

Georgia State University School of Public Health

Bachelor of Science in Public Health Student Handbook 2019-2020

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About the BSPH Student Handbook

The School of Public Health (SPH) faculty is committed to providing a supportive academic environment that promotes the growth and progress of students engaged in undergraduate studies. This handbook contains information that will be helpful to a student while enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in public health (BSPH) degree program at Georgia State University (GSU).

The BSPH Student Handbook provides the most recent SPH policies and procedures related to the undergraduate degree in public health. It covers topics such as degree and program requirements, registration procedures, standards of academic performance and conduct, grievance procedures, guidelines for signature experience, and university policies and regulations. The BSPH Student Handbook covers expectations for students related to the SPH academic and conduct policies, and updated versions of the BSPH Student Handbook will be available on the website and in the Office of Academic Assistance and Career Services (OAA). The handbook is revised each summer, with the new edition published in August each year, before the start of the fall semester.

Georgia State University Undergraduate Catalog

In addition to the undergraduate student policies contained in this handbook, students, faculty and administrators are subject to applicable university-wide policies. This handbook does not replace published university requirements and should be used in conjunction with the GSU Undergraduate Catalog: <http://enrollment.gsu.edu/catalogs/> to answer policy and procedural questions regarding your program of study. The faculty and administration encourages you to review the Georgia State University Undergraduate Catalog for the year in which you were admitted.

The School of Public Health reserves the right to change information contained within this handbook without prior notice.

Georgia State University, a unit of the University System of Georgia, is an equal opportunity institution and is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

**Georgia State University School of Public Health
BSPH Student Handbook**

Table of Contents

About the BSPH Student Handbook.....	3
Table of Contents.....	4
Administration & Staff.....	6
Academic Departments and Concentrations.....	7
Department of Health Policy & Behavioral Sciences Faculty.....	8
Department of Population Health Sciences Faculty.....	10
About the School of Public Health.....	11
School of Public Health Milestones and Quick Facts.....	13
BSPH Core Degree Requirements (Areas A-E).....	14
AREA A – WRITTEN COMMUNICATION AND MATHEMATICS (9 CREDIT HOURS).....	14
AREA B – INSTITUTIONAL FOUNDATIONS (4 CREDIT HOURS).....	14
AREA C – HUMANITIES, FINE ARTS, AND WORLD LANGUAGES (6 CREDIT HOURS).....	14
AREA D – NATURAL AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE (11 CREDIT HOURS).....	15
AREA E – SOCIAL SCIENCES (12 CREDIT HOURS).....	15
BSPH Major Degree Requirements (Areas F-J).....	16
AREA F – COURSES APPROPRIATE TO THE MAJOR (18 CREDIT HOURS).....	16
AREA G – MAJOR CURRICULUM (33 CREDIT HOURS).....	18
AREA H – PUBLIC HEALTH SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES (6 CREDIT HOURS).....	19
AREA I – APPROVED PUBLIC HEALTH RELATED ELECTIVES (15 CREDIT HOURS).....	19
AREA J – ADVANCED ELECTIVES (6 CREDIT HOURS).....	20
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Public Health Bachelor’s Degree Foundational Domains, Competencies, Cross-Cutting Concepts and Experiences.....	21
Portfolio.....	24
BSPH Policies & Procedures.....	25
ADMISSION INTO THE FULL PUBLIC HEALTH MAJOR.....	25
ONLINE ACADEMIC EVALUATION & DEGREE WORKS.....	25
ACCURACY OF COURSE SCHEDULES EACH SEMESTER.....	26
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS.....	26
FINAL COURSE GRADES.....	26
TRANSFER CREDITS.....	26
ENROLLMENT IN APPROVED COURSES.....	27
GRADE POINT AVERAGE REQUIREMENTS.....	27
SCHOLASTIC DISCIPLINE POLICY.....	27
COURSE EVALUATIONS.....	27

APPLICATION FOR GRADUATION.....	27
WAIVER REQUESTS	27
STUDENT APPEALS	27
STUDENT COMPLAINTS, CONCERNS, OR GRIEVANCES.....	28
Advising in the School of Public Health.....	29
THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE & CAREER SERVICES	29
UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR.....	30
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES (ISSS)	30
Student Services & Student Life in the School of Public Health.....	31
CAREER SERVICES	31
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS	31
STUDENT HEALTH AND CAMPUS LIFE	31
STUDY ABROAD.....	31
Appendix A – Policy on Academic Honesty	32
Appendix B – Procedures for Student Complaints, Petitions for Policy Waivers & Variances, and Appeals.....	33
Appendix C – BSPH Signature Experience	34
Appendix D – BSPH/MPH 4+1 Dual Degree.....	36
BSPH PROGRAM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR DUAL DEGREE BSPH/MPH STUDENTS.....	36
MPH PROGRAM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR DUAL DEGREE BSPH/MPH STUDENTS	37
SUGGESTED MILESTONES FOR BSPH STUDENTS:.....	37
PROVISIONS IN CASE A STUDENT IS NOT ABLE TO MEET 4+1 PROGRAM MILESTONES.	37
PROCESS FOR ADMITTING STUDENTS TO THE DUAL BSPH/MPH PROGRAM.	38
PROCESS FOR FORMALLY ADMITTING STUDENTS INTO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM.	39
ADVISEMENT PROCESS AND RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS IN THE DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM.	39
GRADUATE COURSE PLAN APPROVAL FORM.....	44

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Academic Departments and Concentrations

Currently the School of Public Health (SPH) is comprised of two academic departments: Population Health Sciences and Health Policy and Behavioral Sciences. In the MPH program, students are able to declare a concentration in one of the following public health areas: Biostatistics, Environmental Epidemiology, Environmental Health, Epidemiology, Health Management and Policy, or Health Promotion and Behavior. In the PhD program, students are able to declare a concentration in one of the following public health areas: Environmental Health, Epidemiology, Health Promotion and Behavior, or Health Services and Policy Research. Both the BSPH and DrPH and generalist degrees, and the undergraduate and DrPH program benefit from having courses taught by faculty from a both academic departments and all concentrations. In addition to the services provided by university-level and school-level advising, academic departments provide academic mentoring, course offerings, and research opportunities for all students in SPH.

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About the School of Public Health

Mission

We provide the high quality and relevant teaching, research and service needed to evolve public health practice in a changing world. By investigating the contemporary problems that challenge diverse urban communities, we are preparing the next generation of public health professionals to make a difference through leadership, scholarship and practice in Georgia communities and around the globe.

Vision

Our vision is to be a leading public health research institution dedicated to understanding and solving contemporary health problems. We are the destination of choice for students seeking an affordable and meaningful public health education.

Values

Along with the Mission, Vision, and Goals, six Values were determined in a college-wide strategic plan created in 2015. All values were developed with input from the administration, faculty, staff, students, and community stakeholders, and were reaffirmed by the School as an independent unit in the University. The values are succinct and specific in nature and are reflected in faculty, staff and students' instruction, service and learning activities. The values are:

- Integrity, accountability and transparency in our operations, scholarship and inquiry
- Respect for all aspects of diversity
- Health as a human right
- Prioritizing health in all policy decisions
- Sustainable healthy environments
- Student success

Goals

The School of Public Health is guided by the following goals:

Research

1. Exceed \$20 million annually in sponsor-funded research.
2. Establish a new center to promote interdisciplinary research and training around non-communicable diseases (NCD) and other contemporary global health problems.
3. Receive university-wide recognition for our ability to contribute to excellence in interdisciplinary research methodologies.
4. All junior tenure track faculty to obtain sponsored funding within their first three academic years of service—lead the university in career development awards.
5. Double the number of our peer-reviewed publications.

