

2.3 Public Health Core Knowledge. All graduate professional degree public health students must complete sufficient coursework to attain depth and breadth in the five core areas of public health knowledge.

Required Documentation

2.3.a Identification of the means by which the school assures that all graduate professional degree students have fundamental competence in the areas of knowledge basic to public health. If this means is common across the school, it need be described only once. If it varies by degree or program area, sufficient information must be provided to assess compliance by each program. See CEPH Data Template 2.3.1.

All MPH students are required to take at least one course that covers fundamental principles and concepts in each of the five core areas of public health. The core courses are listed in Table 2.3.a.1. Syllabi for these courses are in the Resource File.

Table 2.3.a.1 Required Courses Addressing Public Health Core Knowledge Areas for the MPH Degree

Core Knowledge Area	Course Number and Title	Credits
Biostatistics	PHC 6050 Statistical Methods for Health Science I (SPSS), or PHC 6052 Introduction to Biostatistical Methods (SAS)	3
Epidemiology	PHC 6001 Principles of Epidemiology in Public Health	3
Environmental Health Sciences	PHC 6313 Environmental Health Concepts in Public Health	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences	PHC 6406 Psychological, Behavioral, and Social Issues in Public Health	3
Health Services Administration	HSA 6114 Introduction to the U.S. Health Care System	3

The learning objectives of these required courses were developed to contribute to the MPH core competencies (see criterion 2.6). If a student requests transfer of MPH core coursework completed at another institution, core courses taken in CEPH accredited programs and schools of public health are considered comparable to the MPH core courses in the College. Courses covering similar content taken in programs and schools that are not accredited by CEPH are reviewed by the appropriate UF MPH concentration coordinator and the program director to determine comparability of content.

2.3.b Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met and an analysis of the school’s strengths, weaknesses and plans relating to this criterion.

This criterion is met.

Strengths:

1. Students in the MPH program are required to take a foundation course in each of the five core areas of public health.
2. The required courses were designed to provide the content and learning experiences to achieve the MPH core competencies, which are examined in detail under criterion 2.6.

Weaknesses:

1. None identified.

Plans:

1. Continue to require the five MPH core courses for completion of the MPH degree.