Master of Public Health (MPH) at Central Michigan University

What is Public Health?

Public Health is defined as “the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts of society.”

Since 1900, the average life span in the United States has increased more than 30 years, and 25 years of this gain have been attributed to advances in public health.

The Master of Public Health (MPH) at Central Michigan University is designed for students who wish to advance as practitioners in the field of public health and/or are planning to pursue doctoral programs in health science.

Projected Job Growth

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the need for health educators and community health workers is projected to grow at a faster rate than the average for all occupations (11%) at 21% between 2012 and 2022. Community health workers specifically are projected to grow at an even more rapid rate of 25% between 2012 and 2022. The primary reasons for this exponential growth are due to a greater emphasis on improving health outcomes and reducing the costs of healthcare through education related to healthy habits, behaviors and use of healthcare services.


Program Information

Master of Public Health (MPH) Minimum Totals for Graduation: 47 hours

The Master of Public Health (MPH) is a widely recognized professional credential for those seeking leadership and managerial positions in governmental, nonprofit, and private organizations in Public Health.

The MPH program at CMU is designed for individuals who have recently earned a bachelor’s degree and for working professionals who have already earned a bachelor’s degree but now wish to pursue a graduate degree program.

The CMU MPH program is an interdisciplinary program designed to provide students with in-depth training in the core areas of public health, including biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health, social and behavioral science, and management of health services.

Through classroom instruction, research, and field practice, students develop competencies to design culturally-responsive behavioral and social change interventions to address health challenges affecting rural and under-served communities across the state of Michigan and the world.

Admission Requirements

Admission into the MPH program requires:

1. Bachelor degree from an accredited institution of higher learning;
2. GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;
3. GRE, GMAT, MCAT or other standardized graduate-level test score; and
4. For non-English speakers: proficiency in English, to be able to study and communicate in English.
The Curriculum Overview

The CMU MPH Program requires satisfactory completion of a minimum of 47 credit hours as described below:

**Required Courses**
- Core Public Health courses (22 credits)
- Concentration required courses (16 credits)
- Approved elective courses relevant to the chosen concentration and career goals (3 credits or more)

Successful completion requires a grade of at least 2.7 (B-) in each core Public Health course and a GPA of at least 3.0 for all core courses combined which are applied to the MPH.

**Public Health Field Experience**
- 300 hours required (2 credits)

**Culminating Experience**
- Thesis (4 credits)

Courses and Timetable

The MPH program offers the following courses:

**Required Courses**

1. **Public Health Core Courses**
   - MPH 640 – Biostatistics 4 (3-1)
   - MPH 642 – Social and Behavioral Health Theories 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 644 – Rural Health 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 646 – Epidemiology 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 648 – Health Policy and Management 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 650 – Biological Basis of Public Health 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 652 – Public Health Environmental Science 3 (3-0)

2. **Concentration required courses**
   - MPH 658 Health Planning and Evaluation 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 664 Public Health Communication and Informatics 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 670 Public Health Research Methods 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 620 Organizing Communities 3 (3-0)
   - MPH 630 Maternal and Child Health 3 (3-0)

3. **Electives**
   - 1 Courses (3 credits)

**Field Experience**
- MPH 796 (2 credits)

**Culminating Experience**
- MPH 798 Thesis (4 credit hours)

Each student admitted into the program is expected to develop a plan of study in consultation with his/her Academic Advisor. To maintain a full time status, graduate students should take 9 or more credit hours in the fall or spring semester and 6 credit hours in the summer semester. Students who adhere to the course time-line proposed by the program will complete this program in two years.

Core Faculty

The MPH program features expert faculty from the Division of Community Health, the School of Health Sciences and other colleges on campus to provide enriched classroom experiences, to mentor students in research, and to organize practical international and rural learning experiences for students.

Assistantships

Each year the MPH program awards a limited number of graduate assistantships to qualified students on a competitive basis. Graduate assistants receive a tuition waiver and a stipend as compensation. They work 20 hours per week for the department by assisting in faculty research and/or teaching activities. Assistantship applications are available from the department.

Other awards and scholarships may be available through the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid. See the Graduate Bulletin for details.

Apply Online

http://apply.cmich.edu

For More Information

Inquiries regarding the MPH program at CMU should be addressed to:

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chp.cmich.edu/mph

The Master of Public Health program is housed within The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow College of Health Professions.

Founded in 1892, CMU has since become a multifaceted and highly respected Doctoral Research University with over 28,000 students, including more than 2,000 graduate students on campus in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

CMU is an AA/EO institution, providing equal opportunity to all persons, including minorities, females, veterans and individuals with disabilities: www.cmich.edu/aaeo.