Education

1. Attract and retain a diverse student body, staff and faculty.
2. Successfully graduate 70% of our bachelor's students within six years, 80% of our MPH students within four years and 60% of our doctoral students within seven years.
3. Double the number of our online and hybrid course offerings.
4. Increase external support for graduate students by emphasizing training grants, student fellowships and graduate student support through our faculty's grant-seeking activities.
5. Develop and offer a professional doctoral program (DrPH) and targeted executive education offerings for public health workers hoping to increase their knowledge and skills.

Service

1. Promote and expand the involvement of faculty and staff in university, community-based and professional education projects so that service activities will be greater than three times the number of faculty.
2. Better recognize those who contribute to public health practice and education communities through service.
3. Offer at least two continuing education activities for the workforce each year, aligned with needs identified in our communities' workforce.

Accreditation

In June 2016, The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) Board of Councilors accredited the School of Public Health at Georgia State University. The school received a 'met' finding, the highest possible, on all criteria evaluated and the school's initial school-level accreditation is for a five-year term, extending through July 1, 2021. The Georgia State 2015 self-study document and the CEPH 2016 site visit team's report can be found here: <https://publichealth.gsu.edu/about/accreditation/>. The School is already in the process of preparing for its next reaccreditation review cycle in 2021.

School of Public Health Milestones and Quick Facts

Established at Georgia State University	2002 (<i>initially as a certificate program</i>)
First MPH Students Enrolled	Fall 2004
Initial program-level CEPH accreditation	June 2007
First Ph.D. Students Enrolled	Fall 2011
CEPH program-level reaccreditation	October 2012
J.D.-MPH Dual Degree Launched	Fall 2013
Initial school-level CEPH accreditation	June 2016
First BSPH Students Enrolled	Fall 2016
Ph.D. Community Psychology-MPH Dual Degree Launched	Fall 2017
First DrPH Students Admitted	Fall 2018
Accreditation	The SPH is Accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)
Affiliation	Association of Schools & Programs in Public Health (ASPPH)
Degrees & Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Public Health with four concentration options: Environmental Health, Epidemiology, Health Promotion and Behavior, and Health Services and Policy Research ▪ Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) ▪ Master of Public Health (MPH) with six concentration options in Biostatistics, Environmental Health, Environmental Epidemiology, Epidemiology, Health Management and Policy, and Health Promotion and Behavior ▪ MPH-JD Dual Degree with the GSU College of Law ▪ MPH-Ph.D. Dual Degree with Community Psychology ▪ Graduate Certificate in Public Health ▪ Bachelor of Science in Public Health

BSPH Core Degree Requirements (Areas A-E)

BSPH Degree Requirements: minimum 120 credit hours

The BSPH program requires a minimum of 120 credit hours.

Core Curriculum Areas A-E: 42 Credit Hours: Georgia State University (GSU) requires all students seeking a bachelor's degree to satisfactorily complete a basic core of general education subjects. Georgia State's core curriculum provides students with a broad background in general education and reflects the special mission of this university as an urban research institution with an international, multi-ethnic, and multi-cultural focus. Because of ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of the core curriculum, changes may occur periodically in its configuration. Every attempt will be made to notify students when such changes occur. The core curriculum is maintained by central GSU (not the School of Public Health). Therefore, students are strongly encouraged to consult their assigned Undergraduate Catalog for the core curriculum requirements (<http://enrollment.gsu.edu/catalogs/> or <http://enrollment.gsu.edu/catalogs/archived-catalogs/>). Degree requirements listed in the undergraduate catalog supersede requirements listed in this handbook.

Area A – Written Communication and Mathematics (9 credit hours)

Requirements for Transitioning from the Pre-public Health Major Status and Admitting into the Full Public Health Major: Successful completion of each Area A course with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher.

A1: Written Communication

- ENGL 1101 English Comp I (3) and
- ENGL 1102 English Comp II (3)

A2: Mathematics

- MATH 1111 College Algebra or higher is strongly recommended (3)

Area B – Institutional Foundations (4 credit hours)

Select two courses from the following:

- PHIL 1010 Critical Thinking (2)
- SCOM 1000 Human Communication (2)
- PERS 2001 Perspectives on Comparative Cultural (2)
- PERS 2002 Scientific Perspectives on Global Problems (2)
- PERS 2003 Perspectives on Human Expression (2)

Area C – Humanities, Fine Arts, and World Languages (6 credit hours)

Select two courses from groups 1, 2 and 3 below. The two courses may not come from the same group.

1. Humanities. Select one course from the GSU list in the Undergraduate Catalog. (3)
2. Fine Arts. Select one course from the GSU list in the Undergraduate Catalog. (3)
3. World Language (recommended). Select one course from the GSU list in the Undergraduate Catalog. (3)

Area D – Natural and Computational Science (11 credit hours)

To be eligible for the public health major, students must successfully complete the first course of their two-course science sequence in Area D1.

D1. Select one two-course sequence. (8 credit hours)

- BIOL 1103K Introductory Biology I (4) and BIOL 1104K Introductory Biology II (4)
- BIOL 2107K Principles of Biology I (4) and BIOL 2108K Principles of Biology II (4)
- CHEM 1151K Survey of Chemistry I (4) and CHEM 1152K Survey of Chemistry II (4)

D2. MATH 1401: Elementary Statistics (3) (formerly MATH 1070)

Area E – Social Sciences (12 credit hours)

Students who satisfy the requirements of Section 1, United States Politics and History, by examination and choose not to take HIST 2110 and POLS 1101 must select two additional courses from Section 3, Social Science Foundations. No student may take more than six hours in Area E from any one department.

1. United States Politics and History—Legislative Requirement satisfied by:

- HIST 2110 Survey of United States History (3)
- POLS 1101 American Government (3)

2. Global Economics, Global Politics, and World History Requirement: Select one course from GSU list in the Undergraduate Catalog. (3)

3. Social Science Foundations: Select one course from GSU list in the Undergraduate Catalog. (3)

BSPH Major Degree Requirements (Areas F-J)

Courses Required for All BSPH Students

Students are strongly encouraged to consult their assigned Undergraduate Catalog for the BSPH curriculum requirements (<http://enrollment.gsu.edu/catalogs/> or <http://enrollment.gsu.edu/catalogs/archived-catalogs/>). Degree requirements listed in the undergraduate catalog supersede requirements listed in this handbook.

Area F – Courses Appropriate to the Major (18 credit hours)

To be eligible for the public health major, students must achieve an overall Area F GPA of 2.8 or higher. Students must also complete each of the following Area F courses with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher in their first attempt. Transfer students who transfer these Area F courses into Georgia State University (GSU) may use their grades from their first attempted transfer courses or they may attempt the courses at GSU. A WF counts as an attempt.

