public health.

PBHC 636 School Health and Wellness: Equity and Opportunity (3 Units)

This class will focus on Youth Participatory Action Research/YPAR approaches that engage schools, communities, youth and families in collaborative efforts to address problems of health and educational equity and opportunity in K-12 schools. The Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model endorsed by the CDC and Centers for School Health and Wellness (APHA) will frame our course study. Students will have opportunities to actively engage with current advocacy, policy and practice priorities established by local, regional and national School Health and Wellness organizations (i.e., California School-Based Health Alliance). A core component of class will include supervised work practice with local school health projects where students will gain exposure to a wide range of school health issues and gain skills in approaches used to address these issues. Student group projects may include assisting local school health projects with developing/implementing interventions in school, family and neighborhood settings, analyzing/summarizing data, writing abstracts and developing grants.

PBHC 637 Leadership in Public Health (3 units)

Leadership in Public Health is organized under two main themes: understanding yourself (and others) and working with others. The course is designed to initiate reflection, build community, and inspire action in the area of public health leadership. The course will give each student an opportunity to: Develop a deeper understanding of their leadership style rooted in their values, vision, and career goals; apply leadership insight to case studies and reflection exercises covering a range of public health topics including: maternal/child health, environmental health, and participatory decision making; apply a growth mindset to develop individually as a leader and use insight to enhance relationships with peers, community members, and colleagues.

PBHC 647 Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment (3 units)

This course serves as an introduction to evaluation methodology and evaluation tools commonly used to assess programs. Students will become familiar with the concepts and methods and applications of program evaluation and will be able to propose an appropriate evaluation plan to assess the implementation and effectiveness of a program. This course also explores community health needs assessment methods. Emphasis is placed on methods for ensuring data integrity by exploring data collection, maintenance and dissemination. Instructional techniques will include traditional lectures to highlight course readings and provide practical examples of "real life" program evaluation experiences. Students will also regularly work in small groups to reinforce course concepts from readings and lectures.

PBHC 648 Environmental Health (3 units)

This course explores the challenges our population faces from health risks from environmental hazards, and our role in their creation and exacerbation. Students will explore the meaning of environmental health and the wealth of human health threats posed through factors in air, food, water, climate, and the built environment. The class will provide an overview of the main tools used in the field of environmental health to understand, quantify, and minimize these health risks. Case studies from domestic and international

examples will be used to illustrate variations in risk with differences in exposure pathway, mode of action, susceptibility, and regulation. Close attention will be paid to exposure distribution as it relates to social inequity and injustice. Students will examine their own role in the globalized economy of today, and look for opportunities to improve on the future prognosis of environmental health.

Culminating Experience Requirement (PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Thesis/PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation)

Students must choose between PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation or PBHC 645: MPH Capstone Project. Students may enroll in one of these courses following the completion of core and concentration courses. Students interested in the latter must submit a proposal to their capstone project advisor, and if approved, may proceed with the capstone project. Students who enroll in PBHC 646: CPH Exam Preparation will take the National Board of Public Health Examiners CPH Exam.

PBHC 645 MPH Capstone Thesis (0 unit)

With approval from a faculty advisor, register for the Capstone course (PBHC 645) and complete a Capstone project. Students may only register for the Capstone course if a) they have submitted a Capstone proposal that has been approved, b) have received either IRB approval or exemption for their projects, and c) have made sufficient progress on their Capstone projects so that their advisors deem that they are able to write and present their work in a semester. This process takes at least two semesters. The course requires that they be able to integrate coursework and field experience by synthesizing and applying acquired skills and core public health competencies to a specific public health problem. With a focus on underserved populations, students will select a target group of individuals and then either study a common public health issue or analyze a public health program that addresses a specific health concern. Their goal should be to improve the targeted population's health and to create a body of knowledge that can be built upon. All capstone projects will be guided by a faculty advisor, the Capstone Committee, and the course coordinators. The project also requires an oral presentation.

PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation (0 unit)

Students who enroll in PBHC 646 are required to take the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam sponsored by the National Board of Public Health Examiners. Students register for the 0 unit TUC course PBHC 646 CPH Exam Preparation and also register with the National Board of Public Health Examiners (www.nbphe.org) for the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam. Students must register for PBHC 646 in the same semester in which they take the CPH exam - following the completion of core and concentration courses. Students must pass the CPH exam to pass PH 646. The Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam covers the core areas of knowledge, offered in CEPH-accredited schools and programs, as well as cross-cutting areas relevant to contemporary public health. The examination was crafted to assess a person's knowledge of these competencies, regardless of his or her academic concentration.

Below are the content areas that you need to have mastered within your academic career.

- Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health (10%)
- Communication (10%)
- Leadership (10%)
- Law and Ethics (10%)
- Public Health Biology and Human Disease Risk (10%)
- Collaboration and Partnership (10%)
- Program Planning and Evaluation (10%)
- Program Management (10%)
- Policy in Public Health (10%)
- Health Equity and Social Justice (10%)

Registration for this course will include access to online study materials from the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) such as sample exam questions and practice exams. Students will be encouraged

to take practice exams supervised by TUC faculty to prepare for the exam. There are also additional study resources such as webinars and a study guide offered by NBPHE. Students may also work directly with the course coordinator for additional academic support.

Students who choose the CPH Exam as part of their culminating experiences required for graduation must register for the MPH Comprehensive Exam (0) unit course and pay the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) registration fee. TUC students receive a discounted TUC price of \$250.00 as the full NBPHE exam price is \$385.00. If students do not pass the CPH exam on their first attempt, they will need to pay \$150.00 to the NBPHE each time they need to re-take the exam. Students are allowed to re-take the exam as many times as needed to pass both the exam and the course. In the case that TUC students need to retake the CPH exam more than 2 times, they may request financial assistance and receive a one-time payment support of \$200.00. This will be provided by the Public Health Program to offset the exam costs.

Credits: One credit unit is defined as 50 minutes of classroom or contact time per week for a standard 15 week session. Some fall and spring classes meet for a 15 week session, while other classes meet within a 8-9 week block during the first or second half of the fall and spring terms. Classes within single blocks and the summer session classes are truncated, requiring that approximately half of all summer/block course content be available in a hybrid format. All but two courses (Field Study and Capstone Project/ CPH Exam Preparation) listed in the curricular plan are classroom-based courses and credit hours are awarded based on number of contact hours per week.

