

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number SD4823S
Date of Senate Approval 04/27/2023

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 36 (MPH): Add, delete, & change courses and requirements for the Place-Based Public Health Concentration in the Master of Public Health degree

1. Change course description for SPHG 701: Leading from the Inside Out
2. Delete SPHG 702: Practicum Evaluation & Interprofessional Practice Activities
3. Add new course title and description for SPHG 703
Add new course title and description for SPHG 705
Add new course title and description for SPHG 707
4. Add Special Topics for SPHG, SPHG 771-774
5. Add new course title and description for PUBH 708
6. Change course description for PUBH 734: Place-Based Theory in Public Health
7. Change course description for PUBH 736: Individual Transformation Applied to Public Health and Place
8. Change course description for PUBH 737: Place-Based Research and Evaluation Methods
9. Change course description for PUBH 738: Place-Based Community Transformation in WNC
10. Change course description for PUBH 739: Place-Based Systems Transformation
11. Change course description for PUBH 740: Implementation of Place-based Theory and Design in Public Health
12. Change course number and title for PUBH 790-792: Issues in Place-based Public Health
13. Revise the listing of courses required for the MPH

Effective Date: Fall 2023

1. **Delete:** On page 243, entry for **SPHG 701, Leading from the Inside-Out**

701 Leading from the Inside-Out (2)

This course prepares students for public health practice by helping them examine, unpack, and mitigate biases, introducing fundamental leadership skills necessary to advance equity. Spring.

Add: On page 243, in place of deleted entry:

701 Leading from the Inside-Out (2)

This course prepares students for public health practice by introducing fundamental leadership skills necessary to advance equity and recognize and address bias in organizational settings. Spring.

Impact Statement: This is a slight change to the wording of the course description. There is no anticipated impact on the course or resources.

Rationale: This change better describes the course content. The change also brings into alignment the UNC Gillings and UNC Asheville courses and catalog entries.

2. **Delete:** On page 243, the entry for **SPHG 702, Practicum Assignments & Interprofessional Practice Activities:**

702 Practicum Assignments & Interprofessional Practice Activities (1)

This course awards credit to required practicum assignments and includes a series of interprofessional practice activities designed to provide healthcare professionals with the foundational skills needed to work in teams to effectively collaborate and coordinate care in population health. Prerequisite: SPHG 701. Fall.

3. **Add:** On page 243, three new courses, **SPHG 703, 705, and 707:**

703 MPH Pre-Practicum Assignments (0.5)

This course awards credit to required pre-practicum assignments. Pre- or corequisites: SPHG 721, 722. Spring.

705 MPH Practicum (0)

This 200 (minimum) hour planned, mentored and evaluated applied practice experience gives students an opportunity to use their Gillings MPH training in a professional public health setting. Summer.

707 MPH Post-Practicum Assignments (0.5)

This course awards credit to required post-practicum assignments. Fall.

Impact Statement: This change separates the previous SPHG 702 into two 0.5-credit courses and adds a no-credit course for the 200-hour practicum. There is a small impact on the student and instructor load in each semester, but not overall.

Rationale: This change reflects a more accurate representation of the course work related to the summer practicum, which takes place before (in preparation) and after (summary and to present) the summer. The change also brings into alignment the UNC Gillings and UNC Asheville courses and catalog entries.

4. **Add:** On page 244, **SPHG 771-774, Special Topics in School of Public Health:**

SPHG 771-4 Special Topics in School of Public Health-General (1-4)

Courses not otherwise included in the catalog listing but for which there may be special needs. May be repeated for credit as often as permitted and as subject matter changes. See department chair.

Impact Statement: There is no anticipated impact on resources.

Rationale: Having the possibility of SPHG Special Topics courses will allow UNC Asheville to add students to courses in the event a course change at UNC Gillings has not also gone through UNC Asheville's faculty governance. There has been an occurrence of courses being added at UNC Gillings but not at UNC Asheville, so having ST courses will allow us to register students for the correct number of hours. The courses would later be changed on the UNCA transcript once they are approved through APC and Faculty Senate:

5. **Add:** On page 244, new course, **PUBH 708, Place-Informed Health Communications:**

708 Place-Informed Health Communications (3)

In-depth examination and practice of methods for communicating health messages to and with groups and populations. Public health communication theory, sociocultural issues, and communications contexts including place, are explored while developing communication skills and strategies. Topics include health communication research, data visualization, media advocacy, communication with policy makers, social media, public health presentations, use of technology, health promotion materials development, and health and media literacy. Emphasis on written and oral communication to promote health. Prerequisites: SPHG 713 and PUBH 734. Every year.

Impact Statement: This is a new elective course option in the UNC Asheville-UNC Gillings Master of Public Health program. Currently, there is no anticipated impact on resources or load as the program is sufficiently staffed to offer this course at least once every year.