- PH 2000 Introduction to Public Health (3)
- PH 2001 Fundamentals of Epidemiology (3)
- PH 2020 Determinants of Health (3)
- SCOM 1500 Public Speaking (3)

Students must also complete an Additional Mathematics course (0-3) from list below with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher. If Area A2 is satisfied with MATH 1111 College Algebra or higher, students may complete an additional Mathematics, Science or Social Sciences Course from the Area F list below with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher, instead. If Area A2 is not satisfied with MATH 1111 or higher, students must select one Mathematics course from the following list:

- Additional Mathematics course (0-3) from list below.
 - MATH 1111 College Algebra (3)
 - MATH 1112 College Trigonometry (3)
 - MATH 1113 Pre-calculus (3)
 - MATH 1220 Survey of Calculus (3)
 - MATH 2201 Calculus for the Life Sciences I (4)
 - MATH 2202 Calculus for the Life Sciences II (4)
 - MATH 2211 Calculus of One Variable I (4)
 - MATH 2212 Calculus of One Variable II (4)
 - MATH 2215 Multivariate Calculus (4)

- MATH 2420 Discrete Mathematics (3)
- Additional Science or Social Sciences Course(s) from list below (not taken for Area D or Area E) (3-6). *Select course(s) from the following list:*
 - AAS 1141/HIST 1141 Introduction to African and African-American History to 1865 (3)
 - AAS 1142/HIST 1142 Introduction to African and African-American History Since 1865 (3)
 - AAS 2010 Introduction to African-American Studies (3)
 - ANTH 1102 Introduction to Anthropology (3)
 - BIOL 1103K Introductory Biology I (4)
 - BIOL 1104K Introductory Biology II (4)
 - BIOL 2110K Human Anatomy and Physiology I (4)
 - BIOL 2120K Human Anatomy and Physiology II (4)
 - BIOL 2107K Principles of Biology I (4)
 - *Cannot be counted here if BIOL 1103K already taken for another area*
 - BIOL 2108K Principles of Biology II (4)
 - CHEM 1101K Introductory Chemistry I (4)
 - *Cannot be counted here if CHEM 1151K or 1211K already taken for another area*
 - CHEM 1102K Introductory Chemistry II (4)
 - CHEM 1151K Survey of Chemistry I (4)
 - *Cannot be counted here if CHEM 1101K or 1211K already taken for another area*
 - CHEM 1152K Survey of Chemistry II (4)
 - CHEM 1211K Principles of Chemistry I (4)
 - *Cannot be counted here if CHEM 1101K or 1151K already taken for another area*
 - CHEM 1212K Principles of Chemistry II (4)
 - CRJU 2200 Social Science and the American Crime Problem (3)
 - ECON 2105 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)
 - ECON 2106 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
 - GEOG 1101 Introduction to Human Geography (3)

- GEOG 1112K Introduction to Weather and Climate (4)
- GEOG 1113K Introduction to Landforms (4)
- GERO 2000 Introduction to Gerontology (3)
- PSYC 1101 Introduction to General Psychology (3)
- SOCI 1101 Introductory Sociology (3)
- SOCI 1160 Introduction to Social Problems (3)
- WGSS 2010 Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (3)

Once all prerequisites are completed — including Area F — students must have an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher before transitioning from the pre-public health major status and admitting into the full public health major.

Area G – Major Curriculum (33 credit hours)

Up to three courses within Area G may be completed by pre-public health major students with approval from the advisor; eligible courses are denoted with an asterisk () below.*

An overall GPA of 2.5 or higher AND completion of Area A, the first course of the science sequence in D1, and Area F with the grades and GPA noted in those areas is required to be eligible for the public health major and to complete the remaining courses within Area G.

A grade of "C" (2.0) or higher is required for each course in Area G.

- PH 3010 Introduction to Research Methods in Public Health (CTW) (3)
- PH 3020 Statistical Reasoning in Public Health (3)
- PH 3030 Fundamentals of Environmental Health* (3)
- PH 3040 Public Health Careers and Professions * (3)
- PH 4010 Fundamentals of Health Policy* (3)
- PH 4020 Introduction to Public Health Program Implementation and Evaluation (3)
- PH 4030 Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Public Health* (3)
- PH 4040 Public Health Communication (3)
- PH 4050 Health Equity and Disparities: Urban and Global Health Challenges (3)
- PH 4060 Introduction to Public Health Informatics (3)
- PH 4070 Introduction to Chronic and Infectious Diseases (3)

Area H – Public Health Signature Experiences (6 credit hours)

Completion of PH 2000, PH 2001, PH 2020, PH 3010, PH 3020, PH 3030, PH 3040, PH 4010, PH 4020, and PH 4030 with a grade of “C” (2.0) or higher in each course is prerequisite to this Area H.

A grade of “C” (2.0) or higher is required for each course in Area H.

- PH 4991 or PPH 4991 Signature Experience: Prospectus(3)
- PH 4992 or PPH 4992 Signature Experience: Capstone (3)

Area I – Approved Public Health Related Electives (15 credit hours)

Select courses from the following pre-approved list:

- PH 3004 Chronic Disease Epidemiology (3)
- PH 3035 Introduction to Maternal and Child Health (3)
- PH 3120 Historical Aspects of Public Health and Medicine (3)
- PH 3800 Special Topics
- PH 4130 Introduction to Public Mental Health (3)
- PH 4135 Introduction to Disability and Public Health (3)
- PH 4230 Global Perspectives on Injury and Violence Prevention (3)
- PH 4250 Introduction to Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (3)
- PH 4300 Introduction to Controversies in Public Health (3)
- PH 4350 Introduction to Workplace Safety and Health (3)
- PH 4400 Introduction to Health Management and Administration (3)
- PH 4880 or PPH 4880 Public Health Study Abroad (3)
- BIOL 3021 Infectious Disease and Society (3)
- CPS 3200 Diversity and Human Relations (3)
- ECON 4210 Health Economics (3)
- ECON 4350 Economics of Poverty & Public Policy (3)
- GEOG 4538 Urban Health Geographic Information Systems (4)
- GERO 4110 Aging Policy and Services (3)
- GERO 4119 Global Aging and Families (3)
- GERO 4122 Death, Dying, and Loss (3)
- GERO 4200 Health and the Older Adult (3)

- JOUR 4460 Health Communication (3)
- NUTR 3100 Nutrition and Health (3)
- NUTR 3800 International Nutrition (3)
- NUTR 4000 Food and Culture (3)
- NUTR 4955 Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Wellness (3)
- NUTR 4960 Nutrition and Physical Fitness (3)
- PMAP 3210 Introduction to Nonprofits (3)
- PSYC 3450 Health Psychology (3)
- PSYC 3570 Multicultural Issues in Psychology (3)
- SOCI 4050 Global Perspectives on Violence Against Women (3)
- SW 4440 Global Social Work Practice (3)
- SW 4450 Child Maltreatment Practice Policy and Research (3)
- other appropriate course(s) approved by SPH-based undergraduate advisor (1-15)

Area J – Advanced Electives (6 credit hours)

Any 1000/2000/3000/4000 level courses

Public Health Bachelor’s Degree Foundational Domains, Competencies, Cross-Cutting Concepts and Experiences

Foundational Domains, Competencies, Cross-Cutting Concepts and Experiences for all BSPH Graduates

