

Course Syllabus

FAIRBANKS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH Master of Public Health Program

COURSE: Public Health Internship

NUMBER: P602

DATE: Arranged

FACULTY: MPH Faculty Advisors

714 N. Senate Avenue, EF 250

Indianapolis, IN 46202-3297

Phone: 317-274-3126

Office hours: Arranged

PREREQUISITES: MPH Core Curriculum (5 courses); consent of Faculty Advisor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course integrates public health theory and practice in a practice setting. Students have the opportunity to apply concepts from core and concentration courses, conduct projects, and interact with a range of health professionals in the designated setting. Linked to the student's chosen concentration, this work experience exposes the student to new issues and new ways to solve problems and offers the student an opportunity to gain work experience in his/her concentration major and, at the same time, provides valuable job skills. The student works both with a faculty advisor and an academically and professionally qualified preceptor in the agency.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. State the purpose, mission, and values of the community agency/department; identify several public health functions the agency performs and document this in the final internship paper.
2. Analyze how the physical, biological, behavioral, social, cultural, and spiritual determinants of health act synergistically on the conditions that affect health within the population or cohort the student is working with at the agency.
3. Apply at least five core public health competencies (selected from the complete list of Program Competencies for the DPH and agreed upon by the student's faculty advisor and community preceptor) when working on a project with the agency.
4. Create a final paper, given the parameters of Internship report writing provided by the MPH Program, describing his/her Internship, and reflecting on the experience and the partnerships observed within the agency.

REQUIRED OR SUGGESTED TEXT AND/OR READINGS

The student and preceptor will identify readings based on the student's responsibilities and experience(s). The concentration faculty advisor will also serve as a resource for readings and other materials or contacts.

EVALUATION AND GRADING SCALE

The student will be responsible for the following:

1. A 2-page monthly progress report to be filled out in its entirety and sent electronically on the 15th of every month during the Internship.
 - The first page should be submitted to the Manager of Community and Student Affairs (suehanco@iupui.edu) and the agency preceptor.
 - The second page is sent **only** to the Manager of Student and Community Affairs. This page provides the student an opportunity to write about challenges or concerns regarding the Internship and to make any other comments for their faculty advisor.
2. A mid-semester and final evaluation form should be submitted to the MPH Manager of Student and Community Affairs by the preceptor. The form may be sent electronically to suehanco@iupui.edu. It is the student's responsibility to ask the preceptor to send these documents.
3. The student will also write a 10 - 15 page final report summarizing and reflecting upon the Internship experience. Other work products may also be appropriate depending on the nature of the student's work during the Internship. The final report is due to the manager of Student and Community Affairs (suehanco@iupui.edu) at the end of the Internship.

The type of report depends on the activities of the Internship as stated in the Agreement. For example, "final reports" may be descriptions of the entire internship experience, articles submitted for publication, or proposals for agencies. Regardless of the format of the final report, it should:

- Discuss the usefulness of the Internship, the contributions the student made to the agency, and the Internship's impact on his/her planned career.
 - Relate the activities to academic course work. Was the student well prepared for the work that the Internship required?
 - Evaluate the Internship, including its structure, the nature of the activities, opportunities for learning new skills and observing new approaches, positive and negative experiences, and the student's assessment of overall value of the Internship.
4. The student should complete the confidential Internship Course and Preceptor Evaluation and hand in with the Internship paper.
 5. The student will be assigned a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade based on the submission of his/her progress and final reports as well as on midterm and final evaluations completed by the student's agency preceptor.

GUIDELINES

The student initiates planning for the Internship with the faculty advisor and Manager of Student and Community Affairs at least 2 - 3 months before the semester of enrollment. The student may either propose a location and project or ask for recommendations from the Department. Final responsibility for securing an Internship placement rests with the student.

The student's Internship site should be an agency other than the department or division in which the student is currently employed. If the student selects his/her current place of employment as the site, the Internship activities must be *different* from his/her usual work and conducted on the student's own time. The preceptor must be someone other than the student's supervisor and outside of the division's chain of command. The specific work tasks and projects must be directly related to the student's concentration and be approved by the faculty advisor in consultation with the designated preceptor at the sponsoring agency.

The length of the Internship is 80 clock hours per credit hour for a total of **240** hours.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students needing accommodations because of disability will need to register with Adaptive Educational Services (AES) and complete the appropriate forms issued by AES before accommodations will be provided. The AES office is located in Joseph T. Taylor Hall, Suite 100, and can be reached by calling 274-3241.

STUDENT COURSE EVALUATION

The Department of Public Health evaluates all courses. Student course evaluations will be conducted in a manner that maintains the integrity of the process and the anonymity of respondents.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic and personal misconduct by students in this class are defined and dealt with according to the procedures in the Student Misconduct section of the IUPUI *Code of Student Rights*, <http://studentaffairs.iupui.edu/student-rights/student-code/disciplinary.shtml>.