Rationale: This course complements the current coursework of the place-based Master of Public health degree, offering an opportunity for students to practice key skills related to public health.

6. **Delete:** On page 244, the description for PUBH 734, Place-Based Theory in Public Health:

734 Place-Based Theory in Public Health (2)

Concepts of place-based Public Health including community beliefs, behaviors, system structures, culture, art, geography and how they provide assets/barriers for the community's health will be addressed. The impact of rurality, person, race, poverty, gender, ethnicity, culture, behavior and society on health outcomes, will be examined and the concept of place-based from public health, sociology, anthropology and economic perspectives. Students will explore/integrate concepts with visits to, and experiences with, people and health institutions in Western NC. Fall.

Add: On page 244 in place of deleted entry:

734 Place-Based Theory in Public Health (2)

Addresses concepts of place-based public health including the histories of people, landscapes, landmarks, culture, structures, and/or other aspects of place and how they provide assets and barriers for a community's health. Students compare public health concepts of a place-based approach with multiple disciplines' perspectives on place. Students integrate concepts with visits to, and experiences with, people and health institutions in Western North Carolina. Fall.

Impact Statement: This is a course description change to better reflect the course content. There is no anticipated impact on program resources.

Rationale: This description emphasizes community health rather than individual health, in keeping with our definition of a place-based approach.

7. Delete: On page 244 entry for **PUBH 736, Individual Transformation Applied to Public Health and Place:**

736 Individual Transformation Applied to Public Health and Place (2)

Students work through the place-based principle of understanding oneself, one's values and place in and relationship to identity and values of the community. Students assess personality, leadership style and its application to improve public health. Students will examine social location, implicit bias, their effects on public health and one's personal health. Students will assimilate personality preference, personal strengths and weaknesses, group inclusion, change leadership style into understanding how to engage effectively in groups and communities. Fall.

Add: On page 244 in place of deleted entry:

736 Individual Transformation Applied to Public Health and Place (2)

Students assess personality preferences and leadership styles to better understand themselves, their values, and their relationship to the identities and values of others and effectively engage groups and communities. They examine social location and structures and their effects on preferences, personality, and styles; personal health; and public and community health. They deepen their knowledge and awareness to facilitate transformation of self and public health teams to implement multi-level change efforts. Fall.

Impact Statement: This is a course description change. There is no anticipated impact on program resources.

Rationale: This is a course description change, including a wording change to better reflect why the course is important for the place-based health concentration and the scope of self-assessments and work in the course.

8. **Delete:** On page 244, entry for PUBH 737, Place-Based Research and Evaluation Methods

737 Place-based Research and Evaluation Methods (2)

An applied research workshop that engages students in foundational skill-building, from developing a research question to sharing research findings, informed by place and practice. The course focuses on a range of research methods and how to appropriately apply them to study and improve health. Students develop a research study proposal in this course. Spring.

Add: On page 244 in place of deleted entry:

737 Place-based Research and Evaluation Methods (2)

An applied research workshop that engages students in foundational skill-building, from interrogating history and foundations of public health research, to developing a research question, describing methods and approaches, and sharing research findings, informed by place and practice. The course focuses on a range of research methods and how to appropriately apply them to study and improve health. Students develop a research study proposal in this course. Prerequisites: SPHG 711, 712, 713; PUBH 734, 736; or permission of instructor. Spring.

Impact Statement: This is a course description and prerequisite change. There is no anticipated impact on program resources. Students in the MPH program are required to take the courses listed as prerequisites for their degree so there would be no additional classes or instructors needed.

Rationale: This concentration course introduces students to applied research methods to support better understanding of public health literature and to provide a foundation for summer practica and other experiential activities in their program. Students develop MPH core competencies related to research design and conduct. We also now have a better understanding of the flow of content across the program and are able to identify the appropriate prerequisite courses.

9. **Delete:** On page 244 entry for **PUBH 738, Place-Based Community Transformations:**

738 Place-Based Community Health Transformations (3)

This course explores the ways in which community health transformation takes place, inviting students to consider the range of who, what, where, when, why, and how of community health transformation. We will learn about cultural context, purpose, and approaches to supporting and promoting community health from community co-educators in Western North Carolina communities. We also will engage with models such as Participatory Action Research (PAR) and Community-Based Participatory Research and Action (CBPRA) and readings and media by various authors. Students will consider the roles of history, perspective, relationships, trust, and other key course concepts in their own work and the work of communities. Highlighted activities and assignments include visits to/with community co-educators, a community-collaborative project, and an independent community health transformation analysis project. Prerequisites: SPHG 711, 712, 713. Fall.

Add: On page 244 in place of deleted entry:

738 Place-Based Community Health Transformations (3)

Explores the who, what, where, when, why, and how of community health transformation. We learn about cultural context, purpose, and approaches supporting and enacting health justice from community co-educators; engage with models (Participatory Action Research and Community-Based Participatory Research/Action) and resources; explore the roles of history, perspective, relationships, and trust in community work; visit to/with community co-educators, engage in community-collaborative activities, and analyze a community health transformation. Prerequisite: PUBH 737. Fall.