General Curriculum Domains	Courses and other learning experiences through which students are introduced to the domains specified
A. Introduction to the foundations of scientific knowledge, including the biological and life sciences and the concepts of health and disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSU General Education: Area D1 – Natural and Computation Science course choices • Area F additional science course choices
B. Introduction to the foundations of social and behavioral sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSU General Education: Area E – Social Sciences course choices • Area F additional social science course choices
C. Introduction to basic statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSU General Education: Area D2 – Natural and Computation Science course: MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics (3)
D. Introduction to the humanities/fine arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSU General Education: Area C – Humanities, Fine Arts, and World Languages course choices
Public Health Domains	Courses and other learning experiences through which students are introduced to, reinforced, or master the domains specified <i>Key: M=mastery; I/R=introduction or reinforcement</i>
E. The history and philosophy of public health as well as its core values, concepts and functions across the globe and in society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M: PH 2000 Introduction to Public Health • I/R: PH 3040 Public Health Careers and Profession
F. The basic concepts, methods and tools of public health data collection, use and analysis and why evidence-based approaches are an essential part of public health practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M: PH 3010 Introduction to Research Methods in Public Health • I/R: PH 3020 Statistical Reasoning in Public Health
G. The concepts of population health, and the basic processes, approaches and interventions that identify and address the major health-related needs and concerns of populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M: PH 2001 Fundamentals of Epidemiology • I/R: PH 4070 Introduction to Chronic and Infectious Diseases
H. The underlying science of human health and disease, including opportunities for promoting and protecting health across the life course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M: PH 2020 Determinants of Health • I/R <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PH 2001 Fundamentals of Epidemiology ○ PH 4030 Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Public Health

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PH 4070 Introduction to Chronic and Infectious Diseases
I. The socioeconomic, behavioral, biological, environmental and other factors that impact human health and contribute to health disparities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 2020 Determinants of Health ● I/R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PH 3030 Fundamentals of Environmental Health ○ PH 4030 Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Public Health ○ PH 4050 Health Equity and Disparities: Urban and Global Health Challenges
J. The fundamental concepts and features of project implementation, including planning, assessment and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 4020 Introduction to Public Health Program Implementation and Evaluation ● I/R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PH 2001 Fundamentals of Epidemiology ○ PH 3020 Statistical Reasoning in Public Health
K. The fundamental characteristics and organizational structures of the US health system as well as the differences between systems in other countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 4010 Fundamentals of Health Policy ● I/R: PH 4030 Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Public Health
L. The basic concepts of legal, ethical, economic and regulatory dimensions of health care and public health policy and the roles, influences and responsibilities of the different agencies and branches of government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 4010 Fundamentals of Health Policy ● I/R: PH 4030 Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Public Health
M. The basic concepts of public health-specific communication, including technical and professional writing and the use of mass media and electronic technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 4060 Introduction to Public Health Informatics ● I/R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PH 3010 Introduction to Research Methods in Public Health ○ PH 3020 Statistical Reasoning in Public Health
Skills	<p>Courses and other learning experiences through which students demonstrate the following skills</p> <p><i>Key: M=mastery; I/R=introduction or reinforcement</i></p>
N. The ability to communicate public health information, in both oral and written forms, through a variety of media and to diverse audiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 3010 Introduction to Research Methods in Public Health ● I/R: PH 4040 Public Health Communication
O. The ability to locate, use, evaluate and synthesize public health information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 3020 Statistical Reasoning in Public Health ● I/R: PH 4040 Public Health Communication
Concepts	<p>Manner in which the curriculum and co-curricular experiences expose students to the concepts</p> <p><i>Key: M=mastery; I/R=introduction or reinforcement</i></p>
P. Cross-cutting concepts and experiences including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● advocacy for protection and promotion of the public's health at all levels of society ● community dynamics ● critical thinking and creativity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M: PH 3040 Public Health Careers and Profession ● I/R: PH 4991 Signature Experience: Prospectus ● I/R: Student organizations for undergraduate students such as the Undergraduate Public Health Club ● I/R: Undergraduate research fairs

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cultural contexts in which public health professionals work• ethical decision making as related to self and society• independent work and a personal work ethic• networking• organizational dynamics• professionalism• research methods• systems thinking• teamwork and leadership | |
|--|--|

Portfolium

All BSPH majors will be required to complete a public health Signature Experience course prior to graduation (see Appendix C). As part of this Signature Experience course, public health majors will be expected to integrate, synthesize and apply knowledge of the above-listed Domains, Competencies, Cross-Cutting Concepts and Experiences in a Signature Experience course assignment. Therefore, the School of Public Health recommends that public health majors retain all course assignments in their personal files so that they may reference them during their Signature Experience course. GSU's Portfolium provides a secure platform for students to safely retain these assignments, while also showcasing their acquired knowledge and skills to future employers.

<https://success.students.gsu.edu/portfolium/>

BSPH Policies & Procedures

Admission into the Full Public Health Major

Brief Summary of Requirements for Transitioning from the Pre-Public Health Major Status and Admitting into the Full Public Health Major:

- *Admission into Georgia State University's bachelor degree.*
- *Successful completion of each Area A course with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher.*
- *Successful completion of the first course of the two-course science sequence in Area D1.*
- *Successful completion of each Area F course with an overall Area F GPA of 2.8 or higher, including:*
 - *Successful completion of the following Area F courses with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher on the first attempt: PH 2000 Introduction to Public Health; PH 2001 Fundamentals of Epidemiology; PH 2020 Determinants of Health; and SCOM 1500 Public Speaking.*
 - *Successful completion of the additional mathematics, science and/or social sciences courses satisfying Area F with a grade of "C" (2.0) or higher.*
- *An overall GPA of 2.5 or higher.*
- *A student must have a minimum GSU grade point average of 2.0 in order to receive a bachelor's degree from the School of Public Health.*

Online Academic Evaluation & Degree Works

Degree Works (DW) is a web-based tool that provides real-time advice on degree progression (see <http://advisement.gsu.edu/self-service/academic-evaluations/>). This system is designed to aid and facilitate academic advising, but it is not intended to replace face-to-face advising. Students can access DW through PAWS.

Here are some of the tasks you can accomplish with Degree Works:

- Learn the degree requirements for your program
- Identify courses needed to complete your degree
- See how the courses you have completed fulfill requirements for your major
- See what courses you have taken that do not count towards your major
- View the grades, transfer credits, or exceptions applied to your requirements
- Confirm your grade-point average (GPA)
- Find out, before you officially change your major, how the courses completed meet the new major requirements
- Select the right courses for next term

It is imperative that you monitor your Degree Works audit and speak to your advisor in the Office of Academic Assistance about any discrepancies, since this audit will be the tool to determine your graduation eligibility by the university's Registrar. Students with 0-89 credit hours will be advised by the University Advisement Center. Students with credit hours of 90 or more will be advised by the

SPH Office of Academic Assistance.

Accuracy of Course Schedules Each Semester

Students are responsible for verifying the accuracy of their course schedule in PAWS and Degree Works each semester, and completing payment for their courses by the noted deadline. If a student is dropped from a class—for late payment or another reason—the student must confirm they have been officially re-registered and the class has been re-added to their course schedule in PAWS and Degree Works before the instructor does roll verification. Being re-added to an online course meeting or hosting space—such as iCollege—does *not* indicate the student has been officially re-registered in PAWS and Degree Works; instead, a student should verify their course schedule directly in PAWS and Degree Works. If a person not officially registered for a course in PAWS and Degree Works completes the course requirements, that student will not earn credit for that course.

Course Descriptions

Course descriptions for every GSU course, including BSPH courses, may be found in the *GSU Undergraduate Catalog*¹ and the *GSU Schedule of Classes*², and the GSU Course Description search website.³

Final Course Grades

Most public health faculty follow the grading scale below.

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	below 60

Any deviations, including the use of +/- grading, will be at the discretion of the individual faculty member and specifically stated in the course syllabus. Please note that a minus (-) grade is less than its standalone letter grade; in other words, if an area requires a *B (2.0) grade or better*, a B- grade would NOT satisfy that *B (2.0) grade or better* requirement.

