

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)

STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

20 COURSES (84 units)

REQUIRED COURSES (15 COURSES/64 UNITS)

- HS 200A Health Systems Organization and Financing, I (6 Units)
- HS 200B Health Systems Organization and Financing, II (6 Units)
- HS 206 Latino Health Policy: Theory, Methods, & Data **or**
HS 289 Healthcare Disparities **or**
M274 Health Status & Health Behaviors of Racial & Ethnic Minority Populations
- HS 207 Current Topics in Health Services: Practitioners' Perspectives
(Students are expected to attend HS 249H & I during fall & winter quarters)
- HS 231 History of Public Health
- HS 237A Special Topics in Health Services Research Methodology, I
- HS 237B Special Topics in Health Services Research Methodology, II
- HS 249D Principles of Organization and Leadership
- HS 249L Ethical Issues in Public Health
- HS M287 Politics of Health Policy
- HS 438 Issues and Problems of Local Health Administration
- HS 442 Managed Care
- Biostatistics 100A
- Biostatistics 100B
- One "life course" (choose from: CHS 238, CHS 285, HS M241, HS M242, or HS M449A)

ELECTIVE COURSES (5 COURSES/20 UNITS)

Students select five more elective courses in consultation with their advisor from:

- Department of Health Services
- Other departments in the School of Public Health
- Other Schools (School of Management, Medicine, Public Policy, etc.)

APPLYING CREDITS

The doctoral curriculum includes a minimum of 20 courses. Students who have taken some of the course requirements are expected to substitute the units with other courses and maintain the 20-course load and 80-unit requirement. There are two exceptions to this:

- (1) Students who have taken required courses or their equivalents **as a Masters/Doctoral student** at another university can petition to the Director of the DrPH program to have such courses waived, reducing the minimum course requirement to 16.
- (2) Students who have received an MPH from UCLA Department of Health Services may waive HS 200A-B, HS 249L and Biostatistics 100A requirements, reducing the minimum course requirements to 16.

Under no circumstances, except that noted above, will courses taken as a Masters student be used towards such a waiver.

WRITTEN QUALIFYING EXAM

Students should complete a *Petition for Establishment of Member Guidance Committee & Study in Major and Area of Specialization for the DrPH in Health Services* prior to taking the written qualifying exam. Students will be required to pass a written comprehensive qualifying examination after completion of most of their course work at the beginning of the third doctoral year. After successfully completing the written qualifying exam, students must fill out a *Report on Written Qualifying Examination in the Major and Area of Specialization for the DrPH Degree in Health Services* form.

DOCTORAL COMMITTEE

A doctoral committee is nominated after the student has made a tentative decision on a dissertation topic. The doctoral committee consists of at least four faculty members who hold professional appointments: two of the faculty must be tenured, two of the four must hold appointments in the School of Public Health, and one must be an outside member who holds no appointment in the School of Public Health. The doctoral committee administers the University Oral Qualifying Examination (the dissertation proposal hearing) normally during the first six months of the practicum. A final oral examination (the dissertation defense) is required of all candidates.

PRACTICUM

Required course work must be completed prior to the commencement of the practicum. The practicum accommodates the completion of a problem-solving study for the specific organization. A preceptor should be identified within the organization who may assist the student in structuring the practicum and delineating expectations and opportunities. Usually, but not necessarily, this practicum is accomplished within the context of the student's primary employment. However, advisors and DrPH Committee members will assist in placement when student is not employed or the place of employment is not suitable for the student's course of study.

DISSERTATION

During the first quarter of the DrPH student's residency, s/he will prepare a dissertation proposal. The proposal will address a problem of interest or concern (practical relevance) to the preceptor organization. It may deal with needs assessment, program design, program implementation, program evaluation, or some combination of the above. The emphasis in this problem-solving dissertation is not necessarily to test a hypothesis derived from a disciplinary or theoretical perspective. Rather, it is to address a problem defined within the context of the preceptor organization and the environment in which it interacts. The resident is expected to employ competencies gained from prior education/experience and DrPH course work in addressing this problem. It is expected that the proposal will be written, reviewed by the doctoral committee and the practicum preceptor organization, and approved during the first six months of the residency. It is expected that the project prepared will be feasible and realistic within the context and resources of the organization, and normally can be completed within one year of the beginning of the practicum.

COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE DEGREE MUST BE TAKEN ON A LETTER-GRADED BASIS.