

## **Public Health Major**

### **Department Chair:** Seals

**Faculty:** Adler, Barnack-Tavlaris, Borges, Gazley, Hu, Leven, Mirtcheva, Mitchell, Naples, Peron, Pollock, Rice, Ruddy, Seals, Steuber Fazio, Vandergriff

**Notice** - Students follow the degree requirements of the Undergraduate Bulletin in effect when they begin their matriculation at the College. The information in this document applies to the 2017-18 academic year. Students changing majors or adding a second or third major follow the major requirements in effect at the time the major is changed or added. Students returning to the College after an absence of two consecutive semesters (not including summer) follow the requirements in effect at the time of their return.

**Revision Advisory** – The School of Nursing, Health, and Exercise Science on behalf of the Public Health Major maintains the right and responsibility to revise content as appropriate in response to changes to accreditation requirements or other professional standards in the field.

### **About the Profession**

Public Health is the practice and science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention and detection and control of infectious diseases. Concerned with protecting the health of entire populations, Public Health uniquely addresses health concerns from local neighborhoods to states, countries and the world.

Public Health professionals promote wellness and prevent and minimize health problems through implementing intervention programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research. Public Health also works to decrease health disparities and improve healthcare access, equity, and quality. The Public Health Major prepares students for careers in federal, state or local departments of health, health and health related community based organizations and a wide range of other agencies.

### **About the Public Health Major**

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree program (major) is offered by the School of Nursing, Health, and Exercise Science in collaboration with schools and departments across the College. This comprehensive, interdisciplinary program allows students to take classes from all seven TCNJ schools providing a personalized yet rigorous educational experience. Faculty enthusiastically share their rich professional expertise engaging students in experiential learning through interactive pedagogy and participation in leadership opportunities including research, conferences, networking, global study, intensive internships and mentoring.

### **Mission**

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree program (major) prepares graduates to advance the public's health through education, health promotion, disease prevention, and the improvement of health outcomes of populations and individuals domestically and globally.

**Requirements for the Public Health Major**

The Public Health Major curriculum is grounded by an interdisciplinary foundation of orientation and support courses that undergird a framework of core and concentration courses, culminated by intensive experiential learning in the capstone internship experience. Students must complete 13 course units in four categories:

- 1) Orientation Course (0 unit)**
- 2) Public Health Support Courses (2 units)**
- 3) Public Health Core Courses (5 units)**
- 4) Public Health Concentration Courses (4 units)**
- 5) Capstone Internship (2 units).**

**ORIENTATION COURSE**

PBH 099 Introduction to Public Health (0 unit, pass/fail)) provides orientation about the field of Public Health, overview of the major curriculum, internship and career opportunities as well as fundamental concepts and skills foundational to the discipline.

**SUPPORT COURSES**

Students must take 2 Public Health Support courses, 1 in Statistics and 1 in Biology.

Statistics Options:

Students must complete either STA 115: Statistics (1 unit, minimum grade of B- or better required)

**OR**

STA 215: Statistical Inference (1 unit, minimum grade of C+ or better required)

Biology Options:

Students must complete 1 course from the list below:

BIO 171: Human Form and Function (1unit)

BIO 201 (formerly 185): Foundations in Biological Inquiry (1unit)

ANT 361: Human Osteology and Forensic Anthropology (1unit)

*Note –Alternative Statistics or Biology support courses may be considered equivalent for application to the Public Health major, but only by prior written request to the department chair and assistant dean.*

**CORE COURSES (5 course units):**

- 1. PBH 240 Introduction to Epidemiology (1 unit) as a Core course**
- 2. PBH 375 Population Approaches to World Health (formally PBH 372 Global Public Health, 1 unit)**
- 3. PBH 220 Wellness Promotion Across the Lifespan as a Core Course (1 unit)**
- 4. PBH 401 Research Methods (1 unit)**
- 5. PBH 376 Health Systems, Administration and Policy (formally PBH 373 US Public Health and Social Policy, 1 unit)**

**CONCENTRATION COURSES**

Students may choose either the Health Communication Concentration (HCC) *or* the Social and Behavioral Science Concentration (SBCC). With the guidance and approval of their academic advisor or department chair, students must complete 3 courses to satisfy concentration requirements, including 2 in their selected concentration *and* 1 from the other concentration. Alternative courses may be considered for application to the selected concentration, but *only* by prior written request to the department chair and assistant dean for approval.