Transfer Credits

The university's most recent policy on Transfer Credits may be found in the undergraduate catalog, and the school of public health follows its guidelines. In addition, Colleges and Departments have their own transfer credit policies and this may *also* limit the amount of transfer credit applicable to a degree program. To maintain the integrity of the BSPH degree program, SPH has the additional policy that no more than a total of 15 credit hours will be allowed to transfer into Areas F, G, and I, with the further stipulation that no more than 9 of those credit hours can be counted in Area G. All credits transferring

¹ GSU Graduate Catalog: <http://www.gsu.edu/enrollment/catalogs.html>

² GSU Schedule of Classes: https://www.gosolar.gsu.edu/bprod/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched

³ GSU Course Description search website: https://www.gosolar.gsu.edu/bprod/bwckctlg.P_DisplaySubjects

in as public health courses must be from CEPH-accredited schools or CEPH-accredited standalone bachelor's programs.

Enrollment in Approved Courses

Students must enroll for courses that are part of the approved curriculum for the program to which they have been accepted. Students who do otherwise are subject to loss of credit and/or loss of eligibility to continue to register.

Grade Point Average Requirements

For Bachelor's level students, an overall institutional grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better must be earned to receive the BSPH degree. Other GPA requirements are listed throughout the BSPH major in the Undergraduate Catalog.

Scholastic Discipline Policy

Each student admitted into the BSPH major in the School of Public Health must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0. A student whose cumulative institutional grade point average falls below 2.0 at the end of a semester will be placed on Academic Warning. The student will be notified of this standing by either the University Advisement Center (Students with less than 90 credit hours) or the School of Public Health (students with 90 or more credit hours).

There are **four levels** of scholastic discipline for students and these are described in Section 1360.10 Scholastic Discipline of the undergraduate catalog.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to participate in the university-mandated course evaluation for each course in their program of study. Additionally, graduates will be asked to evaluate the total program at time of degree completion and one to three years following graduation.

Application for Graduation

All candidates for the BSPH degrees must file a formal application for graduation with the University's Graduation Office at least two semesters in advance of the expected semester of graduation. More information may be found in Section 1490.10 Application for Graduation of the undergraduate catalog.

Waiver Requests

Students are required to fill out a Student Petition form when requesting a waiver of an established policy and procedure. The form is electronic and is available on the SPH website:

<http://publichealth.gsu.edu/students/program/>. See Appendix B for a copy of this petition.

Student Appeals

The appeals procedure for undergraduate students in the School of Public Health will follow different paths, depending on the nature of the student's appeal. The various types of situations and the appropriate appeals avenues are as follows:

Petitions for Policy Waivers and Variances, and Appeals Procedure

The petitions for policy waivers and variances, and appeals procedure for students will follow different paths depending on the nature of the student's appeal. Please refer to Student Code of Conduct online: <http://enrollment.gsu.edu/assistance/> for details.

Student Complaints, Concerns, or Grievances

Similarly, the student complaints, concerns, or grievance procedure for students will follow different paths depending on the nature of the student's appeal. Please refer to <http://enrollment.gsu.edu/assistance/> and <https://deanofstudents.gsu.edu/student-assistance/student-complaints-petitions/>

Terminated, dismissed or excluded undergraduate students with questions about their status should first discuss their situation with the Undergraduate Advisor in the SPH Office of Academic Assistance. Following this discussion, students who believe they have extenuating circumstances may submit a written appeal of their termination or exclusion to the Director of OAA. The director will review the information submitted in support of the appeal and the student's total record. The director will then make a recommendation to the undergraduate program director, who will make the decision regarding acceptance or denial of the appeal. The student will receive a written response from the school normally within 10 workdays of the date the appeal is received. (Workdays are counted as Monday through Friday except university staff holidays.)

Requests for such consideration must be submitted, in writing, to the director of OAA within 10 workdays (defined as Monday through Friday except university holidays). Students should write their appeals completely, but concisely, and include all facts germane to their case. Documentation should be provided, where possible, to substantiate statements made. Specific dates of the beginning and ending of particular problems should be included. Only circumstances described in the written and signed appeal as initially submitted will be accepted from the student; oral appeals are not permitted, nor are requests to submit additional information after the appeal has been reviewed. Appeals must be dated, signed, and include the student's home address and telephone numbers (work and home).

Having been enrolled in too many courses relative to job requirements or other responsibilities or having continued to enroll while experiencing personal, work, or health-related problems very rarely constitutes such extenuating circumstances.

Advising in the School of Public Health

The School of Public Health (SPH) takes seriously its charge to provide a quality public health undergraduate education that improves the knowledge, skills and abilities of public health professionals and researchers. Learning outcomes for individual students are monitored and assessed by authorized University and SPH faculty and staff.

The Office of Academic Assistance & Career Services

The Office of Academic Assistance provides SPH students with advisement and information on general academic and university policies and procedures, but it is not intended to handle substantive questions on public health course selection. This level of advisement is conducted in the University Advisement Center for students with less than 90 credit hours. Students with 90 or more credit hours will be advised in SPH-OAA by the undergraduate advisor. The staff also works closely with the department chairs, program directors, and the Dean's office and in resolving academic issues.

The OAA Director is responsible for notifying any student who falls below the required institutional GPA and is placed on academic warning. An Undergraduate Advisor will meet with the student to address any current academic issues and to develop a plan for raising the GPA during the two semester time limit.

Throughout the year, the Office of Academic Assistance audits student records to determine if any students are inactive or are due to move to inactive status. A student's record automatically becomes inactive if he or she has not registered for any classes for three consecutive semesters.

The OAA has the following key functions related to monitoring student progress:

Monitoring Grade Point Average

The OAA reviews all SPH students each semester to determine if any have fallen below any grade point averages mentioned above. While students are ultimately responsible for monitoring their own progress, the Office of Academic Assistance usually notifies students by mail, email, or registration hold of their current standing and the timeframe given to resolve the issue.

Performing Graduation Audits

At the start of the semester in which students are scheduled to graduate, OAA staff working with the GSU Graduation Office and undergraduate advisors, review the tentative graduation list and work to resolve issues related to missing requirements. A number of different audits are performed on an ongoing basis by the university and OAA up until the week degrees are conferred. Graduating students should regularly monitor their email to help resolve issues that arise.

Undergraduate Advisor

All BSPH students with 0-89 credit hours receive academic advising from the University Advisement Center located at 25 Park Place in suites 400 and 500. BSPH students with 90 or more credit hours will be advised by an undergraduate advisor in the office of academic assistance in the School of Public Health. The role of an Undergraduate Advisor is to monitor degree progression, answer questions about registration or degree requirements, and to direct students to other university resources related to degree completion and career services.

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

GSU's ISSS office provides support for Georgia State University's non-immigrant international student, faculty, and researcher population, their dependents, and any foreign-born citizens and permanent residents of the United States who may need services. The office staff serves as a liaison with all academic departments and informs academic departments if students are out of compliance or seek a program extension.

Student Services & Student Life in the School of Public Health

Career Services

<http://career.gsu.edu/>

Georgia State University provides undergraduate students and alumni with career support and leadership development through university career services. Students should go to career services to talk about their career plans and goals that they would like to pursue. University Career Services can help students with resume writing, mock interviews, career fairs and professional panels, job searching, internship development, and networking events and skills. <https://career.gsu.edu/>

Additionally the BSPH curriculum helps to reinforce the goals of the College to Career Initiative at Georgia State University. The College to Career initiative seeks to ensure that career preparedness is a large part of our student's academic pursuits. Consistent with the larger initiative, the BSPH curricular enhancements help students become aware of career competencies, connect those competencies to the work they do in the major and demonstrate their proficiency of transferable career skills.

