



## **MPH-Social Sciences**

The social sciences concentration is designed to develop familiarity with basic social theories that influence our understanding of health, including theories in social anthropology, medical sociology and health economics. These theoretical perspectives will be focused on health problems of the principal cultural, socioeconomic, ethnic and regional population groups in the United States and the global health setting. In this concentration there is a major focus on quantitative research methods and population dynamics as a basis for illuminating the socio-cultural, economic, and political factors that influence the distribution of health and healthcare.

### **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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### **Social Sciences Concentration Curriculum**

#### **Practicum Requirement: 3 SCH**

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

BIOS	5215	Biostatistics for Public Health II	3 SCH
SCBS	5150	Medical Sociology	3 SCH
SCBS	5225	Medical Anthropology	3 SCH
SCBS	5350	Introduction to Research Methods in SCBS	3 SCH
SCBS	5411	Community Program and Intervention Planning	3 SCH
HMAP	5245	Health Economics	3 SCH

### **Elective Courses: 3 SCH**

Students may take any three hour SPH course with approval of academic advisor.

### **Social Sciences Concentration Learning Objectives**

By the conclusion of the M.P.H. program, a student in the concentration in Social Sciences will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate and use theories in social anthropology, medical sociology and health economics to explain health risks and healthcare distribution.
2. Apply social sciences theories to determine which health promotion/disease prevention programs/interventions may or may not be effective.
3. Critically evaluate the importance of social theoretical perspectives in explaining health problems of the principal cultural, socioeconomic, ethnic and regional population groups in the United States and the global health settings.
4. Apply knowledge of the social sciences to investigate primary illnesses including cardiovascular illnesses, malignancies, metabolic diseases, injuries, disabilities, and infant and child illnesses.
5. Critically evaluate the implications of diversity (racial/ethnic, cultural, and social) and the importance of cultural competency in addressing health issues in the community.
6. Apply research methods including multivariate procedures (i.e. analysis of variance and regression) to analysis of data to measure and explain population health status, social determinants of health and disease, disease prevention and health promotion behavior, public health and medical service organization and delivery.
7. Interact ethically and professionally with persons from diverse cultural, socioeconomic, educational, and professional backgrounds and with persons of all ages.