TOURO UNIVERSITY CALIFORNIA CEHS PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

SECTION II STUDENT HANDBOOK OF PROGRAM ACADEMIC POLICIES

Purpose of This Section

The section contains policies and requirements which govern academic performance and professional conduct for all Public Health Program students who are enrolled in any of the degree programs or study options. These policies are unique to the Program and are designed to promote standards for academic competency, professional behavior and conduct and personal responsibility. The policies represent the parameters of achievement and behavior the Program faculty expects of its students. It is the responsibility of all students to be knowledgeable about Program policies. The policies will be applied to all aspects of the student's academic progress and conduct for as long as the student is enrolled in the Program.

The Program reserves the right to make changes at any time to this handbook or to the requirements for admission, graduation, tuition, fees, and any other rules or regulations. The Program is responsible for graduating competent public health professionals and as such maintains the right to refuse to matriculate or graduate a student deemed by the faculty to be academically or professionally incompetent or otherwise unfit or unsuited for continued enrollment in the Program.

Please read this section carefully and thoroughly. Students are expected to refer to these policies as needed.

PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Admissions Requirements

In addition to a bachelor's degree (or, for international graduates, equivalency of a bachelor's degree) from a regionally accredited college or university, candidates for admission to the MPH Program are required to have obtained the following:

- Three (3) Letters of Recommendation.
Recommendation letters may be sourced from any credible reference, excluding family members and relatives. However, it is strongly advised that at least one letter be from an academic reference. In cases where applicants have been out of school for more than 5 years and are unable to obtain academic letters of recommendation, they may submit professional references from their professional work experience.
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended, showing proof of a Bachelor's Degree and a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or greater. Official transcripts are required for graduates of foreign institutions. Copies of transcripts or transcript evaluations are not accepted.

Full-time/Part-time Study

The MPH program is designed to be completed in four academic sessions. To be considered a full-time student, students must be registered for twelve or more units at the graduate level. To make normal progress toward the conclusion of course work for a graduate degree, most students will be enrolled in 9 to 12 units (3 – 4 courses per semester) which will constitute a maximum load. To carry more than 12 units, students must have the prior permission of their faculty advisor. Part-time students must complete the MPH program within five years of the first semester of enrollment in the program. In order to complete the program within 60 months, part-time students must take at least 6 academic credits per session.

Transfer Coursework

Students who have completed applicable MPH coursework from a CEPH accredited program may be eligible to apply that coursework towards the MPH degree. A maximum of 12 semester units from other institutions may be applied toward the MPH degree prior to admissions at TUC. Applied coursework from TUC programs or other colleges or universities must have been completed within 5 years of the of the application date and must be approved by the program director in order to receive transfer credit.

Books

Students can plan on spending approximately \$1,000 to \$3,000 on required textbooks. Course syllabi and the Program Book List also include recommended books which students are not required to purchase but may wish to have as important reference materials. In addition, Touro University library provides access to many on line textbooks, some of which are the required texts for courses. If an on-line required course text is available, purchase of a hard text is optional as long as the student has computer access. For those texts not available on-line, students are expected to have required texts by the beginning of class for each session.

Laptop/Tablet Requirements

Students are required to have a laptop computer. By making this a program requirement, the cost is included in your financial aid. Laptop computers provide students access to primary and supportive information to better prepare for and supplement the learning process. Canvas, an electronic learning tool, will be used as the central component of the “electronic classroom” employed throughout much of the curriculum. Assignments, course material, assessments, and other tools are available for each class through Canvas which is available on our servers. Students will be able to access materials from any location with web access. Any laptop computer 3 years old or newer with at least 4GB of memory is acceptable and should work well.

TUC IT Department - Student PC and Mac Minimum Requirements

Hardware:

- Operating Systems: Windows 10 or later or Mac OS 10.14 (Mojave) or later
- Memory: 8GB RAM or higher
- Storage: 60GB or higher
- Broadband/high-speed uninterrupted internet access; minimum speed of 1.5 Mbps download, 750 Kbps upload
- Screen resolution: 1280x1024 or higher
- Webcam, microphone, and speakers (a wearable headphone/headset is recommended)
- Tablets, Chromebooks, and organizationally managed (Non-TUC) devices are not supported
- Administrator-level account permissions

Software:

- Adobe Acrobat Reader (latest, free version)
- STATA/BE: Student (latest, paid)
- VLC Media Player (latest, free version)
- Up-to-date anti-virus software (free or paid)
- Up-to-date anti-spyware software (free or paid)
- Compression (ZIP) utility software (free or paid)
- Internet Browsers: Microsoft Edge, Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari (for Mac users)
- Free Zoom for classrooms and remote support
- Access to Google Workplace via TUC e-mail

Virtual (Zoom/Online) Etiquette Policy

The Zoom meeting room platform will be used to conduct all “virtual” sessions. The TUC Public Health Program has adopted the below virtual etiquette and behavior expectations as the minimum requirements for students during Zoom on-line classroom sessions.

1. Course Zoom links and associated passwords are for class members only and may only be shared with the permission of the host/instructor.
2. Students must have use of a computer with video and audio capabilities and know how to operate the features before class begins.
3. Students should mute their microphones when entering the Zoom online classroom and students should rename their display name as “first name” followed by “last name”.
4. It is desired and encouraged for all students to keep their video on during the entire class session as much as possible.
5. Students are encouraged to use the “raise hand” feature in the Participants tab to ask questions of the group or Host.

Wireless Policy

To maintain the educational integrity of online learning environments, the use of the internet and electronic devices, including laptops, computers, and phones, is permitted for educational purposes during scheduled class lectures, lab sessions, or instructional activities as directed by the instructor.

Students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. **Internet Usage:** Students are encouraged to utilize the internet responsibly and solely for educational purposes during online instruction sessions.
2. **Electronic Devices:** Laptops, computers, and phones may be used for accessing course materials, participating in class discussions, and engaging in collaborative activities as instructed by the instructor.
3. **Instructor Discretion:** Instructors retain the discretion to regulate the use of electronic devices and the internet during class sessions to ensure a conducive learning environment.

Recording of Lectures

Recording lectures is not mandated by the administration and permission to record lectures is solely at the discretion of the instructor. In all instances, prior approval of the instructor must be obtained, and it is to be understood that the instructor's approval is on a voluntary basis and that such a privilege may be withdrawn at any time.

