



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF SOVEREIGN NATIONS

Postgraduate Certificate in Public Health (CPH)

The Postgraduate Certificate in Public Health (CPH) Program is a hybrid educational program which is designed to give those college and university students, as well as working adults and professionals, who are dedicated to enhancing the health status and quality of life of all global communities, the basic competent knowledge and creative and critical-thinking ability to improve the public's health, but who desire to not pursue a Master's degree program.

Mission

To advance the public health of all peoples and populations, by providing essential competent graduate education, knowledge, skills, research, service, creative and analytical critical thinking ability, and leadership to those graduate students who are dedicated to enhancing the health status and quality of life all global communities.

Vision

To be the certificate program of choice for those individuals who are committed to community, global leadership, and are dedicated to preventing disease, promoting health, and protecting the well-being of the public of all nations and all peoples. The instructional goal of CPH program is to offer excellent educational and academic training and develop students to become superior professionals, capable of integrating and skillfully applying basic public health knowledge in performing the "Ten Essential Services of Public Health" as originally created by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Core Public Health Functions Steering Committee, and U.S. Public Health Service.

"Ten Essential Services of Public Health"

In order to promote and provide a working definition of public health and a guiding framework for the responsibilities of public health specialists and systems, MPH Program supports and provides educational instruction in the "Ten Essential Services of Public Health," as originally created by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Core Public Health Functions Steering Committee, and the U.S. Public Health Service, which include the following responsibilities:

1. To monitor health status to identify and solve community health problems.
2. To diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. To inform, educate, and empower people about health issues.



4. To mobilize community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.
5. To develop policies and plans that support individual and community health goals and efforts.
6. To enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. To link people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. To assure a skilled and competent public health care workforce.
9. To evaluate effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. To research for new insights and apply innovative solutions to health problems.

Values

As public health is complex and inherently multi-disciplinary and concerns the practice of preventing and managing disease, promoting good health within groups of people, and advancing healthcare access and health care for all peoples, the values that guide the CPH Program include the following:

- To increase the awareness of public health as a public good and fundamental right.
- To promote diversity in culture and political thought.
- To treat all people with respect and to promote intercultural understanding.
- To promote academic excellence and the pursuit of truth.
- To promote human rights, fundamental freedoms, peace, and the sense of human dignity and human respect of all peoples.
- To promote and protect the human rights of all human research subjects of experimentation.
- To promote the covenants and tenants of the World Health Organization (WHO), especially inclusive of:

“Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”

“The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition.”

“The health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security and is dependent upon the fullest co-operation of individuals and States.”

“Unequal development in different countries in the promotion of health and control of disease, especially communicable disease, is a common danger.”

Purpose

The purpose of CPH Program of study is to serve as an introduction to the field of public health and sets the stage for future scholarship and advancement. It is designed for those individuals who are currently working in, or desire to work in, public



health agencies, non-governmental organizations, hospitals, medical centers, clinics, surgery centers, nursing homes or rehabilitation centers, or desire more information on public health, both nationally and globally, and may be interested in working in fields related to healthcare administration/management.

Curriculum

To complete the CPH program, students must satisfy the CPH course curriculum, which requires a minimum of 10 semester credit hours. The CPH program can be completed by either full-time or part-time study, and accordingly, can be completed within a few months of study (150 clock hours of instruction).

Courses (10 credit hours)

- Applied Public Health Research Seminar (2 credit hours)
- Principles of Community Health (2 credit hours)
- Principles of Environmental Health (2 credit hours)
- Principles of Public Health (2 credit hours)
- Principles of Health Behavior (2 credit hours)

Required Core Competencies

Upon graduation, all CPH students will have the following core competencies as they relate to the various public health disciplines specified by the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH). AUSN CPH graduates shall have sufficiently mastered the public health core competencies such that they will be able to:

I. Public Health Ethics

1. Describe the legal and ethical bases for public health and health services.
2. Apply basic principles of ethical analysis to issues of public health practice and policy.
3. Identify some ethical, social and legal issues implied by public health biology/sciences.

II. Health Policy and Management

1. Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.
2. Apply principles of strategic planning and marketing to public health.
3. Explain methods of ensuring community health safety and preparedness.

III. Social and Behavioral Sciences

1. Identify the role of social and community factors in both the onset and solution of public health problems.
2. Examine racial and ethnic disparities within the context of historic and contemporary social and economic climates.
3. Discuss sentinel events in the history and development of the public health profession and their relevance for practice in the field.



4. Understand the causes of disparities in disease risk, access and utilization of preventive and health care services and health outcomes.

IV. Environmental Health Science

1. Describe the direct and indirect human, ecological, and safety effects of major environmental and occupational agents.
2. Specify current environmental risk assessment methods.
3. Describe federal and state regulatory programs, guidelines, and authorities that control environmental health issues.

V. Epidemiology

1. Explain the importance of epidemiology for informing scientific, ethical, economic, and political discussion of health issues.
2. Identify key sources of epidemiologic data and comprehend basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of epidemiologic data.
3. Identify the principles and limitations of public health screening programs, including the evaluation of validity and reliability of screening tests.

VI. Biostatistics

1. Describe the role biostatistics serves in the discipline of public health.
2. Identify vital statistics and other key data sources, and apply descriptive techniques commonly used to summarize public health data.
3. Interpret results of statistical analyses found in public health studies.

Syllabus of Compulsory Courses

Applied Public Health Research Seminar (APHS) (2 credit hours)

The **purpose** of this course is to help develop research ability in the students so they can apply the theories they learn to actual practice.

The **objective** of this course is for the student to learn how to apply research skills, and how to evaluate their research.

Principles of Community Health (PRCH) (2 credit hours)

The **purpose** of this course is to provide the student with the basic principles and foundations of community health and to understand its relation to public health.

The **objectives** of this course include that the student gain a working understanding of the principles of community health and to understand its role in the general public health arena.

Principles of Environmental Health (PREH) (2 credit hours)

The **purpose** of this course is to provide the student with principles of environmental health from a public health perspective.



The **objectives** of this course include that the student gain a working understanding of the principles of the environment and environmental public health.

Principles of Health Behavior (PRHB) (2 credit hours)

The **purpose** of this course is to provide the student with the basic principles and theories of human behavior within the practice of public health and to help the student understand how health promotion, education, and prevention programs ultimately focus on changing health behavior.

The **objectives** of this course include to present to the student a general framework of the pertinent subject matters of health behavior and how they affect the public's health through their interaction with the individual in the community.

Principles of Public Health (PRPH) (2 credit hours)

The **purpose** of this course is to provide the student with the principles of public health so that the student can understand the field of public health and how it works through its federal, state and local public health system.

The **objectives** of this course include that the student gain a working understanding of the principles of public health and how they fit within the overall healthcare system.

Additional Information

Contact Us

Additional information, including resources for application to the CPH program, is available at www.ausovereignnations.org. Applications to all academic degree and educational certificate programs at AUSN are completed online and reviewed a rolling basis. Please direct any questions, concerns, or suggestions to Dr. Darryl Macer, Provost at provost@ausovereignnations.org.

Nondiscrimination Policies

It is the policy of the American University of Sovereign Nations (AUSN), in accordance with applicable international and domestic laws, to not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, citizenship, age, sex, physical or mental disability, medical condition, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, parental status, or veteran status. AUSN has adopted a racially nondiscriminatory policy as to student admissions, student scholarships, academic degree programs, and educational certificate programs. The nondiscrimination policies of AUSN cover admission and access to all University programs, events, and scholarships.