



UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER *at Fort Worth*
School of Public Health

Your career in public health starts here.

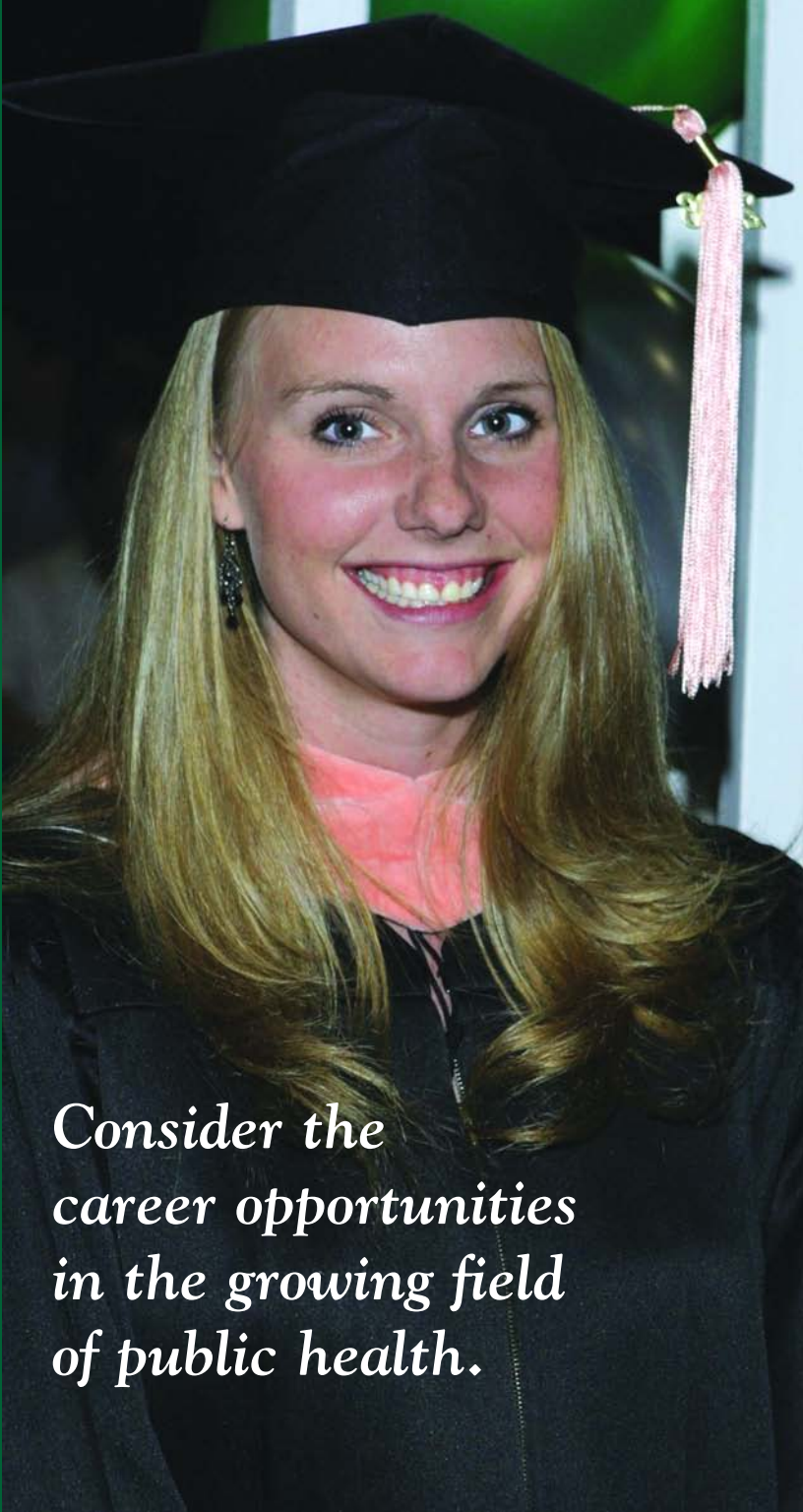
Master of Public Health

Biostatistics
Behavioral Sciences
Clinical Research
Community Health
Environmental Health
Epidemiology
Health Informatics
Health Management
Health Policy
Occupational Health Practice
Social Sciences

An Invitation

The School of Public Health opens the door for you to become one of the many professionals in the field of public health. You'll be trained in a variety of disciplines related to the development and provision of public health services. You'll learn to recognize the social, economic, cultural and environmental factors that affect the health of the public. And you'll have the knowledge to take a leading role in developing social policies that encourage and foster healthy group and individual behaviors in a community.

