

UNMC, College of Public Health
Applied Practice Experience (APEX) & Capstone Opportunities

Partner organization name: UNMC Water, Climate, & Health Program

Partner organization website: <https://www.unmc.edu/publichealth/research/multidisciplinary-programs/wch/index.html>

Partner organization brief description:

The Water, Climate, and Health Program (WCHP) pioneers interdisciplinary research, education, and collaborative solutions to public health challenges associated with drinking water quality and climate change in Nebraska and around the world. The WCHP works with stakeholders and communities on public health topics related to drinking water quality and climate change, while conducting and disseminating research on these important public health issues. Several projects are available focused on environmental exposures and adverse human health impacts.

Specifically, nitrate contamination in drinking water and its effects on maternal and child health, cancer, and rural populations.

Partner organization's point of contact name and email:

WCH Email: wchp@unmc.edu

Summer Woolsey: summer.woolsey@unmc.edu

Dr. Krista Brown: krista.brown@unmc.edu

Description of partner organization's priority opportunities (Capstone and APEX activities):

Working with the WCHP may include a combination the following tasks:

- **Data Collection**
 - Assist in developing and distributing surveys, questionnaires, and interview tools.
 - Collect data through field visits (*if applicable*), interviews, focus groups, or online platforms.
 - Enter, clean, and organize data using software tools
- **Data Analysis**
 - Conduct preliminary analysis of quantitative and qualitative data.
 - Create basic charts, graphs, and tables to summarize findings.
 - Assist in identifying trends, gaps, or patterns in program data.
- **Reporting, Communication, and Storytelling**
 - Contribute to drafting manuscripts for peer reviews, reports, and newsletters.
 - Support the creation of infographics and visualizations to communicate impact.
 - Help translate technical findings into accessible language for community audiences.
- **Literature Reviews**

- o Conduct (or contribute to) literature reviews focused on environmental exposures and adverse human health outcomes.
- o Synthesize findings to share with wider audiences.

Timeframe of proposed activities:

- Spring 2026 (January - May)
- Summer 2026 (May - August)
- Fall 2026 (August - December)

Benefit of proposed activities to partner organization:

Contribute to the WCHP's impact and organizational goals by furthering knowledge, collaboration, and innovation of climate and health.

Benefit of proposed activities to the student:

- Gain and in-depth understanding of environmental factors driving human health outcomes.
- Experience working collaboratively with organizations at the local, state, and national level.
- Experience working with quantitative and qualitative data.
- Gain an understanding of the literature review and manuscript writing processes.
- Learn how to develop community education and engagement materials.

Skill sets of students preferred:

- Basic knowledge of public health practice.
- Strong communication skills; willing to ask questions and seek guidance when needed
- Strong organization skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with a diverse team and possibly additional APEx students

Additional Information (format of preferred engagement-virtual, hybrid, in-person; partner organization's location):

Remote, Hybrid, or In-Person opportunities available. The WCHP is located at the UNMC main campus in the College of Public Health at 40th and Dewey Ave, Omaha, Nebraska, 68198.