

# 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-FW) 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-FW Graduate Catalog* for UNTHSC-FW graduate faculty listings.

## Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC-FW)  
Education and Administration Building, 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](http://www.hsc.unt.edu)

### Thomas Yorio, Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

#### Graduate Advisers:

Wolfram Siede, Cell Biology and Genetics  
Richard Easom, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Jamboor Vishwanatha, Biomedical Sciences, Clinical Research Management, Biotechnology, Premedical Science  
Rustin Reeves, Science Education  
Fred Downey, Integrative Physiology  
Porunelloor Mathew, Microbiology and Immunology  
Meharvan Singh, Pharmacology and Neuroscience  
John Licciardone, 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  
Stephen Grant, Cardiovascular Sciences  
Rouel Roque, 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](http://www.hsc.unt.edu).

## School of Public Health

University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth (UNTHSC-FW)  
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  
Web site: [www.hsc.unt.edu](http://www.hsc.unt.edu)

### Fernando Treviño, Dean of the School of Public Health

#### Chairs:

Eric Johnson, Chair, Department of Epidemiology  
Eric Johnson, Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health  
M. Harvey Brenner, Chair, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Karan Singh, Chair, Department of Biostatistics  
Jeffery Talbert, 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 45 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. 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.

MPH students are required to complete 21 credit hours in their chosen concentration, 3 hours of public health practice experience, and an additional 6 credit hours in their culminating experience (thesis, professional report/capstone, or comprehensive exam).

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**

**Biostatistics (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 Informatics (MPH):** Oriented toward applied data processing and applications, health information system design and development, and other applied informatics in health care settings, the concentration in health informatics prepares students for work related to clinical data management; health systems evaluation, development and analysis; geographic information systems (GIS) applications in health; and telemedicine or telehealth in medical or public health settings.

**Health Management (MPH):** 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 sectors. The concentration includes the study of health services management, economics, finance, informatics, analysis and evaluation.

**Health Policy (MPH):** 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 health politics, law, economics, as well as policy development, analysis and evaluation.

**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**

**Behavioral Sciences (MPH):** The behavioral sciences concentration prepares students for careers in public health that emphasize the role of behavioral, cognitive, psychological and motivational factors in disease prevention, in promotion of health, in vulnerability to disease and in 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 (MPH):** The community health concentration uses a multidisciplinary approach and focuses on social, cultural, political and economic factors that influence health status and health-related behaviors of individuals. The

community health concentration emphasizes the role of social, economic, cultural and behavioral factors in disease prevention, promotion of health, vulnerability to disease and interaction with health care systems

**Health Interpreting and Health Applied Linguistics (MPH):** The HIAL track is the only program in the United States to prepare students from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds and interests – including language and linguistics (e.g., translation and interpretation studies; applied linguistics; language studies), and health sciences (e.g., public health, medicine, nursing, etc.) – to assume positions as professional health interpreters, linguistic researchers and leaders in the field of health applied linguistics. Students will explore the interrelationship between language and health, and will delve into the complex relationship that exists between language and disease. They will develop competencies in language research in health settings, and will receive extensive training as health interpreters, and, in some cases, as health writers and translators.

**Social Sciences (MPH):** 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 sociocultural research to understand cultural perceptions and responses to illness and healing, comparative health systems, cultural syndromes, ethnomedicine and medical pluralism.

**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

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. The completed application should be submitted along with:

- a statement of professional or career goals;
- a resume or curriculum vitae;
- official GRE scores from the Educational Testing Service;
- complete official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended;
- a non-refundable admission application fee of \$25 for U.S. residents or \$75 for non-U.S. citizens and permanent residents;
- two letters of recommendation (or completed confidential evaluation forms) by individuals in a position to comment on your potential as a graduate student and future professional;
- international applicants must submit documented proof of financial resources; and
- international students may need to submit official TOEFL scores from ETS or show proof of English proficiency.

### Courses of Instruction

All Courses of Instruction are located in the UNTHSC-FW catalog.