Master of Public Health in Community Health Education at San Francisco State University

Founded in 1998, the San Francisco State Master of Public Health degree program, offered through the Department of Health Education, is rooted in social justice and health equity. The mission of the San Francisco State Department of Health Education is to promote health and health equity at the individual, community, and structural levels through transformative education, research, scholarship and service, all of which value diversity, engage communities, and are grounded in cultural humility.

What We Offer

- 44-unit degree can be completed in two years, with a required summer semester between year one and year two
- Course schedule attractive to working professionals
- Cohort learning community model
- Hands-on faculty who partner with communities to promote health equity
- Applied curriculum includes faculty-supervised team practice field experience collaborating with community partners
- Culminating experience showcases student achievement through an original research project, conference poster, and formal oral presentation

I love the cohort model. We have built incredible community while also setting up our future professional networks.

-Clea, Cohort 2017

The focus on social justice is amazing, and really helps us discover what public health means.

-Filmer, Cohort 2015

Admission Criteria

- Two years equivalent (3700 hours) health-related work experience, including part-time and volunteer positions
- A baccalaureate degree that includes courses completed in statistics/calculus, composition, social science, and cultural/ethnic/social diversity
- 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA in the baccalaureate degree, or in the most recent 60 semester/90 quarter college units attempted
- GRE General Test
- TOEFL or equivalent, if applicable
The cohort model is so helpful in providing needed peer support; the faculty are very accomplished and accessible, and the classes are engaging and have clear application to the contexts we work in. We really get pushed to learn in this program.

-Liz, Cohort 2016

Curriculum
Most students complete the degree requirements in two years, including a summer semester, as depicted below. Longer time to degree completion plans are also available.

Non Sequenced Course
- Elective Course (3 Unit)

Fall Semester - Year One
- HED 815: Theories of Social & Behavioral Change
- HED 829: Biostatistics & Public Health
- HED 828: Biostatistics Laboratory
- HED 884: Public Health Inquiry & Research Practice

Spring Semester - Year One
- HED 825: Epidemiology
  Team Practice, 1st Semester
- HED 820: Community Assessment for Change
- HED 821: Public Health Profession Practice

Summer Semester- Year One
- HED 885: Environmental Health
  Team Practice, 2nd Semester
- HED 822: Advanced Public Health Profession Practice

Fall Semester - Year Two
- HED 830: Health Education Planning, Management & Administration for Community Change
- HED 835: Public Health Policy
- HED 845: Training & Curricula in Public Health

Spring Semester - Year Two
- HED 811: Community Health Education Professional Formation
- HED 840: Program Evaluation Design & Research
- HED 890: MPH Culminating Experience Seminar

What can I do with an MPH degree?
Graduates of the SF State MPH in Community Health Education degree program are prepared for advanced level community health education and interdisciplinary professional positions in both the public and private sectors. We also have graduates who elect to pursue doctoral studies. With a global emphasis on population health and prevention, the expertise of community health educators is in high demand.

Ready to apply?
Step 1: Attend a prospective student information session
Highly recommended. Dates and locations available on the department website.

Step 2: Submission of documents
Part A: Complete the Division of Graduate Studies portion of the application process. Instructions at grad.sfsu.edu

Part B: Complete the Department of Health Education portion of the application process. Instructions at healthed.sfsu.edu/mph

Please check our program website for updated priority application deadlines and additional notifications for this year’s admissions cycle.

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