



MPH-Occupational Health Practice

The occupational health practice concentration is intended for students interested in applied occupational health program design, development and management. This concentration is not a clinical or medical program. Graduates will be prepared to practice occupational health in a variety of settings with a multidisciplinary approach to the design, implementation, management, and evaluation of occupational health programs and services. The occupational health practice concentration is primarily designed for those individuals who are currently working in an occupational setting, who requires an M.P.H. for eligibility for board certification or for those who are interested in exploring the science of occupational health. The program is for individuals who wish to augment, enhance, or expand their current training or who wish to prepare for roles in health occupational health, including, but not limited to, the following areas: safety professionals, industrial hygienists, health practitioners (physicians, nurses, physician assistants) and human resource personnel (program management and procurement). This concentration is also designed for public health or occupational health professionals who wish to become knowledgeable in occupational health research, occupational health data management, and applied occupational health programs or management.

Curriculum

Core Curriculum Requirements: 15 SCH

BIOS	5210	Biostatistics for Public Health I	3 SCH
ENVR	5300	Environmental Health	3 SCH
EPID	5100	Principles of Epidemiology	3 SCH
HMAP	5210	Introduction to Health Management and Policy	3 SCH
SCBS	5110	Behavioral and Social Aspects of Public Health	3 SCH

Culminating Experience: 6 SCH**

SPH	5950	Thesis	6 SCH
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Occupational Health Practice Concentration Curriculum

Practicum Requirement: 3 SCH

SPH	5855	Public Health Practice Experience	3 SCH
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Required Courses: 18 SCH

ENVR	5325	Industrial Hygiene	3 SCH
ENVR	5330	Environmental and Occupational Toxicology	3 SCH
ENVR	5345	Physical Hazards	3 SCH
ENVR	5350	Occupational Diseases and Health Practice	3 SCH
ENVR	5380	Environmental Health Microbiology	3 SCH
ENVR	5410	Environmental Data Analysis	3 SCH

Elective Courses: 3 SCH with thesis or 9 SCH with the comprehensive exam

ENVR	5310	Exposure and Risk Assessment	3 SCH
ENVR	5311	Air Pollution and Health	3 SCH
ENVR	5420	Texas-Mexico Border Health Issues	3 SCH
ENVR	5500	Environmental Epidemiology and Biomarkers	3 SCH
ENVR	5550	Introduction to Genomics and Public Health	3 SCH
ENVR	5910	Independent Study in Environmental Health	3 SCH
ENVR	6600	Spatiotemporal Environmental Health Modeling	3 SCH
EPID	6690	Occupational Epidemiology	3 SCH

*Students are allowed to take courses offered at UNT-Denton.

**Occupational Health students are permitted to enroll in the thesis option, or take an additional 6 credit hours of courses plus a comprehensive exam.

Departmental Learning Objectives

1. Specify approaches for assessing preventing, and controlling environmental hazards (chemical, biological and physical) that pose risks to human health and safety.
2. Explain the general mechanisms of toxicity, and the roles that dose-response and time-response play in eliciting a toxic response to various environmental exposures (physical, chemical, biological, and psychosocial).
3. Describe current environmental risk assessment methods, including the types of evidence utilized, limitations, and the sources of uncertainty and variability.
4. Describe genetic, physiologic, and psychosocial factors that may result in certain individuals or populations being more susceptible to adverse health outcomes following exposure to environmental hazards.
5. Explain various risk management (regulatory, engineering and behavioral intervention options) and risk communication approaches in relation to issues of environmental justice/equity.
6. Describe the direct and indirect human, ecological, and safety effects of major environmental and occupational agents, including global climate and environmental changes.
7. Develop a testable model of environmental injury that relies on hypothesis generation, data collection, data analysis, and interpretation of data for research or program development.
8. Describe federal and state regulatory programs, guidelines, and authorities that control environmental health issues.

Occupational Health Practice Concentration Learning Objectives

Upon completion of the concentration area in occupational health practice, the graduate will be able to:

1. Identify and be familiar with regulatory or legislative authority directed at occupational health practice.
2. Acquire, compile, collate, store, evaluate and analyze occupational health data by applying statistical methodology.
3. Identify external factors which influence worker safety and health.
4. Work effectively as a team member with other occupational health professionals by understanding their roles in occupational health services.
5. Describe employee legal rights to confidentiality of medical record information.
6. Perform assessment, implementation and assurance analyses of occupational health programs.
7. Recognize the roles and functions of employee assistance programs, medical surveillance programs, duty fitness programs, safety programs, and substance abuse testing in the occupational health setting.
8. Plan and conduct independent research focusing on the analysis and solution of a problem in occupational health practice, via the completion of a thesis/project reports.