



### **D.O. /M.P.H. Dual Degree**

The primary goal of the D.O. /M.P.H. program is to provide clinical professionals with specialized public health training to develop, integrate, and apply culturally competent social, psychological, and biomedical approaches to the promotion and preservation of health. Physicians with training in public health may work in a wide range of positions in public, private, or academic settings. The M.P.H. degree offers the physician a significant advantage when seeking jobs which involve planning and managing health systems, performing clinical research, determining the causes of disease, or planning and implementing disease control strategies. Physicians with the M.P.H. degree work in health departments, federal agencies, managed care and other health provider organizations, schools of public health and medicine, in the private practice arena, and in many other federal and international agencies.

Combining the two degrees, medicine and public health:

- fosters a better appreciation of the interplay between community factors and individual behaviors on the health status of patients;
- creates a better understanding of the basis of treatment and treatment outcomes for individual patients; and
- provides an understanding of the delivery of health services, including the economic and legal aspects.

### **Academic Procedures for D.O. /M.P.H.**

1. Students may elect to complete the dual degree program in 4 years or 5 years. Students who select the 5 year option may take a year off after their 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of medical school.
2. Students are allowed to complete the D.O./M.P.H. within any of the concentrations offered by SPH.
3. The nine semester credit hours from TCOM are derived from a minimum of 135 contact hours of medical school lectures that have been matched with public health competencies to ensure that SPH curriculum requirements are met.
4. TCOM students may apply to the dual degree program prior to matriculation to medical school through the completion of their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of medical school. Students who have started their 4<sup>th</sup> year of medical school will not be allowed to apply to the D.O./M.P.H. program.
5. TCOM administrators will adjust the rotations for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year D.O./M.P.H. students so they can take SPH coursework while completing medical school rotations.

6. An academic advising committee has been formed to monitor the progress of D.O./M.P.H. students. The committee will include SPH faculty who are advising D.O./M.P.H. students, a TCOM representative, and the Director of the Office of Student & Academic Services. Students who are performing poorly in either program will be suspended from the M.P.H.; recommendations for completion of the M.P.H. will be determined on an individual basis. Students who select the Thesis or Professional Report option will be required to have a D.O. on their committee. The D.O. committee member will be selected by the student with approval from the major professor.

**Core Courses for Master's in Public Health: 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

**Department Courses: 12 SCH**

**Required Courses: 6-12 SCH**

**Selective Courses: 0-6 SCH** 12 SCH

**Practice Experience: 3 SCH**

SPH	5855	Public Health Practice Experience*	3 SCH
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\* To be completed during the medical student rotations – student must be placed in a public health setting that is jointly determined by TCOM and the SPH Public Health Practice Coordinator

**Culminating Experience: 6 SCH**

SCBS	5800	Capstone	
	or		
HMAP	5800	Capstone	3 SCH
SPH	5900	Professional Report	3 SCH
	or		
SPH	5950	Thesis**	6 SCH

\*\* Departments may require students to complete a comprehensive exam instead of the thesis so the student can enroll in 2 additional 3 SCH courses to meet the didactic requirements for a particular concentration.

**Transfer Hours from TCOM (9 SCH)**

Medical Competencies in Public Health (135 contact hours)	9 SCH
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**Total hours to complete M.P.H. program: 45 SCH**

**D.O. /M.P.H. Dual Degree Learning Objectives**

- Using recognized sources of health data, students will name the major causes of mortality in the U.S. based on age, gender and ethnicity as well as the modifiable and non-modifiable risk factors associated with each cause of mortality.
- Describe the epidemiology, risk factors, diagnostic measures, evidence-based treatment protocols and preventive measures for each major disease affecting the U.S. population.
- Identify and describe recommended clinical preventive services based on the individual's age, sex, and risk factor status using appropriate guidelines. Be prepared to discuss controversial differences between various clinical practice organizations. The following areas are to be addressed:

- screening tests commonly used in primary care
  - prevention counseling
  - immunizations (childhood and adult U.S. immunizations and international travel immunizations)
  - chemoprophylaxis
4. Describe how the characteristics of individuals and populations may affect the occurrence of disease and the provision and utilization of health services.
  5. Describe the components of a culturally sensitive, community-responsive population-based health intervention in such processes as:
    - identifying the target population
    - identifying the health needs of the target population
    - prioritizing health needs
    - developing appropriate interventions to address health needs, including community-based actions such as legislation, toxic waste clean-up, worksite injury prevention, non-smoking policies, healthy school menus, provisions for adequate housing, etc.
  6. Identify potential adverse health outcomes for defined populations at risk within the community and appropriate clinical preventive services to address them.
  7. Describe the physician's responsibilities to public agencies.
  8. Describe important aspects of global health.
  9. Identify the roles of various health care providers, interdisciplinary health care team, consultation/referral sources, and community resources in providing preventative services and complementary clinical care.
  10. Demonstrate the communication and psychomotor skills required to directly provide appropriate, recommended clinical preventative services.
  11. Demonstrate the ability to read and critically analyze medical literature.
  12. When given a clinical case, demonstrate the ability to discuss and appropriately recommend community resources in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

## **University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine**

### **Admissions**

Phone: 817 735 2204

Toll Free: 800 535 8266

Email: [tcomadmission@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:tcomadmission@hsc.unt.edu)

\*Once you have applied to TCOM, please contact the admissions office to have your transcripts and MCAT scores release to the School of Public Health Admissions Office

### **Mailing Address & Physical Address**

UNTHSC-Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., EAD-248

Fort Worth, TX 76107-2699

### **School of Public Health**

#### **Admissions**

Phone: 817 735 2401

Toll Free: 1 877 868 7741

Email: [sph@hsc.unt.edu](mailto:sph@hsc.unt.edu)

### **Mailing Address & Physical Address**

UNTHSC-School of Public Health

Office of Student & Academic Services, EAD-716

3500 Camp Bowie Blvd.

Fort Worth, TX 76107-2699