Impact Statement: This is a course description and prerequisite change. There is no anticipated impact on program resources. Students in the MPH program are required to take the courses listed as prerequisites for their degree so there would be no additional classes or instructors needed.

Rationale: This is a course description change, including a wording change to better reflect the purpose of community-led activities, and changes from future conditional to present tense. These changes reflect the approach of the program overall and consistency with standard course descriptions. We also now have a better understanding of the flow of content across the program and are able to identify the appropriate prerequisite courses.

10. Delete: On page 245 entry for **PUBH 739, Place-Based Systems Transformation:**

739 Place-Based Systems Transformation (3)

This course will discuss and review health transformation as it relates to complex and rapidly changing health care systems (noting areas of disparity), food access, environmental systems and structural policy, intercultural interactions, structural bias, and historical context in WNC. We will evaluate WNC health systems and how health transformation is changing these health care systems and the place of public health to help improve the process. Fall.

Add: On page 245 in place of entry for PUBH 739 Place-Based Systems Transformation

739 Place-Based Systems Transformation (3)

Provides opportunities to understand, investigate, interrogate, and reimagine complex systems as they relate to health care, public health, and social drivers of health. Students evaluate a wide variety of factors impacting health outcomes using a case-based and problem-based approach in multiple systems, with place as a core construct. Prerequisites: SPHG 713. Fall.

Impact Statement: This is a course description and prerequisite change. There is no anticipated impact on program resources. Students in the MPH program are required to take the courses listed as prerequisites for their degree so there would be no additional classes or instructors needed.

Rationale: Removes specifics to WNC as case studies are on local, state, federal, and global levels. Clarifies that the course uses a case-based and problem-based approach. We also now have a better understanding of the flow of content across the program and are able to identify the appropriate prerequisite courses.

11. **Delete:** On page 245 entry for **PUBH 740, Implementation of Place-based Theory and Design in Public Health:**

740 Implementation of Place-Based Theory and Design in Public Health (3)
Students will apply place-based theory to design community-based intervention and engage with local community partners to develop multi-sectoral strategies and employ qualitative techniques to understand community concerns regarding the public health issue. Students will determine key stakeholders, bring them together and create a community of solution to address the public health issue, while discussing financial development and sustainability for the proposed community interventions. Spring.

Add: On page 245, in place of deleted entry:

740 Implementation of Place-Based Theory and Design in Public Health (3)
In response to Western North Carolina organizations' requests, students use place-based principles to understand public health issues and design community-based, multi-level interventions. Student teams and interested parties explore community priorities and perceptions, and then student teams develop sustainable plans for host organizations to implement. Prerequisites: PUBH 734, 736, 737, 738, 739. Spring.

Impact Statement: This is a course description and prerequisite change. There is no anticipated impact on program resources. Students in the MPH program are required to take the courses listed as prerequisites for their degree so there would be no additional classes or instructors needed.

Rationale: In the span of a semester project, teams have time to develop a context-specific proposal but not implement it. "Community of solution" is a term that is not widely understood or used. We also now have a better understanding of the flow of content across the program and are able to identify the appropriate prerequisite courses.

12. **Delete:** On page 245 entry for PUBH 790-792, Issues in Place-based Public Health:

790-792 Issues in Place-based Public Health (3)
Exploration of important current issues in public health, from a place-based perspective. Topics will vary and will be indicated in the titles of individual sections. May be repeated with different topic subheadings. Fall and Spring.

Add: On page 245, renumbered entry:

890 Special Topics in Public Health Leadership (1-3)
Exploration of important current issues in public health, from a place-based perspective. Topics will vary and will be indicated in the titles of individual sections. May be repeated with different topic subheadings. Fall and Spring.

Impact Statement: There is no anticipated impact of the change on resources, etc.

Rationale: This change aligns the course number and title with the comparable course at UNC Gillings, as is the case with the other MPH courses.

13. Delete: On page 243, item I under **Degree Requirements:**

- I. Required courses for the MPH degree - 42 hours: SPHG 701, 702, 711, 712, 713, 721, 722; PUBH 734, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 748, 992; and 6 hours from PUBH 790-792.

Add: On page 243, in place of deleted entry:

- I. Required courses for the MPH degree - 42 hours: SPHG 701, 703, 705, 707, 711, 712, 713, 721, 722; PUBH 734, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 992; and 9 hours of electives.

Impact Statement: This change will streamline the communication and consistency across institutions (UNC Asheville and UNC Gillings) There is no negative impact on resources or course loads in the program.

Rationale: These changes are consistent with the requirements and catalog numbers of the courses in the UNC Gillings course catalog.