

UNT/UNT Health Science Center Cooperative Programs

Graduate faculty of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and the School of Public Health at the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC) are also members of the graduate faculty of the University of North Texas and thus can serve as mentors or committee members of UNT graduate students appropriate to their graduate appointment. See the *UNTHSC Graduate Catalog* for UNTHSC graduate faculty listings.

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC)
Education and Administration Building, Room 816
3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard
Fort Worth, TX 76107
817-735-2560 or 800-511-GRAD (511-4723)
E-mail: gsbs@hsc.unt.edu
Web site: www.hsc.unt.edu

Jamboor Vishwanatha, Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Graduate Advisors:

Wolfram Siede, Cell Biology and Genetics
Jerry Simecka, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Jamboor Vishwanatha, Biomedical Sciences
Patricia Gwartz, Clinical Research Management, Biotechnology, Medical Science
Fred Downey, Integrative Physiology
Rance Berg, Microbiology and Immunology
Meharvan Singh, Pharmacology and Neuroscience
C. des Anges Crusier, Clinical Research and Education (Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Specialty)
John V. Planz, Forensic Genetics
Susan Franks, Health Psychology
Roberto Cardarelli, Primary Care Clinical Research
Alakananda Basu, Cancer Biology
Robert Mallet, Cardiovascular Sciences
Robert Wordinger, Visual Sciences
Michael Forster, Neurobiology of Aging

Doctoral degrees culminate with a specialization in cell biology and genetics, biochemistry and molecular biology, biomedical sciences,

microbiology and immunology, pharmacology and neuroscience, or integrative physiology. Master's degrees are also offered in these areas, as well as in the areas of science education, biotechnology, and forensic genetics. Post-baccalaureate certification in premedical science is also available.

Joint degrees (DO/MS, DO/PhD, PA/PhD and MPH/PhD) are available to students admitted to the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine and/or the School of Public Health at UNT Health Science Center. Specialized dual degree programs train DO/MS students in clinical research and education in either osteopathic manipulative medicine or primary care.

To obtain further information or to request a catalog, please call 817-735-2560 or 800-511-GRAD [511-4723], e-mail gsbs@hsc.unt.edu, or visit www.hsc.unt.edu.

School of Public Health

University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC)
Education and Administration Building (EAD), 7th Floor

3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard
Fort Worth, TX 76107
817-735-2401 or 877-868-7741

E-mail: sph@hsc.unt.edu
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Richard S. Kurz, Professor and Dean of the School of Public Health

Chairs:

Eric Johnson, Chair, Department of Epidemiology
Eric Johnson, Interim Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health
M. Harvey Brenner, Chair, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Karan Singh, Chair, Department of Biostatistics
Peter Hilsenrath, Interim Chair, Department of Health Management and Policy
Diane Wynn, MEd, Director, Office of Student and Academic Services

Program of Study

The School of Public Health currently offers master's- and doctoral-level course work in public health. The MPH degree program is a 48 semester credit hour (SCH) program that includes a core curriculum of five courses (totaling 15 credit hours), in which public health students are provided an overview in biostatistics, community health, epidemiology, environmental health, and health management and policy. MPH students are required to complete 24–30 credit hours in their chosen concentration, 3 hours of public health practice

experience and a culminating experience (thesis or comprehensive exam option).

The goal of the DrPH program is to prepare students for leadership roles in the professional practice of public health in governmental, private and not-for-profit organizations.

DrPH students complete more extensive course work and research within their chosen concentration. Every student is required to participate in a residency and must complete a comprehensive research project that culminates in the dissertation.

The objectives of the MPH and DrPH programs are to prepare students to meet the needs of the growing health care industry and the demand for trained public health workers in the public sector. Students in this program have the added benefit of interacting with health care providers and students in the osteopathic medical program at the Health Science Center, as well as faculty engaged in significant public health research at both the UNTHSC-FW and UNT campuses.

Career Opportunities

Today, public health is the umbrella over many issues, including some that seem unrelated to health care but that ultimately influence it. Public health ranges from the study of smog in the air we breathe to gang intervention programs on our neighborhood streets. Growing threats from our environment, the resurgence of infectious diseases, increasing violence, an aging population and the escalating costs of health care are all immediate concerns of public health professionals.

Public health professionals monitor and evaluate the health needs of entire communities, promote healthy practices and behaviors, and work to identify and eliminate environmental hazards to assure our population remains healthy. They are employed by government, hospitals, health systems, universities and many private companies. Without public health, our society could not advance. With it, we are making a difference.

Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

Environmental Health (MPH): Designed for students with varied backgrounds and interests, who desire careers related to the environmental aspects of public health. Specifically, the track provides the expertise and experiences 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 and ecological health.

Occupational Health (MPH): This track is oriented to applied occupational health program design, development, management, and other

applications in an occupational health setting. Graduates will understand public health policies and practices, and will be able to design, manage and analyze occupational health data. The student will also have the opportunity to learn about applied occupational health practice by participating in such practice in a variety of occupational health settings. Students will also gain biostatistical knowledge and skills applicable to planning and conducting biostatistical research as independent researchers or as members of research teams in occupational health settings.

Department of Epidemiology

Epidemiology (MPH): Designed for students seeking technical skills in the fundamental methods of disease investigation and prevention in large populations. Courses emphasize basic and advanced epidemiologic principles and their application to current problems in public health and related disciplines.

Epidemiology (DrPH): Provides students with the expertise and experience to plan, develop and evaluate epidemiological surveillance systems. Students will also gain epidemiologic knowledge and skills to be able to plan and conduct applied epidemiologic research as independent researchers or as members of research teams.

