

## Department of Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences

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## MPH in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Academic Year 2010-2011

Natural environmental processes and human interaction affect the micro and macro environment in which we live, and directly effects or influences health. The MPH in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences prepares present and future public health scientists and practitioners to assess and evaluate physical, chemical and biological stressors in the environments people live and work, and identify and develop effective intervention and control methodologies. Interaction with a diverse faculty and competency-based curriculum exposes students to sound scientific theory and methodology in several disciplines and integrates their application to the field of environmental and occupational health. Students in this concentration are provided with the unique opportunity to translate knowledge acquired in the classroom and laboratory into practical applications in the real world through participation in faculty research; internships in industry, state or national agencies; and visits to these organizations. In addition to required courses such as environmental data analysis, human health toxicology, and hazard recognition, evaluation and control, coursework can be taken for additional focus in areas such as occupational health practice/industrial hygiene; exposure and risk assessment; environmental epidemiology; global environmental health; policy; and air pollution. For professionals already in the field of environmental and occupational health, this MPH concentration provides students with an excellent opportunity to enhance their knowledge and expertise in specific areas of interest by working alongside faculty researchers and environmental and occupational professionals at the local, state, national and international level. Students in the environmental and occupational health concentration take an average of two years to complete a minimum of 48 semester credit hours to earn the MPH degree. By the conclusion of the MPH program, a student in the environmental and occupational health science concentration will be able to apply their knowledge and skills to:

- 1. Health, safety, and ecological impacts of environmental agents.
- 2. Factors that modify exposures to environmental hazards.
- 3. Recognition, evaluation, and control of environmental and occupational hazards.
- 4. Policies, regulations and standards/guidelines.
- 5. Program development, management and evaluation.

## **Environmental Health Curriculum (48 Semester Credit Hours)**

CORE COURSES:				15 SCH	
	BIOS	5300	Biostatistics for Public Health 1	3 SCH	
	EOHS	5300	Environmental Health	3 SCH	
	EPID	5300	Principles of Epidemiology	3 SCH	
	HMAP	5300	Introduction to Health Management and Policy	3 SCH	
	SABS	5300	Theoretical Foundations of Individual & Community Health	3 SCH	

EOHS	5310	Evaluation and Control of Biological Agents and Infectious Disease		
EOHS	5330	Recognition, Evaluation and Control of Environmental Hazards		
EOHS	5331	Environmental and Occupational Sampling and Analytical Methods		
EOHS	5350	Environmental and Occupational Toxicology		
EOHS	5360	Environmental Data Analysis	3 SCH	
			3 SCH	
	PRACTICE EXPERIENCE:			
EOHS	5397	Public Health Practice Experience	3 SCH	
	/E COURSES:		15 SCH	
EOHS	5312	Food Quality and Safety	3 SCH	
EOHS	5314	Arthropods and Public Health	3 SCH	
EOHS	5320	TX-Mexico Border Health Issues	3 SCH	
EOHS	5322	Air Pollution and Health	3 SCH	
EOHS	5324	Water and Public Health: Global to Regional Perspectives	3 SCH	
EOHS	5332	Industrial Hygiene	3 SCH	
EOHS	5334	Occupational Diseases and Health Practice	3 SCH	
EOHS	5336	Work Surveillance, Safety, and Law	3 SCH	
EOHS	5340	Exposure and Risk Assessment	3 SCH	
EOHS	5342	Biomarkers in Environmental Epidemiology	3 SCH	
EOHS	5362	Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Health	3 SCH	
EOHS	5370	Policy, Science and Decisions	3 SCH	
EOHS	5391	Special Topics in Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences	1-3 SCH	
EOHS	5399	Independent Study in Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences	1-3 SCH	
EOHS	6300	Environmental Health Determinants	3 SCH	
EOHS	6324	Genomics and Public Health	3 SCH	
EOHS	6348	Spatiotemporal Environmental Health Modeling	3 SCH	
EOHS	6391	Advanced Topics in Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences	1-3 SCH	
EPID	6326	Occupational Epidemiology	3 SCH	

**REQUIRED COURSES:** 

- Students may substitute an elective course not on this list only with prior written approval of their advisor.
- Courses not approved as substitutes will not be applied toward the degree plan.
- For the TX Mexico Border Health Issues course (EOHS 5320), all students must have a Passport prior to taking this course, and international students must also have a US multi-entry Visa and purchase a travel visa for Mexico prior to taking this course.

**15 SCH** 

CULMINATING EXPERIENCE:				
EOHS	5000	MPH Comprehensive Examination	0 SCH	

MPH students can use attendance at departmental seminars towards the 200 hours for the Public Health Practice Experience (EOHS 5397) as follows: The practicum must include attendance at a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 16 departmental seminars. This is equivalent to a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 16 hours being credited towards the 200 hours of the practicum required. All students must complete at least 8 hours of seminars for graduation.