

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number SD0521F
Date of Senate Approval 11/04/2021

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 4 (MPH): Add Degree Program, Master of Public Health in Place-Based Health

Effective Date: Fall 2022

1. Add: The requirements for the Master of Public Health in Place-Based Health:

Master of Public Health in Place-Based Health

In the liberal arts tradition, the Master of Public Health (MPH) in Place-Based Health is an interdisciplinary program that prepares students to work in the field of public health. In cooperation with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health, the MPH program facilitates student learning in 22 foundational competency areas in public health as outlined by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). The MPH program curriculum includes core courses in understanding public health issues, data analyses, epidemiological concepts, and program planning and evaluation. In addition, the Place-Based Health concentration cultivates knowledge and skills in understanding public health challenges and developing approaches that consider and leverage the historic, economic, political, social, arts-based, and other aspects of “place”. The program combines theory and practice through exploration of classic and contemporary texts alongside and intertwined with the practice of public health activities in various settings and through classroom and applied learning experiences. This MPH program focuses learning in and with partners in Western North Carolina, providing a place-based education and opportunities for students to connect their education throughout and beyond the MPH program. The program consists of 42 credit hours over 4 semesters and a summer in which students engage in a non-credit bearing practicum.

Requirements for the degree:

- I. Required courses for the MPH degree - 42 hours: SPHG 701, 702, 711, 712, 713, 721, 713, 721, 722; PUBH 734, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 748, 992; and 6 hours from PUBH 790-792.
- II. Other degree requirements - The capstone requirement will be completed in PBH 992.

Impact: This new Master of Public Health program is a cooperative degree with the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health and is housed at and administered cooperatively with the Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC). The MPH program was approved by the UNC Asheville Faculty Senate in Spring 2019. The impact of the MPH program on UNC Asheville faculty and other resources is relatively small because classes will be held on the campus of MAHEC and faculty will come from UNC Chapel Hill, MAHEC, community organizations, and UNC

Asheville. When UNC Asheville faculty teach in the program, the income from the program will cover the costs of their teaching. It is anticipated that 1-3 UNC Asheville faculty will teach a course (1 to 4 credit hours each) in the MPH program each semester. And it is expected that one UNC Asheville faculty member will be hired for the program targeted for AY 23-24 through MPH program and MAHEC funding sources (not UNC Asheville academic affairs resources) to support the program and to teach 1-2 courses per term to undergraduates at UNC Asheville.

Rationale: This cooperative program between UNC Asheville and UNC Chapel Hill Gillings School of Public Health, coordinated by MAHEC, has been in development for nearly a decade. The program combines the top public health program curriculum at UNC Chapel Hill with the interdisciplinary focus and teaching excellence of UNC Asheville to offer a unique degree in Western North Carolina (WNC). The program is focused on WNC and on place-based approaches. Additional rationale and details are available in the request to establish document passed by the faculty senate in April 2019.

Degree Plan

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Degree Requirement
Fall 1			
SPHG 711	Data Analysis for Public Health	2	Core
SPHG 712	Methods and Measures for Public Health Practice	2	Core
SPHG 713	Understanding Public Health Issues	2	Core
PUBH 734	Place-based Theory in Public Health	2	Concentration
PUBH 736	Individual Transformation Applied to Public Health and Place	2	Concentration
Semester Hours		10	
Spring 1			
SPHG 721	Public Health Solutions: Systems, Policy & Advocacy	2	Core
SPHG 722	Developing, Implementing, & Evaluating Public Health Solutions	4	Core
SPHG 701	Leading from the Inside-Out	2	Core
PUBH 737	Place-Based Research and Evaluation Methods	2	Concentration
Semester Hours		10	
Summer 1			
	MPH Practicum		Core
Fall 2			
	MPH Comprehensive Exam		Core
SPHG 702	Practicum Evaluation & Interprofessional Practice	1	Core
PUBH 738	Place-Based Community Transformation	3	Concentration
PUBH 739	Place-Based Systems Transformation	3	Concentration
PUBH 748	Leadership in Health Policy for Social Justice	3	Elective
	Elective (Graduate-Level Course)	3	Elective
Semester Hours		13	
Spring 2			
PUBH 740	Implementation of Place-Based Theory & Design in Public Health	3	Concentration
	Elective (Graduate-Level Course)	3	Elective
PUBH 992.005	Place-Based Health MPH Culminating Experience	3	Concentration
Semester Hours		9	
MPH Degree Total		42	

Updated July 2021

Staffing Plan

Faculty	FA 22	SP 23	FA 23	SP 24	FA 24	SP 25
Amy Joy Lanou (UNCA)	739		739		739	
Sarah Thach (UNC)	702, 734	701, 992, 740	702, 734	701, 992, 740	702, 734	701, 992, 740
Tamarie Macon (UNC)	736, 748	721	736, 748	721	736, 748	721
Ameena Batada (UNCA)	738	737	738	737	738	737
Jill Fromewick (MAHEC)	711		711		711	
Public Health expert(s) (UNCA)	713, Elective	Elective	713 Elective		713	Elective
Adjunct/Community Faculty	712	722	712	722, Elective	712, Elective	722