Attendance

Attendance at all classes is considered an aspect of professional responsibility and individual dependability. Repeated unexcused absences are considered a reflection of unprofessional conduct and can result in disciplinary action. Required attendance or specific attendance policies are at the discretion of individual course coordinators and will be defined as such in the course syllabus.

Absence from instructional periods for any reason does not relieve the student from the responsibility for the material covered, and such absences must be for substantial reasons such as illness or emergencies. Promptness is another trait the healthcare practitioner must display. Not only does tardiness disturb the lecturer and student body, it also reflects a lack of professionalism. Repeated tardiness to class is considered unprofessional conduct and, at the discretion of the instructor, may be reported to the Academic Progress Committee.

GRADING

At the end of each course, a grade for each student will be submitted to the Registrar. The Public Health Program makes use of a numerical system based out of 100% for grades, rather than a letter. Students must maintain an overall average of 70% (2.0 GPA) in each academic session to be considered *passing* in the program. In addition the program uses P (pass) and U (no pass/fail) for some courses, including the field study, comprehensive exam and capstone, which is designated as pass/fail.

Students may retake any failed Public Health course only once. A second failure of the same course is cause for dismissal from the Program. Students who have been dismissed from the Program may request a meeting with the Academic Progress Committee to determine what, if any, developmental work must be accomplished before application for reinstatement into the Program can be considered.

Students who accumulate 12 hours of incomplete grades are subject to probation and may not register for additional courses until passing grades have been acquired for all courses. The following grading system has been in effect from the summer 2005 semester:

<u>% GRADE</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>LETTER</u>
97-100	3.85-4.00	A+
93-96	3.65-3.80	A
90-92	3.50-3.60	A-
87-89	3.35-3.45	B+
83-86	3.15-3.30	B
80-82	3.00-3.10	B-
77-79	2.70-2.90	C+
73-76	2.30-2.60	C
70-72	2.00-2.20	C-
less than 70	0	U
U/P (70% recorded grade)	Unsatisfactory/Remediated	

The grade point average (GPA) is only used for determination of class rank.

CREDIT ONLY – Counted in units earned but not calculated in GPA

P	Pass
CR	Credit

NO CREDIT AWARDED

IP	Course in progress
INC	Incomplete course
NR	Not reported
AU	Audit
NC	No Credit
W	Withdrawal or dropped course
WU	Withdrawal/Unsatisfactory
U	Unsatisfactory/Failure

Definition of Grades

Satisfactory - A 70% or above in each course is considered a satisfactory grade.

Unsatisfactory “(U)” - An unsatisfactory grade (U) is less than 70%.

Unsatisfactory with remediation “(U/P)” - After an unsatisfactory performance has been successfully remediated, a “(U/P)” will replace the “(U)” on the transcript (see section on remediation).

Incomplete “(I)” - An incomplete grade “(I)” indicates that a student has not been able to finish all required work for issuance of a final grade. An incomplete grade is not counted in the grade point calculations until a final grade replaces it. An incomplete must be replaced before the student registers for the next academic year. Replacement of an incomplete will be under the direction of the instructor. If the required work is not completed within one year of the issuance of the “(I)” the Registrar will notify the Dean or Program Director and, if no grade is forwarded upon notification, the Registrar will automatically convert the “(I)” to an unsatisfactory grade “(U)” and the student will not receive credit for the course. It is to the student's advantage to arrange to make up any incomplete work as soon as possible.

Withdrawal “(W)” - A withdrawal indicates that a student has withdrawn from a course in good academic standing.

Withdrawal Unsatisfactory “(WU)” - A withdrawal unsatisfactory indicates that a student has withdrawn from a course not in good academic standing.

MAINTAINING ACADEMIC STATUS

To maintain active academic status, students must be enrolled in at least one credit hour each academic session. For example, students who fail to complete a culminating course (PH Field Study/Capstone or MPH Comprehensive Exam courses) during any academic session must register for at least one credit unit during each subsequent academic session until the course is completed, in order to maintain academic privileges associated with the University and PH Program. Students who are not enrolled in an academic or culminating course at any point during the degree program, must request a Leave of Absence.

Leave of Absence and Withdrawal

Students can request a Leave of Absence for medical and personal reasons or withdraw from the Program. They must request these in writing to the Program Director and they must follow all procedures outlined in Section I of the handbook regarding University policies and procedures. Leave of absence may be requested for up to 3 months. If a student needs additional time, they must submit a letter to the Program Director requesting additional time.

The decision to withdraw from the University is a serious matter. Any student who withdraws from a college or a program is dropped from the rolls of the University. As such, if the student decides at some later date to reenter the program, they must reapply for admission and, if accepted, assume the status of a newly returning student. Requirements for completion of the degree will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Students must make this request in writing to the Program Director and follow all procedures as outlined in the TUC Student Catalog regarding University policies and procedures.

Faculty Advisors

Academic advising provided by faculty is one of the most important methods used by the Program to monitor student progress. Students are assigned an advisor at the time of registration. Students who declare their concentrations prior to admission/enrollment, are generally matched to faculty within their selected concentration and all other students are randomly assigned to a faculty advisor. The advisor assists the student with class registration and planning based upon the students' chosen concentration, provides a general orientation to the Program advisor and is available to respond to student questions and concerns related to their academic program. In the first advising session, the advisor and the student advisee complete the PH Program's "Academic Planning Form." This form describes the courses the student is required to complete to fulfill graduation requirements. Not all courses are taught each semester, so completing this form in partnership with a faculty advisor keeps the student on-track to graduate "on-schedule". Ultimately, the main purpose of advising is to ensure the proper sequence of courses is taken to not only satisfy graduation requirements, but to ensure mastery of all the competencies linked to the specific courses. Students are expected to meet with their advisors at least once per semester and more frequently if they are experiencing academic or personal issues. Through a formal request process, students may elect to change their advisors by the beginning of their second semester based upon their declared concentration or other factors that support an advisor change including faculty research and or service interests.

Students who elect to conduct a capstone project work directly with capstone coordinator who serves as the primary capstone advisor. Once the student has selected a project and or area of interests, the capstone advisor will help student to select a secondary advisor. The capstone advisor specifically serves to guide the student in the development of a capstone project. In partnership with one another the advisors share the responsibility of managing the capstone process, including approval of the proposal, IRB, manuscript preparation and oral presentation and defense readiness.

Field Study Orientation and Advising: Preparation for the field study site involves a mandatory orientation and follow-up advising sessions which address various options for placement, skills, preparation, expectations, and the integration of the placement with long term goals.