**Course Options for Health Communication Concentration:**

- COM 345: New Media and Health Culture (1 unit)
- COM 403: Health Communication Campaigns: A Social Marketing Approach (1 unit)
- COM 415: International Communication (1 unit)
- COM 460: Global Health, Communication and Social Change (1 unit)
- JPW 370: Topics in Journalism – Health and Environmental Journalism (1 unit)

**AND**

- 1 Course from Social and Behavioral Sciences (see list below)

**Course options for Social and Behavioral Sciences Concentration:**

- ANT 241: Environmental Anthropology (1 unit)
- ANT/SOC 371: Culture, Health, and Illness (1 unit)
- NUR 300: Legal Challenges in Health Care (1 unit)
- NUR 440: Caring in Community Health – science (1 unit)
- PHL 225: Biomedical Ethics (1 unit)
- PSY 212: Biopsychology (1 unit)
- PSY 340: Health Psychology (1 unit)
- SOC 235: Inequality, Pollution, and Environment (1 unit)
- SOC 365: Poverty and Welfare in US (1 unit)
- PBH/SOC 373 US Public Health and Social Policy
- PBH/ANT/SOC 372 Global Public Health
- WGS 210: Women and Health – Power, Politics, and Change (1 unit)
- WGS 235: Gender and Violence (1 unit)
- PBH 406: Foundation Grant Writing for Public Health (1 unit)
- PBH 301 Perspectives in Global Public Health – Haiti Mission (1 course unit)

**AND**

- 1 Course from the Health Communication (See list above)

**CAPSTONE INTERNSHIP COURSE**

The capstone internship (2 units) is mandatory for graduation, requiring a 120-hour internship with a public health related agency approved by the capstone coordinator and/or department chair. The capstone also integrates project-based academic coursework and/or research as determined in consultation with the capstone coordinator. The capstone's 2 course units may be completed in one or more semesters with prior approval from the capstone coordinator and/or department chair.

### Typical 4-Year Curriculum Plan for the Public Health Major with Concentration in Health Communication

Refer to the key below to identify program requirements and options as outlined in the sample curriculum plan that follows.

- **BOLD: Core courses.**
- ***BOLD ITALICS: Concentration courses.***
- Support Courses: One course in Statistics and one course in Biology from approved list.
- Second Language Proficiency: Three courses in sequence in the same language, typically 101, 102 and 103, depending on AP test waiver or transfer credit.
- Liberal Learning (LL): Eight courses including FSP, Breadth Requirements, and Civic Responsibilities
- Electives: Six courses. Depending on student interests, could be in a minor, or free elective courses.

Year 1	
Fall Semester (4 units)	Spring Semester (4 units)
<b>PBH 099: Introduction to Public Health</b> (Core)	<b>PBH 240: Epidemiology</b> (LL- Behavioral, Social, or Cultural Perspectives)
FSP (LL First Seminar Program)	<b>BIO 201 (formerly 185): Foundations of Biological Inquiry</b> (Support; LL - Natural Science)
<b>PBH 220: Wellness Promotion across the Lifespan</b> (Core; LL - Community Engaged Learning)	WRI 102: Academic Writing (LL) or Elective if AP credit
Second Language Proficiency 101	Second Language Proficiency 102
<b>STA 115 Statistics</b> (Support; LL – Quantitative Reasoning)	

Year 2	
Fall Semester (4 units)	Spring Semester (4 units)
<b>PBH 376 Health Systems, Administration and Policy (formally PBH 373 US Public Health and Social Policy) (1 unit).</b> (Core; LL - Behavioral, Social, or Cultural Perspectives)	<b>PBH 375 Population Approaches to World Health (formally PBH 372 Global Public Health) (1 unit);</b> (Core)
<i>Concentration Communication Course</i> (1 of 3 from approved list – see page 12). Social and Behavior concentration could also go here.  <b>COM 145: International Communication</b>	<i>Concentration Communication Course</i> (2 of 3 from approved list – see page 12) Social and Behavior concentration could also go here.  <b>COM 345: New Media and Health Culture</b>
<b>Second Language Proficiency 103</b>	LL – World Views and Ways of Knowing or Elective as needed
LL – Literary, Visual, Performing Arts or Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course	LL - Social Changes in Historical Perspectives or Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course
Year 3	
Fall Semester (4 units)	Spring Semester (4 units)
<b>PBH 401: Research Methods</b> (Core)	<i>Concentration Communication Course</i> (3 of 3 from approved list – see page 12) Social and Behavior concentration could also go here.  <b>COM 460: Global Health Communication and Social Change</b>