Finally, the BSPH program is proud to have the following course required for all BSPH majors: *PH 3040 Public Health Careers and Profession*. Course topics include an overview of the undergraduate major in public health, career options in public health and allied-public health fields, preparation for employment with a bachelor's degree, preparing for success in graduate school, and applying for a job or graduate school. The school typically staffs an instructor in this course who has professional experience in settings outside of academia and has demonstrated competence in public health practice and careers.

Student Organizations

The Office of Academic Assistance and Career Services (OAA) also supports all SPH student clubs and organizations – so read about the various groups within the college, and join one today: <http://publichealth.gsu.edu/student-life/>. Make the most of your education by utilizing these great resources.

Student Health and Campus Life

SPH students have access to various services around campus, including the Student Health Clinic⁴, Student Health Insurance⁵, mental health counseling and services⁶, recreation center⁷, and access and accommodation testing and services⁸.

Study Abroad

BSPH are encouraged to take advantage of public health study abroad opportunities.⁹

⁴ GSU Student Health Clinic: <http://health.gsu.edu/>

⁵ GSU Student Health Insurance: <http://sfs.gsu.edu/tuition-fees/student-health-insurance/>

⁶ GSU Counseling and Testing: <http://counselingcenter.gsu.edu/students/services/counseling-services/>

⁷ GSU Recreation: <http://recreation.gsu.edu/>

⁸ GSU Access and Accommodations Center: <https://access.gsu.edu/>

⁹ GSU SPH Study Abroad: <https://publichealth.gsu.edu/academics-student-life/study-abroad/>

Appendix A – Policy on Academic Honesty

As members of the academic community, students are expected to recognize and uphold standards of intellectual and academic integrity. The [Policy on Academic Honesty](#) assumes as a basic and minimum standard of conduct in academic matters that students be honest and that they submit for credit only the products of their own efforts. The ideals of scholarship and the need for fairness require that all dishonest work be rejected as a basis for academic credit. They also require that students refrain from any and all forms of dishonorable or unethical conduct related to their academic work. The [Policy on Academic Honesty](#) is published in the [Student Code of Conduct](#) and the [Student Handbook](#) and is available to all members of the university community. The policy represents a core value of the university, and all members of the university community are responsible for abiding by its tenets. Lack of knowledge of this policy is not an acceptable defense to any charge of academic dishonesty. Members of the academic community, students, faculty and staff, are expected to report violations of these standards of academic conduct in accordance with the procedures articulated in this [Policy on Academic Honesty](#).

Appendix B – Procedures for Student Complaints, Petitions for Policy Waivers & Variances, and Appeals

The [Undergraduate](#) catalog and the [Student Code of Conduct](#) set forth policies and requirements for Georgia State students. Students are expected to know and comply with these policies. However, students may file a complaint, petition or appeal by following the procedures outlined in the **Georgia State University Policy Procedures for Student Complaints, Petitions for Policy Waivers and Variances and Appeals** located in the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Additionally, public health students may share student concerns or ideas with student, faculty, or staff representatives serving on the Standing Committees, including the SPH Student Affairs Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, etc. Students may contact their advisor for the name of a committee representative.

Appendix C – BSPH Signature Experience

Signature Experience Evaluations

The Signature Experience Courses (PH 4991 and PH 4992) are the BSPH students' culminating experience courses. PH 4991 serves as the prospectus (planning) course for an experiential – hands on-project that will be executed in PH 4992 the capstone course. These courses can be executed in a variety of settings including classrooms, global/study abroad courses, and community-based service projects. These signature experience courses are offered by school of public health faculty. Both of these courses employ high impact practices that make learning engaging and relevant to the coursework that students have completed up to this point in their program of study. These active learning practices may include opportunities for students to engage in undergraduate research, study abroad programs, collaborative assignments, integrative projects, and writing intensive assignments.

PHPH/PHPB 4991 Public Health Signature Experience: Prospectus course -- This course is the first of a two course sequence required to meet the area H requirements of the GSU Signature Experience. Public Health Signature Experiences gives public health majors the opportunity to integrate, synthesize and apply their public health knowledge through cumulative and experiential activities. In this classroom-based course, students will complete a variety of projects, and written assignments designed to assess the student's acquisition of the required public health competencies covered within the public health major. Mastery of these competencies is required to receive the BSPH degree. The course encompasses a holistic review of the field of public health while integrating student reflection on what they have learned and how they may apply their knowledge to future educational and career aspirations. In this course students will develop a detailed project proposal to guide their applied signature experience which will be completed in one of five categories -- Global, Research, City, Service Learning or Professional -- during the second course in the sequence.

PHPH/PHPB 4992 Public Health Signature Experience: Capstone course -- Public Health Signature Experience gives public health majors the opportunity to integrate, synthesize and apply their public health knowledge through cumulative and experiential activities. In this capstone course, students carry out their approved capstone proposal and complete their public health signature experience in one of the five categories -- Global, Research, City, Service Learning, or Professional. Global experiences are typically done through international travel, studying a variety of public health issues, engaging in community-based research, and/or providing support to public health organizations in another country. Research experiences usually involve joining a research team or working with an individual, public health faculty member on his/her research, and learning more about the research process in the public health discipline. City experiences provide an educational and cultural opportunity for students to explore the public health capital of the world: Atlanta, and engaging in regional and global public health entities, learning about the unique challenges of the urban Atlanta environment, exploring public health issues Atlanta has and continues to face, and/or providing support to public health organizations in the Georgia capital city. Service learning is done through direct service with local

community groups or non-governmental organizations, or completion of a project with a public health community partner, such as a business plan, fundraising event or social media campaign, and these service learning activities may be done individually, or in special cases, with a class group working toward a particular service learning opportunity. Finally, signature experience internships are completed through a planned, supervised and evaluated internship experience, where public health students are given the opportunity to observe and participate in public health work in a variety of governmental or non-governmental agencies and organizations, including local, state, national and international public health agencies. Internship sites, supervisors, and planned work activities must be approved in advance of the course start date and pre-approval deadlines are set by the School each semester. All of these experiences results in the production of a culminating product that is evaluated by a School of Public Health faculty member.

Appendix D – BSPH/MPH 4+1 Dual Degree

Expected to admit its first students in fall 2020, this dual undergraduate and graduate degree program links the following two Georgia State University (GSU) School of Public Health (SPH) programs:

1. Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH)
2. Master of Public Health (MPH)

The resulting dual degree program (commonly called a “4+1” or “accelerated” program) will allow designated and approved BSPH students in their senior year of their undergraduate program to earn up to 16 graduate-level credit hours that may be applied toward both the BSPH and MPH programs, pending their admission into the MPH program. Specifically, up to 16 graduate-level MPH program credit hours will be applied to either the *Area I-Approved Public Health Related Electives (15 credit hours max to this Area)* and/or the *Area J-Other Electives (6 credit hours max to this Area)* requirements of the BSPH program. If later admitted into the MPH program, students may be eligible to apply those same 16 graduate-level MPH program credit hours to their MPH program of study (restrictions and time limits may apply). By sharing up to 16 graduate credit hours, students will be able to complete the BSPH in its standard 4 year timeframe and then complete the MPH — typically a 2-year program — in just 1 additional year. In other words, most students will be able to earn both degrees in 5 years.