The Registration Basics

Follow the academic planning form based on your start date and degree status.
Make an advisement appointment with your Faculty Advisor to review any questions regarding next steps.



Clear any registration restrictions and register for your classes online using TC Web.



If financial aid is needed to settle your bill, obtain deferment from the financial aid office.



Obtain Federal Perkins Loan, HPSL, UDSL and Institutional Loans by returning your promissory note(s) to Student Financial Services



Obtain Federal Stafford (both subsidized & unsubsidized) loan disbursements at the Bursar's office.



Settle your bill with the Bursar's Office. All students must register and settle their bills entirely by the settlement deadline to avoid late fees.

Please refer to Section I for more information on registration.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Examination Protocol

Both the student and faculty member/instructor are responsible to ensure that the process is followed consistently.

The following are the procedures that are to be followed when administering an examination:

1. Students are required to be present for all scheduled examinations.
2. A student who arrives late to an examination will not be given additional time to complete the exam. If a student arrives later than 15 minutes from the exam start time, it will be the prerogative of the course coordinator to determine if the student will be permitted to take the exam or whether the exam will be rescheduled for that student. If the exam is rescheduled, the exam will cover the same subject material as covered by the original examination, however the exam may be in a different format than the original examination. Furthermore, any student arriving after other students have completed the exam and left the testing area will not be allowed to start the examination.
3. A student unable to attend a scheduled examination for any reason must immediately notify the course coordinator (in person or via voice or e-mail) as soon as possible prior to the start of the exam. The course coordinator will determine whether the absence is excused or unexcused. A physician's note for absences due to illness may be requested by the program.
4. In the case of an excusable reason, the make-up examination will occur as soon as the student returns to campus. The date and time will be determined by the course coordinator. Students missing an exam must contact the course coordinator to discuss the scheduling of the examination upon their return to campus. Although make-up examinations test the same subject material as covered by the original examination, they may be different in format than the original examination.
5. Failure to make up the examination within the specified time period will result in a grade of "0" for that examination.
6. If a student fails to appear for an examination and fails to notify the course coordinator prior to the exam or misses an examination with an unexcused absence, formal documentation will be placed in the student file. In addition the student will receive a grade of zero "0" for the exam and no makeup exam will be offered. Such behavior is considered unprofessional and may result in disciplinary action.

Examination Decorum

Assessment of the students' knowledge is essential. This not only reflects what the student has learned, but also the quality and content of the information presented. It is therefore essential that examination decorum must be maintained at all times to ensure fairness and validity. Students are expected to maintain at all times a decorum and demeanor that is consistent with accepted academic and professional standards during examinations.

Upon entry into the examination site, the student must place all books, notes, study aids, coats and personal possessions out of sight. No talking is allowed once an examination starts. Students are expected to uphold to the code of responsibility of students of TUC. Any student engaging in dishonest acts during an examination is subject to disciplinary action. Obtaining a copy of the exam, or a previous year's exam or questions and/or getting help from other students during the exam are all considered cheating.

Hats/caps may not be worn during any examination except for the wearing of a headpiece for religious reasons. Any student wearing a hat will be asked to remove it. Failure to comply with this or any other

reasonable request of a proctor will result in the immediate dismissal of the student from the examination. In such instances, the student will receive a zero for the examination.

Test Review Process

Students are permitted to review their exams within 10 days of the exam grades being posted.

Test review may be suspended if a class member has not taken the exam yet. Once that student has completed the exam, the 10 day review period will open once that grade is posted.

During exam review, students are not permitted to have any writing or recording implements, paper, books, cell phones etc. Only one exam may be reviewed at a time. Exam reviews are permitted during the established office hours.

If a student wishes to challenge an exam question, he/she must complete a request for question review form and submit it to the course coordinator within 10 days of the exam grades being posted. The challenge must include reference to the course texts or materials and documentation substantiating the challenge. The challenge will be reviewed by the course coordinator or designated faculty, who will render a decision. If the review is denied, the student who submitted the review will be notified. If it is granted, the program reserves the right to determine the manner in which the question is handled. The program may throw out the question causing the exam to be re-scored with less weight or points. This may cause some students to receive a lower score because a question was thrown out. In the event two answers are correct, both answers may be accepted and the exam re-scored. Exam review or test question challenges will not be permitted after the 10 day period. After this point, no challenges will be accepted and all grades are final.

Re-Grading Policies

Academic grading reflects careful and deliberate judgment by a faculty member instructing a course. Academic evaluation of student performance requires expert consideration of cumulative information. Such decision-making, by its nature, is judgmental and evaluative. The evaluative process is not and should not be likened to the adversarial process involved in disciplinary matters, for academic grade determination is not adaptable to the methods of judicial or administrative decision-making. The education process, moreover, is not by nature adversarial, but rather centers upon a continuing relationship between faculty and student. Administrative interposition, except in the most extreme instances, is to be avoided. The Program recognizes that in rare instances there may be errors, or "palpable injustice(s)" in determination of a final grade.

A student alleging such error or palpable injustice, i.e. a clear showing of arbitrary or capricious action, may appeal as provided below:

If students wish to contest a grade given for work completed in the Public Health Program at TUC, they must adhere to the following procedures:

1. Students shall have up to 10 working days after written work has been graded and returned to them to submit it for re-grading. In contesting a grade, students should be informed that the entire work may be reviewed, not only the sections in question, and the final grade adjusted accordingly. Please note that this review can result in an increase or decrease in the final grade.
2. Submissions for re-grading must be done in writing, with the student outlining the specific areas of the work which he/she feels were incorrectly graded. All submissions should be signed and dated by the student.
3. Professors should re-grade the work being contested and return a written response to the student within 20 working days after the initial returning of the paper, explaining the results of the review and indicating whether the student's grade has changed. All written responses should be signed and dated by the professors.

Professors' judgments on second submissions of written work will be final. There are no provisions for student appeal to outside parties in resolving grading disputes.

Academic Ethics

TUC CEHS is committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic performance, which includes professional conduct. Behaviors such as cheating, plagiarism or falsified documentation of research or clinical findings reflect attitudes that guide professional conduct and, as such, indicate that a person may not be prepared to assume the responsibility of a health professional. Thus, these non-professional behaviors are considered to be academic performance issues.

