



Master of Public Health Core Competencies

Upon graduation, a student with a Master of Public Health should be able to ...

Core Domains
1. Biostatistics
A. Describe the roles biostatistics serve in public health.
B. Apply descriptive and inferential methodologies according to the type of study design.
C. Interpret results of statistical analyses in public health studies.
2. Environmental Health Sciences
A. Describe how biological, chemical, and physical agents affect human health.
B. Describe federal and state regulatory programs, guidelines, and authorities that control environmental health issues.
C. Specify approaches for assessing, preventing, and controlling environmental hazards that pose risks to human health and safety.
D. Explain the general mechanisms of toxicity in eliciting a toxic response to various environmental exposures.
3. Epidemiology
A. Explain the importance of epidemiology for informing public health issues.
B. Identify key sources of data for epidemiological purposes.
C. Calculate basic epidemiology measures and draw appropriate inferences from epidemiological data.
D. Use epidemiological measures to describe a public health problem in terms of magnitude, person, time, and place.
4. Health Policy and Management
A. Identify the main components and issues of the structure, financing, and delivery of health services within health systems in the U.S.
B. Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.
C. Identify the fundamentals of organizational management.
D. Discuss the theory of organizational structures and behaviors.
5. Social and Behavioral Sciences
A. Identify social and behavioral theories, concepts, and models used in public health research and practice.
B. Identify social and behavioral factors that affect the health of individuals and populations.
C. Describe the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health programs, policies, and interventions.
D. Specify targets and levels of intervention for social and behavioral science programs and policies.

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Cross-Cutting Domains
6. Foundations of Public Health
A. Describe the ecological model of public health.
B. Describe basic biological principles that apply to public health.
C. Communicate accurate public health information with professional and lay audiences.
7. Applied Research Skills
A. Identify and apply fundamental research skills in public health.
B. Identify and critically appraise public health research.
C. Prepare grant proposals.
8. Leadership, Advocacy, and Community-Building
A. Identify linkages with key stakeholders.
B. Identify different levels of community engagement and participation.
C. Engage in collaborative problem-solving and decision-making.
9. Culture and Diversity
A. Discuss determinants of health disparities.
B. Describe methods and regulations associated with public health practice in relation to diverse populations.
10. Ethics Skills
A. Apply ethical principles to the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of public health information.
B. Articulate how ethical principles apply to public health practice.

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