If you are considering one of the many career opportunities in the growing field of public health, give us a call at 817-735-2401 or toll free at 877-UNT-SPH1 (877-868-7741)



*Consider the
career opportunities
in the growing field
of public health.*



What is public health?

Is public health right for me? This is the question many students ask themselves when entering the field of public health. However, before most can make that decision, they first have to research what is public health and who a public health professional is. Public health professionals work with entire communities to prevent disease and to promote health. In contrast, doctors and physicians more often treat individual patients. Public health professionals monitor and evaluate the health needs of entire communities, promote healthy practices and behaviors, and work to identify and eliminate hazards, often environmental or occupational in nature, to assure that populations stay healthy.

Did you know? According to a recent poll conducted by Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., few Americans know what the words “public health” mean. However, most people believe that many key functions of public health are very important. For example:

- Ninety-three percent of all adults believe that the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases like tuberculosis, measles, flu, and AIDS is very important;
- Ninety percent believe immunization to prevent diseases is very important;
- Eighty-two percent believe that ensuring people are not exposed to unsafe water, air pollution or toxic waste is very important;
- Eighty-two percent also believe conducting research into the causes and prevention of diseases is very important; and
- Seventy-two percent believe it is very important to encourage people to live healthy lifestyles.

The 19th-century public health “professional” was more likely to be a volunteer social worker rather than a skilled health practitioner. Twentieth-century technological advances have changed that situation. Today’s public health work-force includes physicians, nurses, nutritionists, epidemiologists, environmentalists, health administrators, community health educators, environmental and occupational health specialists, biostatisticians, and a host of other specialists. Despite their various fields of specialization, each is committed to protecting the health of the public. Schools of public health have to face the challenge of educating students to perform their duties with efficiency and skill while understanding and working with colleagues from virtually every area of the biomedical, social, and behavioral sciences.



Consider these facts...

- During their first year of life, African-American infants are more than twice as likely to die as white infants.
- Most hazardous waste sites in the U.S. are within a few miles of disadvantaged communities whose populations report a disproportionate share of their toxic effects.
- The prevalence of diabetes for persons 45 to 74 years of age is twice as high for Mexican-Americans and Puerto Ricans than for non-Hispanic whites.
- More than 35 million Americans do not have health insurance or access to adequate health care.

So, how can you make a difference?

- By promoting health and preventing diseases that all too often disproportionately affect disadvantaged and underserved populations;
- By contributing your specialized knowledge, skills, cultural sensitivity and cultural competency to help break the cycle of these adverse health effects which continue to limit the potential of individual achievement and the future well-being of our society; and,
- By becoming a leader in one of the five major areas of public health: administration/management, research, education, community practice or policy.

Careers in public health provide opportunities for upward and lateral career mobility depending on your training and interests. Graduates from schools of public health work primarily in the areas of health promotion and disease prevention. Vast employment opportunities are available at federal, state, and local levels, particularly in health and environmental agencies. Additional employment options include private industry, universities, volunteer health organizations, insurance companies and managed care organizations. You can make a difference with a graduate degree in public health. Ultimately, the career heights to which you may aspire are as great as your capabilities and your desires.



Master of Public Health

The School of Public Health currently offers a master of public health (M.P.H.) degree and a doctor of public health (Dr.P.H.) degree. The M.P.H. degree is a minimum 45 semester credit hour (SCH) program that includes a core curriculum of 15 SCH in biostatistics, community health, epidemiology, environmental health and health management and policy. In the M.P.H. program, students complete a minimum of 21 SCH in their chosen concentration, 6 SCH in a culminating project (thesis or non-thesis option) and 3 SCH of field study. For the master's program, classes are offered in the day and the evening to accommodate full time students and working professionals.