TUC CEHS will assist students in understanding the program's and the profession's expected levels of professional behavior and conduct through discussions at orientation and in class meetings. Unacceptable behavior includes but is not limited to the following: cheating on any exam, plagiarism, misrepresenting documentation of research or clinical findings and commission of a misdemeanor or felony in any setting.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty and integrity is expected of all students throughout their course of study at TUC. Any violation of this code is considered to be a serious academic violation. Academic dishonesty constitutes a breach of academic integrity that violates the academic foundation of an institution and compromises the integrity and well-being of the educational program. It makes the learning and working environment hostile and offensive; it undermines the credibility of the educational process; it destroys opportunities for students to develop a strong sense of self-esteem and pride in accomplishment and the self-confidence that is an integral part of the educational growth and learning process. Students are obliged to adhere to the standards and expectations for academic integrity as delineated in the Code of Responsibilities and Rights of the Students of Touro University.

A GUIDE TO ACADEMIC HONESTY

In November 2010, President Alan Kadish appointed a broadly representative Academic Task Force to create a uniform policy for Academic Integrity across the then named Touro College and University System (TCUS). In addressing the issues raised by the President, the Touro College and University System, under the leadership of the Task Force, joined the International Center for Academic Integrity (based in Clemson University), conducted surveys of faculty, administration, and students, and examined best practices in all areas concerning academic integrity both within the Touro College and University System and throughout academic institutions nationally and internationally.

In June 2012, with the ratification of the TCUS Academic Integrity Policy, the Academic Integrity Council was appointed by the President and charged with interpretation and implementation of the policies, and to ensure that the policy was uniformly applied throughout the system. In August of that year, the Academic Integrity Statement, created for inclusion in all course syllabi, was disseminated, followed by posting of this statement on the Touro website, the college LMS and school catalogs. In 2015, a revised Academic Integrity Policy was created based on recommendations from the Council. In November of 2022, the Council was reconstituted with the change of TCUS to University status and the expansion of Touro University. The Council was charged with the following:

1. To examine the current academic culture with regards to cheating and plagiarism, and the practices, policies, and procedures of the various Schools and Divisions of Touro University regarding the same.

2. To consider issues concerning student plagiarism at Touro and recommend appropriate ways and best practices to eliminate the phenomenon, to the extent that it exists.
3. To establish Touro’s policy regarding the unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI).
4. To define optimal procedures for test administration and exam security—including the repeating of test questions, use of proctors, etc.—and to recommend additional policies and actions, as appropriate.
5. To recommend a comprehensive structure and framework at Touro to ensure Academic Integrity throughout its schools, campuses, and programs.

The original Task Force sought to define policies and procedures that are clear, uniform, and appropriate to address current issues of Academic Integrity at Touro. Touro University owes a debt of gratitude to the Task Force.

In developing the TUS Policy on Academic Integrity, the Task Force drew freely from exemplary policy documents that were already in place within units of Touro University.

This document contains a Statement on Academic Integrity followed by a comprehensive presentation of violations of academic integrity. It delineates procedures in response to violations and contains recommendations for implementation of the Academic Integrity Policy. Additionally, this document provides best practices in the promotion of academic integrity to be adopted by faculty, staff, and students regarding training, test administration, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools, and plagiarism detection.

As President Kadish initially instructed the TCUS Task Force, “Academic integrity affects every unit and individual involved in academic life.” It is our hope that the policies and procedures contained herein will foster academic integrity throughout Touro University.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Touro University is a community of scholars and learners committed to maintaining the highest standards of personal integrity in all aspects of our professional and academic lives. Because intellectual integrity is a hallmark of ethical, scholarly, and scientific inquiry as well as a core value of the Jewish tradition, students and faculty are expected to share a mutual respect for teaching, learning and the development of knowledge. They are expected to adhere to the highest standards of honesty, fairness, and professional conduct in their academic work and respect for all community members.

Academic dishonesty undermines our shared intellectual culture and our ability to trust one another. Faculty and administration bear a major responsibility for promoting a climate of integrity, both in the clarity with which they state their expectations and in the vigilance with which they monitor students. Students must avoid all acts of dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating on examinations, fabricating, tampering, lying, plagiarizing, and utilizing AI tools without acknowledgment of such, as well as facilitating or tolerating the dishonesty of others. Academic dishonesty lowers scholastic quality and defrauds those who will eventually depend on the knowledge and integrity of our graduates. Furthermore, it misrepresents student efforts and mastery of course material both absolutely, and relative to others in their courses.

Touro University views violations of academic integrity with the utmost gravity. Such violations will lead to appropriate sanctions, up to and including expulsion from the university community. We commit ourselves to the shared vision of academic excellence that can only flourish in a climate of integrity.

The Touro University policy on academic integrity, which is outlined in this document, is designed to guide students as they prepare assignments, take exams, and perform work necessary to complete their degree requirements, and to provide a framework for faculty in fostering an intellectual environment based on the principles of academic integrity. It is presented here in order to educate the faculty on the parameters of and the enforcement of the policy.

The International Center for Academic Integrity (ICAI), of which Touro University is a member, lists six fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage, to allow institutional scholarship to flourish with integrity.¹ To sustain these values, Touro University's Academic Integrity Policy, requires that a student or researcher:

- Properly acknowledge and cite all use of the ideas, results, or words of others, including the use of AI tools and other emerging technologies;
- Properly acknowledge all contributors to a given piece of work;
- Make sure that all work submitted as their own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of unsanctioned materials or unsanctioned collaboration;
- Treat all other students in an ethical manner, respecting their integrity and right to pursue their educational goals without interference. This requires that a student neither facilitate academic dishonesty by others nor obstruct their academic progress.

Adherence to these principles is necessary in order to ensure that:

- Everyone is given proper credit for their own ideas, words, results, and other scholarly accomplishments;
- All student work is fairly evaluated and no student has an inappropriate advantage over others;
- The academic and ethical development of all students are fostered;
- The reputation of the University for integrity in its teaching, research, and scholarship is maintained and enhanced.

Failure to uphold the principles of academic integrity threatens not only the reputation of Touro, but also the value of each and every degree awarded by the institution. All members of the Touro community bear a shared responsibility for ensuring that the highest standards of academic integrity are upheld.