SOC 235: Inequality, Pollution, and Environment (1 unit) <i>Social and Behavioral Sciences course</i> (1 of 1 from approved list – see page 13).	LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course
LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course	LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course
LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course	LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course
Year 4	
Fall Semester (4 units)	Spring Semester (4 units)
<b>PBH 405: Capstone Internship in Public Health</b> (120 hours, 2 course units, but may be completed in one or more semesters with variable units) <i>Students must plan their Capstone with Capstone Coordinator at least one semester prior to beginning the Capstone.</i>	<b>PBH 405: Capstone Internship in Public Health</b> (120 hours, 2 course units, but may be completed in one or more semesters with variable units) Spring semester Capstone may be extended into the summer term if needed with prior approval of Capstone Coordinator.
LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course	LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course
LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course	LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course
LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course, only if PBH 405 extended across 2 semesters	LL, Elective, Minor, or 2 <sup>nd</sup> major course, only if PBH 405 extended across 2 semesters

*Note: Courses listed above are 1 course unit unless indicated otherwise.*

**Declaration of the Public Health Major**

Students seeking to transfer from another accredited institution may apply for entrance to the major through the Office of Admissions. Details about the transfer application process may be found at:

<http://admissions.tcnj.edu/resources-for/transferapplicants/#apply>.

Current TCNJ students in good standing seeking to transfer internally may apply to enter the Public Health major if they meet eligibility standards. Eligible applicants must have completed either STA 115 with a minimum B- grade or STA 215 with a minimum C+ grade. Eligible applicants also must have completed one of the following major courses with a minimum grade of B- or higher:

- PBH 240 Introduction to Epidemiology (preferred)
- PBH 376 Health Systems, Administration and Policy (formally PBH 373 US Public Health and Social Policy)
- PBH 220 Wellness Promotion Across the Lifespan
- PBH 375 Population Approaches to World Health (formally PBH 372 Global Public Health)

**Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards**

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for the Public Health program. Minimum grades are noted in parentheses:

- Retention in the program is based on the following performance standards in these critical content courses: PBH 240 (B-) and PBH 375 (B-).
- Transfer into the program from another program within the College requires formal application according to the aforementioned procedures and criteria. Eligible applicants must have completed either STA 115 with a minimum B- grade or STA 215 with a minimum C+ grade. Eligible applicants also must have completed one of the following major courses with a minimum grade of B- or higher:
  - PBH 240 Introduction to Epidemiology (preferred)
  - PBH 376 Health Systems, Administration and Policy (formally PBH 373 US Public Health and Social Policy)
  - PBH 220 Wellness Promotion Across the Lifespan
  - PBH 375 Population Approaches to World Health (formally PBH 372 Global Public Health)

Applications are accepted twice per academic semester and at the end of the summer session for matriculation in the following semester. Upon admission, the Public Health program gives written notice to the Office of Records and Registration and assigns the student an advisor within the major. Students proceed according to the requirements of the Bulletin in effect at the time of their formal declaration. If changing majors, students must meet any new requirements of the Bulletin in effect at the time of the change, subject to such exceptions in favor of the earlier Bulletin as the Public Health program may approve. Only enrolled, degree-seeking students may declare majors. If a major is changed, the new major(s) must be officially declared before the deadline for applying for graduation in a given term.

Graduation standards require a minimum grade of C- or higher in Public Health major courses applied toward graduation, except for courses requiring higher grades, including: PBH/SOC/ANT 240 (B-), PBH 375 (B-), PBH 376 (B-), PBH/NUR 220 (C), PBH 405 (B-), PBH 401 (B-) and STA 115 (B-) or STA 215

(C+). Students earning less than the required grade in any required major core or concentration course must repeat the course and earn the requisite grade or higher in order to apply that course toward graduation. Students who fail to achieve the minimum grade in two major core or concentration courses will be placed on probation in the Public Health major. Probation may be lifted only after the course in question is repeated with the requisite minimum grade. Students who fail to achieve the minimum grade in a third required major, core or concentration course are subject to dismissal from the major. Any student seeking to repeat any major course more than once may do so only with prior written permission from the Public Health Department Chair and the Assistant Dean.

