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 Public Health, is rooted in social justice and health equity. The mission of the San Francisco State Department of Public Health 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, MPH ’17

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

- Filmer, MPH ’15

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, MPH ’16

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
- PH 815: Theories of Social & Behavioral Change
- PH 829: Biostatistics & Public Health
- PH 828: Biostatistics Laboratory
- PH 884: Public Health Inquiry & Research Practice

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

Summer Semester - Year One
- PH 855: Environmental Health
  Team Practice, 2nd Semester
- PH 822: Advanced Public Health Profession Practice

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

Spring Semester - Year Two
- PH 811: Community Health Education Professional Formation
- PH 840: Program Evaluation Design & Research
- PH 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
All applicants are strongly encouraged to attend one of these sessions. Registration information is available on the department website.

Step 2: Apply on Cal State Apply
Complete the online application for graduate admission and upload all required documentation to Cal State Apply.

Instructions and additional details of required documents for submission can be found at:
healthed.sfsu.edu/mph/admissions

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

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