The Touro University works with faculty and students to promote an institutional culture of academic integrity, provides effective training that creates a commitment to academic integrity, and establishes clear procedures to deal with allegations of violations of academic integrity and monitoring the adherence thereto.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Touro University California is committed to the pursuit of truth and to its transmission. The integrity of the University as an institution of higher learning requires proper autonomy and freedom. This freedom is the freedom to examine data, to question assumptions, to be guided by evidence, to be a learner, and to be a scholar. Such freedom implies that any faculty member whose teaching is questioned should be subject to the judgment of one's peers only in accordance with the accepted rules of academic due process. It also implies the active, defined and recognized role of the faculty in those policy-making decisions, which affect the educational program.

The obligation of the faculty is to distinguish in their teaching between personal and partisan opinion and convictions grounded in sources and methods appropriate to their respective disciplines. The faculty member

should, to the best of his/her ability, present materials in a manner that respects the cultures and sensitivities of the students. The obligation of the student is to be a responsible participant in the academic activities of Touro University California.

The University further endorses the 1940 Statement of Principles of Academic Freedom of the American Association of University Professors. Each faculty member is expected to uphold the goals, aims and mission of Touro University California.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRESS

Satisfactory academic and professional progress must be evident and maintained by all students in the Program in order to progress through the curriculum. In the event a student fails to progress academically or professionally, the student will be referred to the MPH Academic Progress Committee.

Academic Progress Committee (APC)

The responsibility of the Academic Progress Committee is to define and recommend appropriate program policy as it affects students. These responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- reviewing the graduation competencies for the MPH degree, establishing, implementing and reviewing criteria for satisfactory academic progress in the MPH program (including but not limited to: probationary status; coursework grades; graduation requirements; field study; time for completion of degree; probation and termination from the program).
- meeting with students who fail courses or otherwise fail to meet satisfactory progress criteria and recommend remediation or other actions.
- developing, reviewing and updating the MPH student manual and student handbook, program catalogue and program values and beliefs.

Students may be referred to the APC for a course failure, suspicion of academic dishonesty, breach of professionalism and if their semester GPA drops below a 2.0 average. If the APC decides that a student must repeat an entire session, this would mean that the student must withdraw from the program for one year until that session is offered again. A place will be held for the student to return into the program at the beginning of the session which must be repeated. In addition, the student must demonstrate maintained competency in all previous coursework successfully completed and may be given re-entry competency examinations prior to their return. The APC may also require, recommend or suggest auditing previously taken courses, to ensure continued competency in previously learned material. A student must pass the re-entry competency exams with a minimum score of 70% in order to continue in the program. Failure of any re-entry competency examination would refer the student back to the APC and may enter the student into a category for dismissal.

Students may also be referred to the APC for issues of professionalism outside of the classroom involving in activities related to the Field Study, TUC community- based research or volunteer efforts.

Failure to comply with requirements put forth by the Committee and Program Director will be considered unprofessional and may place a student in the category for dismissal.

Academic Probation

Academic probation is the result of unsatisfactory scholarship or professionalism; it is a warning and an opportunity to improve. Probation is defined as a period of time during which the student's academic progress and/or professional conduct will be closely monitored by the Academic Progress Committee.

Students must meet the minimum standards and requirements set by the Public Health Program and Touro University in order to remain in good academic standing.

Criteria for Probation

- Failure of a course
- Session average below 70% (2.0 GPA)
- Verbal or written reports and/or evaluations from academic faculty, field study preceptors or designees indicating that a student is not adhering to site regulations, site schedule, ethical standards of conduct
- Failure to receive a satisfactory preceptor evaluation
- Failure to follow and/or comply with requirements set forth by the APC and Program Director.
- Breach of Professionalism

Terms of Probation

When a student is placed on probation he/she will be notified in writing by the Program and the reasons will be stated. A copy of this letter will be provided to the Dean of Students and Registrar's Office.

- When a student is placed on probation, it is noted in the student's academic file and official transcript. Subsequently, when a student successfully corrects those areas of unsatisfactory performance, this is also noted in the student's file and transcript.
- A student will remain on probation for one academic session. If probation status occurs prior to the end of a session, the student will be on probation for the remainder of the current session and throughout the entire next session.
- A student placed on probation must acquire a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (70%) or greater by the end of the following academic session.
- When the terms of probation have been satisfied, the APC will notify the Program Director who will provide a letter to the student with a copy to the Dean of Students and the Registrar.
- A student on probation may not serve as an officer of any official TUC club or organization, or as a representative of the College at on or off campus events. If a student who is presently serving as an officer/representative is placed on probation, a substitute officer/representative will be chosen to fulfill the position until the student is removed from probation.

Remediation

Remediation is the opportunity to correct unsatisfactory performance, progress and/or professional conduct in the program. The offer of remediation is not automatic or guaranteed. Recommendations regarding remediation can be made by the APC on an individual basis after considering all pertinent circumstances in each case and with a final decision made by the Program Director. The Program Director can also make decisions regarding remediation based upon feedback from faculty or other pertinent information to justify a remediation plan. Any student placed on probation for academic or behavioral reasons and offered remediation must fulfill all the terms of the contract of the remediation plan within the designated time frame or face actions including but not limited to dismissal. **Remediation is to be regarded as a privilege which must be earned by a student** through demonstrated dedication to learning, and active participation in the educational program to include but not limited to overall academic/clinical performance, regular attendance, individual initiative and utilization of resources available to him/her.

The Academic Progress Committee may recommend a remediation plan that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. A re-examination of failed subject material as constructed by the course coordinator. The student must score at least a 70% or greater to successfully pass the re-examination. The maximum score for a re-examination is 70. The maximum grade for a re-mediated course is U/70.
2. Develop a plan which outlines and defines a remediation program, successful remediation criteria and the responsibilities of the student.
3. Repeat the course or courses failed the next time the course(s) is offered.

If the APC approves a student to remediate, the student will be removed from probation only after successfully remediation is demonstrated as stated in the student contract and achieving the minimal cumulative academic requirements. Students who are directed to repeat a year of curriculum for academic reasons remain on academic probation until successful completion of all courses scheduled within that academic year.

Students who fail a re-examination will fail the course, be placed on probation and will be referred to the APC committee and may be in the category for dismissal.

Students who fail to meet the requirements of a remediation contract or competency exam will be referred to the APC committee and may be in the category for dismissal.

A student who does not remedy a failed course grade(s) within one calendar year of the issuance of the failed grade may be placed in a category of dismissal.

Dismissal

It should be clearly understood that Touro University California, Public Health Program after due consideration and process, reserves the right to require the dismissal of any student at any time before graduation if circumstances of a legal, moral, behavioral, ethical, health or academic nature justify such an action.