Master of Public Health Concentrations

The goal of the M.P.H. program is to prepare students to be effective public health professionals. Students in the M.P.H. program elect a concentration from one of the following eleven areas.

Biostatistics

The biostatistics concentration is intended for students wishing to pursue careers in local, state and federal health agencies, health and medical centers, research institutions, health and pharmaceutical industries. The M.P.H. degree in biostatistics is a professional degree that is designed to train students in data management, statistical analysis, interpretation and presentation of analytical results. The courses in the program emphasize the methodology and procedures of statistical analysis and research designs using computing technology. In addition to a wide variety of exciting applications, there are excellent career opportunities in biostatistics. Applicants to this program are expected to have a background in college algebra and calculus.

Clinical Research

The Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree in clinical research is primarily designed for those who are currently working in the health care professions. The program is for professionals who wish to prepare for roles in clinical research, health care research, medical database management, or statistical consulting in medical or public health settings. The Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) is oriented toward applied clinical research, outcome measurement, and applied biostatistics.

Department of Biostatistics • Karan P. Singh, Ph.D., Department Chair
817-735-2173 • ksingh@hsc.unt.edu

Behavioral Sciences

The behavioral sciences concentration prepares students for careers in public health that emphasize the role of behavioral, cognitive, physiological, and motivational factors in disease prevention, promotion of health, vulnerability to disease, and interaction with health care systems. Detailed examples of application in the fields of health psychology, addictive behaviors and obesity research illustrate the theoretical approaches emphasized in this concentration.

Community Health

The community health concentration prepares students to assume community-based public health positions. Students in this concentration have an interest in maintaining and improving the health of individuals, families, communities and populations. The community health concentration uses a multidisciplinary approach and focuses on program planning, evaluation, and interventions influencing the health status and health-related behaviors of individuals. The curriculum concentrates on strategies for the promotion of health and the prevention of disease in populations through community interventions in the context of social structure, community, family, and health care systems.

Social Sciences

The social sciences concentration prepares students for public health careers primarily in the areas of medical anthropology and medical sociology. Emphasis is placed on the interaction of culture, society, and biology in health and illness beliefs and practices, based primarily on socio-cultural research to understand cultural perceptions and responses to illness and healing, comparative health systems, cultural syndromes, ethnomedicine, and medical pluralism.

Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences • Harvey Brenner, Ph.D., Department Chair
817-735-2371 • hbrenner@hsc.unt.edu



Health Informatics

The Health Informatics concentration prepares students for careers in health care information technology and health care computing in arenas including public health, private industry and federal, state and local government. The concentration includes the study of health services management, finance, informatics, and evaluation.

Health Management

The Health Management concentration prepares students for careers involved in the delivery of personal or public health services, including hospitals, health plans, health systems, physician organizations, clinics, and public health agencies. The concentration includes the study of health services management, economics, finance, informatics, analysis, and evaluation.

Health Policy

The Health Policy concentration prepares students for careers in any of the arenas in which policy impacts health: federal, state and local legislation, regulations, and publicly funded programs. The concentration includes the study of the health politics, law, economics, as well as, policy development, analysis, and evaluation.

Department of Health Management and Policy • Jeff Talbert, Ph.D., Department Chair
817-735-2242 • jtalbert@hsc.unt.edu

Environmental Health

The environmental health concentration accommodates students with various backgrounds and interests who desire careers related to the environmental aspects of public health. Specifically, this area of concentration provides the expertise and experience to analyze, monitor, interpret and mitigate the effects of chemical contaminant and microbial and viral pathogens in water, air, soil and food on public health. It prepares students in the M.P.H. program for technical and administrative jobs in the governmental and private sectors.