Complete program curriculum:

In this dual degree program, only the BSPH program will accept MPH graduate-level courses; therefore, only the BSPH program will be altered. **The MPH program will be offered as-is, with no alterations and no BSPH program credit hours counting toward it.** The program change to the BSPH program is written **in red font** below.

BSPH Program Degree Requirements for dual degree BSPH/MPH students

Areas A-H

Remain as-is, no changes.

Area I – Approved Public Health Related Electives (15 credit hours)

In addition to the Area I options listed in the undergraduate catalog for all BSPH students, dual degree BSPH/MPH students may count up to 15 credit hours of MPH program courses here, specifically any of the following MPH foundational core (0-15):

- PH 7011 Epidemiology for Public Health (3) **or** PH 7711 Epidemiologic Methods I (3)
 - PH 7011 Epidemiology for Public Health (3) (required for Environmental Health, Health Management and Policy, and Health Promotion and Behavior concentrations **or** PH 7711 Epidemiologic Methods I (3) (required for Environmental Epidemiology, Epidemiology, and Biostatistics concentrations). *Note: Students changing their concentration from Environmental Epidemiology, Epidemiology, or Biostatistics to Environmental Health, Health Management and Policy, or Health Promotion and Behavior will be able to substitute PH 7011 with PH 7711 if already completed.*

- PH 7017 Fundamentals of Biostatistics I (4)
- PH 7140 Health Promotion Planning, Administration, and Evaluation (3)
- PH 7150 Environmental Health (3)
- PH 7160 Fundamentals of Health Systems, Leadership, and Policy (3)

Area J – Advanced Electives (6 credit hours)

In addition to the Area J options listed in the undergraduate catalog for all BSPH students, dual degree BSPH/MPH students may count up to 6 credit hours of MPH program courses here, specifically any of the following MPH foundational core (0-6):

- PH 7011 Epidemiology for Public Health (3) **or** PH 7711 Epidemiologic Methods I (3)
 - PH 7011 Epidemiology for Public Health (3) (required for Environmental Health, Health Management and Policy, and Health Promotion and Behavior concentrations **or** PH 7711 Epidemiologic Methods I (3) (required for Environmental Epidemiology, Epidemiology, and Biostatistics concentrations). *Note: Students changing their concentration from Environmental Epidemiology, Epidemiology, or Biostatistics to Environmental Health, Health Management and Policy, or Health Promotion and Behavior will be able to substitute PH 7011 with PH 7711 if already completed.*
- PH 7017 Fundamentals of Biostatistics I (4)
- PH 7140 Health Promotion Planning, Administration, and Evaluation (3)
- PH 7150 Environmental Health (3)
- PH 7160 Fundamentals of Health Systems, Leadership, and Policy (3)

Total Semester Hours for BSPH Degree: 120

- Up to 16 credit hours in graduate courses toward the MPH program of study

MPH Program Degree Requirements for dual degree BSPH/MPH students

Remain as-is; no changes.

Total Semester Hours for MPH Degree: 42

- No BSPH credit hours toward the MPH program of study

Suggested Milestones for BSPH students:

Before the end of Sophomore Year:

- Gain admittance into the BSPH program.
- Submit application for entry into the dual degree program. If admitted, plan up to 16 hours of graduate-level coursework to complete for credit in the BSPH program.

Before the end of Senior Year:

- Graduate with the BSPH degree.
- Submit application for entry into the graduate MPH degree program. If admitted, meet with advisor to confirm the application of the previously completed (up to) 16 hours of graduate-level coursework toward the MPH program.

Provisions in case a student is not able to meet 4+1 program milestones.

Qualified students are initially admitted into the BSPH traditional full-major, and retain that admission. Of course, these students are afforded all the support and opportunities given to all BSPH traditional major students. If the dual degree student chooses not to start or continue in the MPH program courses or is unable to perform satisfactorily in the MPH program courses, the student may return to the BSPH traditional major program of study.

Process for admitting students to the dual BSPH/MPH program.

1. Undergraduate public health major students who meet the following dual degree program requirements set by the college
 1. Completion of between 75-110 credit hours
 2. A minimum 3.0 GPA (Major, Institutional, and Overall)and would like to participate in the dual degree program should complete the Dual Degree Program Application below, and submit it to SPH's OAA. Four parties must unanimously agree to admit the student (and those parties may consult their respective admissions committees).
 - i. OAA undergraduate advisor
 - ii. OAA graduate advisor
 - iii. BSPH program director
 - iv. Department chair of the MPH concentration of choice
3. or their proxy
2. In their junior and senior years, students accepted into the dual degree program will be permitted to enroll in graduate courses (approved by a SPH advisor). Up to 16 credit hours of graduate-level courses may count toward the BSPH degree program, as outlined in the Catalog text. Students will receive a BSPH from the SPH upon successful completion of all BSPH requirements and the residency requirements for a bachelor's degree (120 hours).
3. During the first 120 hours of the dual degree program, the students may be eligible to receive the HOPE scholarship as long as they satisfy HOPE eligibility requirements.
4. Dual degree program status may be revoked at any time at the recommendation of the OAA undergraduate advisor, OAA graduate advisor, BSPH program director, or the department chair.
5. During their senior year, dual degree program students should submit the full MPH program application, the same as all other prospective MPH students. Admission to the graduate program is contingent upon 1) successful completion of the bachelor's degree, 2) maintaining the required program grade-point average, 3) performance in the graduate-level courses taken during the bachelor's degree, and 4) meeting the other MPH admission requirements of the specific concentration. In other words, admission to the MPH program is not automatic for these dual degree students. Students applying for admission into the dual degree program are expected to meet all MPH application requirements, including GRE scores and application deadlines.
6. If admitted into the MPH program, the expectation is that dual degree program students may enter the MPH program with up to 16 graduate credit hours already completed (pending time and other applicable restrictions). They will then complete the remaining MPH graduate degree requirements in their fifth year, being a fully-admitted MPH student during their fifth year.
7. Acceptance into the dual degree program does not constitute admission to the graduate MPH degree program. Admission into the dual degree program only affords undergraduate students the opportunity to complete up to 16 credit hours of applicable public health graduate-level courses that may count toward their BSPH degree program, as outlined in the Catalog text.

8. Students are eligible for graduate assistantship positions and tuition waivers only after they have successfully earned their undergraduate degree and have been fully accepted into the graduate degree program.

Process for formally admitting students into the graduate program.

Dual degree students will admit into the BSPH undergraduate program through the traditional path all BSPH undergraduate program students follow, so no changes will be made to that process or protocol. Also, dual degree students will provide the full MPH program application and be considered for admission into the MPH program, like all other prospective MPH students. So no changes will be made to that process or protocol. Admission into the dual degree program only affords undergraduate students the opportunity to complete up to 16 credit hours of applicable public health graduate-level courses that *may* count toward their BSPH degree program, as outlined in the Catalog text, and also the MPH program of study if they are later admitted into that MPH program.

Advisement process and resources for students in the dual degree program.

Students will have access to the SPH OAA, which staffs both undergraduate and graduate advisors. Students will be given an assigned undergraduate advisor upon admission into the BSPH program of study, and they will also be assigned a graduate advisor upon admission into the MPH program of study.

Process for maintaining dual degree BSPH/MPH status and enabling dual program students to take graduate coursework.