Criteria for Dismissal

- failure of 2 or more courses over the course of the program
- session GPA < 2.0 (70%) for more than one session
- probation for 2 or more sessions throughout the duration of the program
- failure of a repeated or remediated course
- failure of re-entry competency examinations
- professional academic misconduct
- students on probation who fail to comply with or complete a remediation program within the defined time frame

Decisions regarding dismissal are made on an individual basis after considering all pertinent circumstances and extenuating circumstances relating to the case. The APC recommends dismissal to the Program Director. The Program Director with concurrence of the Dean of Students, issues a letter of decision to the student. Dismissal is effective upon receipt of the letter of notification from the Program Director. If a student is dismissed, his/her registration will be voided.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR DUAL DEGREE STUDENTS

Students enrolled in dual degree programs must maintain satisfactory academic progress and programmatic requirements as defined for each individual program.

- Any failure in a course within either program will result in placement on Academic Probation and review by the promotions committee from that specific program. Students will remain on academic probation until the failure is remediated. Remediation may involve re-examination, additional assignments, or repeat of the course, as determined by the committee.

- Any failure to maintain a cumulative percent average of 70% in the MPH program. The student will have one academic session within which to achieve the required cumulative average as designated by the program. If this is not achieved, the student will be reviewed by the appropriate program's student promotions committee. Consequences may include, among others, an additional session to bring up the cumulative average to the specific program's required average, suspension from the program until further remediation is completed, or dismissal from the program.
- Failure in one program will not preclude continuation in the other program. However, a student being dismissed from the DO program may also be subject to dismissal from the MPH Program.

A faculty liaison from both DO program will participate as members on the APC (student promotions) for academic issues of dual degree students regarding the academic status in the MPH Program. The MPH Program Director will consider all facts and make a recommendation to the Dean of the College of Education and Health Sciences whose decision will be final.

ACADEMIC APPEAL PROCESS

Following notification (traceable letter delivery) of a decision for dismissal, a student may wish to appeal the decision. He or she has (7) working days within which to submit a formal written appeal of the decision to the Provost. The appeal request must be submitted in writing and delivered to the Office of the Provost within this seven day period. The request should be accompanied by a narrative explaining the basis for the appeal. The narrative should fully explain his/her situation and substantiate the reason(s) for advocating a reversal of the dismissal.

The Dean may grant an appeal only on showing one of the following:

1. Bias of one or more of the members of the Academic Progress Committee.
2. New material, documentable information not available to the committee at the time of its initial decision.
3. Procedural error.

The Dean may choose any of the following options when an appeal to dismiss a student is under consideration:

1. Concur with recommendation of the Academic Progress Committee and the decision to dismiss.
2. Amend the recommendation of the Academic Progress Committee
3. Convene an *ad hoc* committee consisting of three members to review the recommendation of the Academic Progress Committee. The ad-hoc committee will present its findings to the Dean for consideration.

The decision of the Dean is final and he/she will be required to notify the student in writing of the decision. While the appeal is pending, the status of the student will not be altered.

Grievance Policy

Students may present general grievances, concerns or suggestions for improvement to the Program Director or the Assistant Program Director. The Program's goal is to encourage feedback from the purpose of quality improvement. Students should voice their concerns in a thoughtful and constructive manner.

Grievances with a specific faculty member should initially be addressed directly with the faculty member unless the nature of the complaint is such that the student feels uncomfortable doing this. Complaints should be expressed using a diplomatic, reasoned approach with the goal of quick amicable conflict resolution, if

possible. If the student feels uncomfortable approaching the involved faculty member for whatever reason, or if they have not been successful at resolution of the conflict with the faculty member, they should register the grievance with the Assistant Program Director. If the student feels uncomfortable approaching the Assistant Program Director or if they have not been successful at resolution of the conflict with the faculty member or Assistant Program Director, they should register the grievance with the Program Director.

If the grievance is with the Program Director, or if they have not been able to resolve a conflict at that level, they should contact the Dean of Students.

If the grievance is with the Dean of the Students, they should contact the Office of the Provost. Violations of the Code of Responsibilities and Rights of the Students should be addressed using the policies outlined in the Section I of this handbook.

Progression Criteria

Satisfactory academic and professional progress must be evident and maintained by the students in the program in order to progress through the curriculum. In the event a student fails to progress academically or professionally a student will be referred to the Academic Progress Committee. *Students must complete and pass the core courses before they can progress to the public health field study.*

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student will be recommended for graduation provided they have successfully completed the course of study as outlined in the curriculum. A student will be recommended for the Master of Public Health provided they have fulfilled the following:

1. Has completed all prescribed academic didactic requirements with a cumulative weighted grade point average of 2.0 (70%) or higher in program and has no incomplete or unsatisfactory grades;
2. Has successfully passed the Field Study and Culminating Experience;
3. Has complied with all legal and financial requirements of Touro University California; and

Degree Program Check

A degree check reflects the current active programs of study and will alert students to outstanding requirements. The Faculty Advisor will conduct an informal checklist during each advisement session. All degree progress summary reports are based on the catalogue year of entrance at, or any subsequent catalogue if one has been indicated in the student exception process. All students are responsible for verifying their degree check report with their records. Any corrections that need to be made in reference to expected graduation date or catalogue year should be communicated to the Faculty Advisor. Students will also receive a formal degree progress notification letter at their permanent address. Contact the Registrar at (707) 638-5984 to request a change in permanent or local address information.

Advancement to Candidacy (Graduation)

Please see your Faculty Advisor for documentation and instructions.

Graduation

TUC has one graduation ceremony each year and provides a program listing for all eligible candidates for that year. Candidates who are eligible for graduation during the fall, spring and summer semesters are listed in the

June program. Students may participate in the graduation ceremony as long as all didactic coursework has been completed and the student is on track to complete all graduation requirements by the end of the fall academic term (December). However, no diploma will be issued until all requirements have been met. Students must notify their Faculty Advisor and the Registrar's Office if they wish to attend graduation exercises.

Diplomas

Graduation is awarded for the term in which all degree requirements, including the submission of necessary paperwork, are met. Degrees are not awarded retroactively. Diplomas will be mailed approximately six to eight weeks after the degree has been awarded. The name on the diploma will appear as it does on the TUC student record. Any name changes must be made prior to graduation. For more information, contact the Registrar at (707) 638-5984.