Occupational Health Practice

The occupational health practice concentration is primarily designed for individuals who are currently working in an occupational setting, who require an MPH for board certification or for those who are interested in exploring the science of occupational health. The curriculum prepares students for roles as safety professionals and industrial hygienists, as well as health practitioners and human resource personnel in occupational health settings. The concentration includes the study of occupational health research, occupational health data management, and applied occupational health program management.

Department of Environmental and Occupational Health • Eric Johnson, Ph.D., Department Chair
817-735-2362 • ejohnson@hsc.unt.edu

Epidemiology

The epidemiology concentration is designed for students seeking to acquire skills in the fundamental methods of disease investigation and prevention in large populations. Concentration courses emphasize basic and advanced epidemiologic principles and their application to current problems in public health and related disciplines. Students in the epidemiology concentration are expected to use appropriate methods to plan, implement, and conduct epidemiologic research. Students are also expected to critically evaluate research methodology to assess validity and potential sources of bias. Skills in computer use and statistics acquired in the public health program are used to analyze, interpret, and disseminate the results of epidemiologic investigations.

Department of Epidemiology • Eric Johnson, Ph.D., Department Chair
817-735-5029 • ejohnson@hsc.unt.edu

Visit us online at
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Accreditation

The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award master's and doctoral degrees.

1866 Southern Lane,
Decatur, Georgia 30000-4097;
telephone number 404-679-4501

The University of North Texas Health Science Center School of Public Health is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (C.E.P.H.), 800 Eye Street NW, Suite 202, Washington, D.C. 20001-3710; telephone number 202-789-1050.



For more information, call us at **(817) 735-2401**
or toll free at **877-UNT-SPH1**

www.hsc.unt.edu



For information regarding campus crime statistics, you may access <http://www.hsc.unt.edu/cleryact>.

For additional information regarding the institution's accreditation and state approval or to review related documents, contact the Office of Educational Affairs at 817-735-2510.



*Every day ...
Everywhere ...
For everyone ...*

*Public Health is
a part of our lives.*



The University of North Texas Health Science Center founded a School of Public Health and the Institute for Public Health Research in 1999. The School is training the next generation of public health professionals. Many graduates of its programs are employed and contributing to communities in and around the metroplex. The Institute provides specialized training, consulting, research, and technical assistance to organizations and agencies that practice health care and public health throughout the state and nation.

The UNT Health Science Center's School of Public Health is providing education, training, research, and service to our local community, Texas, our nation, and the world.

Our Campus

The University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth is located in the heart of Fort Worth's Cultural District. Our 35-acre, \$135.7 million educational complex sits among parks, museums and tree lined streets. We're within walking distance to some of the nicest housing areas in the city and within a short drive to affordable apartment communities. Our four schools, the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Physician Assistant and the School of Public Health, provide an array of educational opportunities in medicine, biomedical research and public health.

Admissions Requirements for MPH Program

- For master's degree students, the applicant must hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from a regionally or federally accredited institution.
- The applicant must designate on the application and reference in their Statement of Goals the area of study they wish to pursue within the MPH program.
- The applicant must have a competitive GPA on all undergraduate work.
- All students seeking admission to a graduate degree program are required to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and submit competitive scores. Only official score reports from the Educational Testing Service are acceptable.
- The health science center requires an applicant from a foreign country to demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in oral and written English before being granted admission.

Application Procedure

To be considered for admission, the applicant must file the following official credentials with the Office of Student and Academic Services:

- An application for admission to the School of Public Health
- Complete official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended
- Official scores from the Educational Testing Service on the required entrance test or tests
- For international applicants, the application must be submitted with documented proof of financial resources
- Applicants applying for the first time to the School of Public Health must pay a non-refundable application fee: \$25 for U.S. citizens; \$75 for non-U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Application fee is valid for one year from the application date.
- Two letters of evaluation by individuals in a position to comment on the applicant's potential as a student and future professional
- A written statement of personal career goals
- A current curriculum vita or resume

Application Deadlines

Fall – April 1 • Spring – September 1 • Summer – February 1

**For more information, please contact:
School of Public Health
University of North Texas Health Science Center
3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard
Fort Worth, Texas 76107**

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