Department of Biostatistics

Biometry (MPH): Designed to train public health professionals to engage in biomedical research, data management and data analysis. Emphasis is on the methodology and applications of contemporary statistical procedures and research designs, using advanced computing technology. Students will also develop the theoretical competency to understand and apply information published in statistical journals.

Clinical Research (MPH): 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. This MPH concentration is oriented toward applied clinical research, outcome measurement and applied biostatistics.

Biostatistics (DrPH): Designed for health professionals that want to develop their careers in academia, public health institutions and health care facilities as it relates to applied biostatistics. The graduate of this program will understand public health policies and practices, will identify key elements of quantitative nature for decision-making, and will be able to plan and evaluate health systems and public health programs by using biostatistical methodology.

Department of Health Management and Policy

Health Management and Policy (MPH): The health management and policy concentration is designed to prepare students with competencies needed for careers in health management policy analysis and policy development. The curriculum addresses health systems, quantitative methods, health economics and finance, managed care, private and public sector management, state and national policy, and health law. The concentration provides instruction in professional competencies commonly found in schools of business, management, public administration and public policy.

Health Management and Policy (DrPH): Graduates will understand and apply skills relevant to health policy development and analysis, management practices and health services research. Residency experience and research will allow students to analyze and propose solutions to health management or policy problems by applying new theoretical or analytic advances to current problems in health care.

Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Community Health (MPH): The community health concentration prepares professionals from a variety of backgrounds (nursing, medicine, dentistry, allied health, social work, health education, nutrition, psychology, anthropology, sociology) for public health careers. This concentration uses a multidisciplinary approach to identify community, family, social, and behavioral factors in both the onset of and solution to public health problems through disease prevention, health promotion, or health care. This concentration also prepares students to take the Certified Health Care Education Specialists (CHES) exam. Traditionally, program graduates have assumed positions in public health departments, health and human service agencies, and other health care settings.

Social and Behavioral Sciences (DrPH): Designed for social and health professionals that want to prepare themselves for research, teaching and other leadership positions involving the design, development and evaluation of public health programs, as well as the application of social and behavioral sciences to the development of intervention strategies for health promotion and disease prevention. The concentration courses include quantitative and qualitative research methods as applied to social and behavioral sciences in public health while relying on theoretical perspectives in sociology and psychology. Students may also further develop their training in medical anthropology, health education, community health, social marketing and health communication taking further elective course work and research.

Dual Degree Programs

DO/MPH: This five-year dual degree program provides DO students at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) with specialized public health training to develop, integrate and apply culturally competent social, psychological and biomedical/public health approaches to the promotion and preservation of health in one's community.

Medical Anthropology (MA/MS in Applied Anthropology/MPH in Community Health): These concurrent degree programs are offered by the UNTHSC/School of Public Health and the Department of Anthropology at the University of North Texas in Denton. The School of Public Health and the Department of Anthropology at the University of North Texas have developed a cooperative agreement that allows students to pursue the MPH and a graduate degree in anthropology. The dual degree program in applied anthropology and public health offers an opportunity to strengthen collaboration in public health, anthropology and social science research and practice. Medical anthropology is a field that uses anthropological theories as a framework to understand public health issues. Its emphasis on social and cultural influences on health, illness and healing are central to the shared goals of improving health and social justice to eliminate local and global disparities. Students interested in this dual degree program must concurrently apply to the School of Public Health and UNT's Toulouse School of Graduate Studies. Each school utilizes different applications, has its own application/admission requirements and has different application deadlines. The applicant must be admitted to both programs before being officially deemed a dual degree student in this program.

Entrance Requirements

The School of Public Health maintains a system of departmental admissions. Therefore, the admissions criteria may vary from department to department. In general, students must demonstrate a desire for a career in public health, an understanding relative to the particular area of study they wish to pursue and the cognitive capacity to master the material necessary to obtain the MPH or DrPH degree.

Application Procedure

MPH and DrPH applicants are required to complete the SOPHAS online application for schools of public health, which is available on their web site at www.sophas.org. In addition, applicants are required to submit official transcripts of all prior college-level course work, GRE scores from the Educational Testing Service www.ets.org, three letters of evaluation by individuals in a position to comment on the

applicant's potential as a student and future professional, resume or curriculum vitae, and any other documentation that may be required to expedite the student's application to SOPHAS. Frequently asked questions are located at *sophas.org*.

- **Master of Health Administration applicants** are required to complete the UNTHSC-SPH Application
- **Dual Degree applicants** are required to complete the UNTHSC-SPH Online Application
- **Non-Degree applicants** are required to complete the UNTHSC-SPH Online Application
- Students at the University of North Texas (UNT) requesting enrollment for classes to transfer to UNT for their degree programs should e-mail their request to sph@hsc.unt.edu rather than completing an application.

To be considered for admission to the MPH or DrPH programs (including dual degree programs offered by UNTHSC and UNT-Denton) contact the University of North Texas Health Science Center/School of Public Health at 817-735-2401, toll-free at 877-868-7741 or via e-mail at sph@hsc.unt.edu for an admissions application. Applicants must file the following official credentials with the Schools of Public Health Online Application Service (SOPHAS).

- application fee;
- complete official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended;
- international applicants with foreign transcripts must also include an official WES or ECE transcript evaluation report listing course by course U.S. grade point equivalencies;
- official scores from all required entrance exams or tests (may include one or more of the following: GRE, GMAT, MCAT, etc.);
- three letters of evaluation by individuals in a position to comment on the applicant's potential as a student and future professional;
- an essay of personal career goals (referencing a desired concentration); and
- a current curriculum vitae or resume.

Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in the UNTHSC catalog or available online at www.hsc.unt.edu.