### **Public Health Minor**

The Public Health minor provides students the opportunity to complement their major with a solid introduction to the field of public health. This minor is appropriate for students from all majors at the College (except Public Health majors), but especially those considering careers or further study in the health related professions, such as medicine, nursing, community, or global public health, public health policy, health management, social work, clinical psychology, biostatistics, health communications, medical journalism, medical anthropology, and other fields.

NOTE: According to TCNJ policy, students may double-count one course from a minor into a major or interdisciplinary concentration. For public health minors, this does not include the co-requisite course. However, only one course from core, biological aspects, or social/behavioral aspects may count towards both a major or an interdisciplinary concentration.

### **Public Health Minor Core Requirements (2 units)**

Complete Epidemiology (PBH 240) and **either** PBH 375 Population Approaches to World Health (formally PBH 372 Global Public Health) **or** PBH 376 Health Systems, Administration and Policy (formally PBH 373 US Public Health and Social Policy).

### **Co-requisite in Methods/Statistics (1 unit)**

Complete at least one of the following:

- Public Health Research Methods (PBH 401)
- Applied Economics and Business Statistics (ECO 231) [prereq. STA 215 or equivalent]
- Research for the Health-Related and Social Sciences (NUR 328) [prereq. STA 115]
- Design and Statistical Analysis (PSY 203) [prereq. PSY 121]
- Quantitative Research Methods (SOC 302) [prereq. STA 115]
- Inferential Statistics (STA 215) [prereq. MAT 125 or MAT 127]

### **Public Health Options (3 units)**

Complete three additional courses, with at least one from the biological aspects and one from the social and behavioral aspects lists below.

### **Biological Aspects (at least 1 unit)**

- Human Form and Function (BIO 171)
- Themes in Biology (BIO 201, formerly 185)
- Human Evolution (ANT 205)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology I (BIO 141)



- Principles of Microbiology (BIO 144)
- Wellness Promotion Across the Lifespan (PBH/NUR 220)
- Molecular, Immunology and Human Disease (BIO 444) [prereq. BIO 211]
- Caring in Community Health/Science (NUR 440)

**Social and Behavioral Aspects (at least 1 unit)**

- Culture, Health and Illness (PBH/SOC/ANT 371)
- Global Public Health (PBH/SOC/ANT 372)
- US Public Health and Social Policy (PBH/SOC/ANT 373)
- New Media and Health Communication (PBH/COM 345)
- Health Communication Campaigns (PBH/COM 403)
- Health Economics (ECO 320) [prereq. ECO 101]
- Contemporary Legal Challenges in Healthcare (NUR 300)
- Biomedical Ethics (PHL 255) [prereq. 1 course in philosophy or permission of instructor]
- Biopsychology (PSY 212) [prereq. PSY 101]
- Health Psychology (PSY 340) [prereq. PSY 101]
- Inequality, Pollution and the Environment (SOC 345)
- Public Health Grant Writing for Foundations (PBH 406)
- Health Analytics: Identifying, Collecting, And Analyzing Big Data (prerequisites PBH401 and STA 115) (PBH 402)
- Health Informatics (PBH 403)
- Gender and Public Policy (WGS 330)
- Women and Health (WGS 210)

NOTE: According to TCNJ policy, students may double-count **one** course from a minor into a major or interdisciplinary concentration. For public health minors, this does not include the co-requisite course. However, only one course from core, biological aspects, or social/behavioral aspects may count towards both a major or an interdisciplinary concentration.

**Declaration of Optional Public Health Minor**

Students may declare the minor with approval from the Chair Public Health and by submitting a completed Application for Minor Course of Study form, which may be downloaded from the Records and Registration website. Once signed by the Chair, the form must be submitted to Records and Registration. Note: Students must submit the Application for Minor Course of Study form at least one semester before graduation.

Students must satisfy the minor requirements according to the Bulletin in effect at the time of their formal declaration. Minors must be officially declared before the deadline for applying for graduating in a given term. Minors not completed at the time of graduation will be dropped from the student's record. Students are encouraged to declare intended minors as soon as possible, as some classes are restricted to majors and minors.