The SPH's Office of Academic Assistance (OAA) will maintain the list of dual degree BSPH/MPH students, and this undergraduate advisor will notify students of their admission into the dual degree program. Dual degree program status may be revoked at any time at the recommendation of the OAA undergraduate advisor, OAA graduate advisor, BSPH program director, or the department chair—the undergraduate advisor will notify students if their admission has been revoked, usually based on poor academic performance.

Before registration begins each semester, dual degree students should submit the Graduate Course Plan Approval form to the SPH undergraduate advisor. The undergraduate advisor will consult the graduate advisor before allowing undergraduate students to register for the graduate level courses. The undergraduate advisor will place the registration permissions on the student's account within 10 business days of receiving the form.



The School of Public Health at Georgia State University is offering a 4 + 1 BSPH/MPH accelerated program to eligible undergraduate students. The program is rigorous, demanding and is designed to offer high achieving students the opportunity to earn up to 16 graduate credits while completing their Bachelor of Science in Public Health Degree. To be considered for the accelerated 4+1 program, please provide the information below and submit the completed and signed form to the Office of Academic Assistance and Career Services, Suite 300 of Urban Life Building or by scanning and emailing a copy to the School of Public Health undergraduate advisors Mr. Jonathan Key (jkey7@gsu.edu) or Mr. Anthony Still (astill@gsu.edu) .

Eligibility

- Students interested in the 4+1 program should meet the following admissions criteria:
- Earned a minimum of 75, but no more than 110, credit hours
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (Major, Institutional, Overall)
- Provide the name of two (2) faculty members who can speak to your ability to do graduate work
- Complete an application for consideration
- Complete a personal statement
- Submit an unofficial copy of your transcript

Advising

It is highly recommended that all students interested in applying to the 4+1 program speak with their current advisor for guidance on future course sequencing.

Part One: Fill in the information below

Name:	Date:
Panther ID:	Anticipated Year of Graduation:
Local Address:	Most Recent Term Enrolled: <i>Graduate Degree Program - MPH concentration</i> you plan to apply to when applying for MPH program admission:
Permanent Address:	
E-mail:	
Phone(s): Cell:	Other:

Credit hours earned at GSU:		GSU grade-point average:	
List major academic recognitions, honors and memberships (expand box as needed):			
List significant co- and extra-curricular activities thus far as an undergraduate (expand box as needed):			
List professional experiences that are relevant to this dual degree opportunity (expand box as needed):			

Part Two: Unofficial Transcript

Submit a copy of your most recent unofficial transcript along with your most recent academic evaluation

Part Three: Faculty Recommenders

Provide the names of two faculty members who can speak to your ability to do graduate level work.

Faculty Name	Faculty Email
Faculty Name	Faculty Email

Part Four: Personal Statement

Submit a personal statement in which you discuss your academic interests, career goals, and the reasons the 4+1 BSPH/MPH. accelerated program will fit into your future educational or career goals. Additionally, feel free to discuss any other information you wish to have considered in the review of your application.

*Suggestion: Essay should be double-spaced and no more than 2 pages long.

Disclaimer:

I certify that I understand and agree to the following:

Georgia State University School of Public Health may verify any information I have provided. Falsification or omission of information may result in the withdrawal of my application or in the revocation of admission or registration.

I have read the entry requirements for this degree program and I believe I meet those requirements (hours completed, GPA, etc.).

Acceptance into the accelerated program does not constitute admission to the graduate degree program. Admission into the program only affords undergraduate students the opportunity to complete up to 16 credit hours of applicable public health graduate-level courses that may count toward their BS in PH degree program, as outlined in the Catalog text. These same 16 credit hours of applicable public health graduate-level courses may also count toward the MPH program, if the student is accepted into that program. Dual degree students must officially apply and be accepted for admission to the graduate degree program following the procedures defined by the graduate program.

Dual degree students cannot take more than 16 hours of graduate coursework as an undergraduate.

In their junior and senior years, students accepted into the dual degree program will be permitted to enroll in graduate courses (approved by the graduate advisor). Up to 16 credit hours of graduate-level courses may count toward the BS in PH degree program, as outlined in the Catalog text. Students will receive a BS in PH from the SPH upon successful completion of all BS in PH requirements and the residency requirements for a bachelor’s degree (120 hours).

During their senior year, dual degree program students will submit the full MPH program application, the same as all other prospective MPH students. Admission to the graduate program is contingent upon 1) successful completion of the bachelor’s degree, 2) maintaining the required program grade-point average, 3) performance in the graduate-level courses taken during the bachelor’s degree, and 4) meeting the other admission requirements of the specific concentration. In other words, admission to the MPH program is not automatic for these students. Students applying for admission into the dual degree program are expected to meet all MPH application requirements, including GRE scores and application deadlines.

If admitted into the MPH program, the expectation is that dual degree program students will enter the MPH program with 16 graduate credit hours already completed. They will then complete the remaining MPH graduate degree requirements (26 graduate level credit hours) in their fifth year, being a fully admitted MPH student during their fifth year.

During the first 120 hours of the dual degree program, the students may be eligible to receive the HOPE scholarship as long as they satisfy HOPE eligibility requirements. Students are eligible for graduate assistantship positions and tuition waivers after they have successfully earned their undergraduate degree and have been fully accepted into the graduate degree program.

<i>Student Name:</i>	<i>Signature:</i>	<i>Date:</i>

ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION:

Recommendation (Accept, Deny, Hold):		Date:	
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Office of Academic Assistance and Career Services Notes:	
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<i>OAA Undergraduate Advisor Name:</i>	<i>Signature:</i>	<i>Date:</i>
<i>OAA Graduate Advisor Name:</i>	<i>Signature:</i>	<i>Date:</i>

Recommendation (Accept, Deny, Hold):		Date:	
Undergraduate Program Notes:			

<i>Undergraduate Program Director Name:</i>	<i>Signature:</i>	<i>Date:</i>

Recommendation (Accept, Deny, Hold):		Date:	
MPH Department Notes:			

<i>MPH Department Chair Name:</i>	<i>Signature:</i>	<i>Date:</i>

**Graduate Course Plan Approval Form
For Undergraduate Students Engaged in the BSPH/MPH 4+1 Program**

Undergraduate students accepted into the School of Public Health’s BSPH/MPH 4+1 program must complete sections 1 and 2 of this form each semester that they plan to enroll in graduate-level courses. Each term, please indicate the specific courses for which you plan to register in the space provided below. Section 2 should be developed each term in consultation with the program graduate advisor. The undergrad advisor in the Office of Academic Assistance and the MPH program graduate advisor in the School must approve the graduate course plan each term for registration permission to be granted.

1. STUDENT INFO:

Name (last, first):		Panther ID #:	
GSU Email:		Phone:	
Dual Program:		Current GSU GPA:	
Enrollment Term:		Submission Date:	

2. GRADUATE COURSE PLAN (complete in consultation with an undergraduate advisor each term):

<i>Course title:</i>	<i>Prefix / Number:</i>	<i>CRN #:</i>	<i>Undergrad course area where credit should be applied (Area I elective or Area J elective?)</i>

3. UNDERGRADUATE and GRADUATE PROGRAM APPROVAL:

<i>Undergraduate Advisor (in SPH OAA)</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>

<i>Graduate Advisor (in SPH OAA)</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>

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P: 404-413-1130 | F: 404-413-1140
Email: publichealth@gsu.edu | Web: <http://publichealth.gsu.edu>