APPENDIX - A

DUAL DEGREE POLICIES FOR DO/MPH STUDENTS

1. Graduation requirements as a dual degree student from the MPH Program: The Master of Public Health (MPH) degree requires the completion of a minimum of 42 units. A total of 30 units are completed in the public health program and 12 units are transferred from the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)/MPH dual degree program. The 12 units transferred from the corresponding clinical program are transferred upon the successful completion of that program. As a result, dual degree students are not eligible to apply for graduation from the MPH program prior to the transfer of these units. Dual degree students are eligible to apply for graduation from the MPH program simultaneously with their clinical program.

2. Verification letter of good standing in the MPH program: Although dual degree students are not eligible to apply for graduation from the MPH program until the successful completion from their respective clinical program, the Public Health program offers a letter of good standing and partial completion of the requirements from the program. This letter may be used to apply for employment, residency programs or simply to provide proof of that the student has successfully pursued the MPH degree and the estimated date the degree will be conferred.

Dual Degree Academic Plans: The Dual Degree academic plans for the COM/MPH degree were developed in close collaboration with the clinical program. Academic plans account for the requirements of the Public Health and clinical program giving consideration to factors such as the maximum number of units student should take each semester, clinical hour requirements and timing, board examinations etc. Students who fail to adhere to the recommended sequence of courses are at risk of not completing the public health degree and must take full responsibility for this decision.

The Public Health Program recommends that all Dual Degree students meet with their Public Health advisor during their first academic session. Students will be given guidance on the best academic plan to successfully complete the MPH program and to resolve potential scheduling conflict before they arise. The standard dual degree academic plans are provided on the academic planning forms.

Failure in the DO program will not preclude continuation in the MPH Program. However, a student being dismissed from the DO program may also be subject to dismissal from the MPH Program.

TUC and TUN COM/MPH

Summer Only: The summer-only program can be completed by taking courses in two consecutive summers in the Summer Session for Public Health and an open COM rotation for the completion of the MPH culminating experience. The summer only option starts the summer semester prior to year 1 of the COM program.

5th Year: The option for a 5th year is available on an individual basis and at the discretion of the Master of Public Health (MPH) and College of Medicine (COM) faculty. Students interested in pursuing a 5th year must consult with MPH and COM faculty to discuss eligibility and requirements. In the 5th year option didactic courses are completed in the Fall and Spring of one year, and the MPH culminating experience is completed in an open COM rotation.

APPENDIX - B
PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

**PROFESSIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) STUDENTS**

All students will receive this document upon enrollment in the Public Health Program and will be required to sign and date this document verifying that they have read and understand their obligations to uphold and preserve the Professional Code of Conduct for MPH Students. This signed document must be submitted to the Public Health Program either at New Student Orientation or prior to the start of classes. Please read and acknowledge the following.

Touro University California (TUC) is obliged to offer all faculty, staff, and students a safe working and study environment. Part of this obligation requires that every enrolled student in the Public Health Program maintain an acceptable professional standard of conduct as outlined and as required by the TUC College of Education and Health Sciences Public Health Program. This extends to an obligation to comply with all lawful directives of TUC. Any failure to do so, or any willful breach of Public Health Program policies or this Code of Conduct will be deemed misconduct in accordance with TUC policies. Penalties, including dismissal may also apply.

Success in the public health field requires certain professional attributes in addition to content knowledge. Professionalism is a Cross-Cutting Competency developed by the Associated Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) as part of its MPH Core Competency Model. The ASPPH definition of Professionalism is “The ability to demonstrate ethical choices, values and professional practices implicit in public health decisions; to consider the effect of choices on community stewardship, equity, social justice and accountability; and to commit to personal and institutional development.” Along with this definition, the ASPPH includes 11 different modules of knowledge, skills, and abilities that comprise the Professionalism Competency. Considered to be part of the academic performance of MPH students are professional attributes, which include honesty and integrity, leadership, excellence and continuous improvement, ethical practice and public accountability, life-long learning and competency, respect for diverse individuals and organizations, the ability to work effectively with others in a team environment, follow through on commitments, take and give constructive feedback, follow directions, accept responsibility for own actions.

Professionalism is as important as, and holds equal importance to academic progress. Students are expected to demonstrate the legal, moral and ethical standards required of a public health professional and display behavior that is consistent with these qualities. Professionalism and professional ethics are terms that signify certain scholastic, interpersonal and behavioral expectations. Among the characteristics included in this context are the knowledge, competence, demeanor, attitude, appearance, mannerisms, integrity, and morals displayed by the students to faculty, staff, preceptors, peers, members of the public, colleagues in public health and other educational settings. The Program expects nothing short of respect and professional demeanor at all times.

GENERAL CONDUCT

TUC expects every student to:

- Respect the rights of other students, faculty and staff, and members or the public, and not engage in any conduct which may be perceived as harassment or interference with those rights;
- To conduct themselves in a professional and productive manner being both diligent and proactive;
- Apply basic principles of ethical analysis (e.g. the Public Health Code of Ethics, human rights framework, other moral theories) to issues of public health practice and policy;
- Not behave in an unruly or disreputable manner to the discomfort of any other students, faculty and staff, or members or the public;
- To exhibit the highest ethical and professional performance inside and outside of the classroom;
- Not knowingly engage in academic dishonesty defined as intentional cheating, fabrication or plagiarism or facilitate another student's academic dishonesty, nor obstruct another student's academic progress;
- Treat fellow students in an ethical manner, respecting the integrity of others and the rights to pursue educational goals without interference;
- Not exhibit misconduct, ethics violations, or violation of professional codes of behavior;
- Treat others with respect and consideration regardless of their status or position;
- Not physically or verbally abuse other students, faculty and staff, or members or the public;
- Be courteous when dealing with the public while in the field;
- Not tamper with, vandalize nor destroy private and public property;
- Behave in a way which protects the reputation and good name of the University; and
- Comply with all relevant laws nationally and internationally.

By signing this Code of Conduct, I, _____ (print name and Student ID Number), _____ verify that I have read and understand my obligations to uphold and preserve the Professionalism Code of Conduct for MPH Students. I agree to be bound by and acknowledge my obligations under the Code of Conduct. I further understand that penalties may be imposed upon me should I willfully breach this Code of Conduct and that I may appeal against these penalties using the University's appeal mechanisms.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Public Health Program
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Touro University California
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