

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

Overview

Mission

The mission of the Master of Public Health (MPH) program (<https://www.biola.edu/degrees/g/master-of-public-health/>) is to provide rigorous academic and practical experiences to equip public health agents of change: dedicated to improve population health, establish preventative measures, and promote health equality, with careers in government health agencies, healthcare systems, and non-profit organizations.

Program Description

Hallmarks of this program include:

- Strong foundation:** Students will receive rigorous instruction in all aspects of public health theory and practice in order to develop skills needed to be life-long learners.
- Excellence in public health practice:** Students will be prepared for impactful service as health professionals with diverse field and research experiences working closely with public health faculty, field preceptors and community partners.
- Biblical perspective:** Students will be taught from a Christian worldview in order to be compassionate agents of change, ethical decision-makers, health educators, and champions of health equality.
- Impactful:** Students will integrate their education and practical experiences to be impactful community and global agents of change, and effectively address public health challenges through research, publication, health promotion, and service.

The MPH program at Biola University is focused on preparing public health professionals who are ethical leaders equipped to serve local and global communities.

Our MPH program allows students to focus on one of two public health specializations:

- Master of Public Health in Global Health
- Master of Public Health in Epidemiology

CEPH Accreditation Status

The MPH program at Biola University is a pre-candidate for accreditation by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Biola University is working with CEPH towards obtaining Public Health Program (PHP) CEPH accreditation with a target date of Fall 2025.

Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, students will be able to:

- Articulate the core functions of public health and the 10 essential public health services that improve population health (ULO 1).
- Apply quantitative and qualitative methods in assessing, planning, and evaluating the health of diverse populations (ULO 1).

- Discuss evidence-based practices in public health, including screening, intervention, health promotion, and policy development (ULO 2).
- Implement public health principles to advance research, health education, and health equality (ULO 3).
- Integrate biblical principles in health promotion, cultural competency, and community service (ULO 3).

Each Program Learning Outcome (PLO) listed above references at least one of the University Learning Outcomes (ULO 1, 2, 3), which may be found in the General Information (<http://catalog.biola.edu/general-information/>) section of this catalog.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

- Complete Biola University's Graduate Education application
- Hold a Bachelor's degree or equivalent from an accredited college or university
- Have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale
- One course in college-level human or general biology
- One course in college algebra, statistics, pre-calculus, or calculus
- Two letters of recommendation
- Resume or CV
- Statement of purpose and objectives
- Submit TOEFL or IELTS scores if English is not a primary language of instruction

Graduation Requirements

- MPH core courses must be passed with a grade of "B-" or higher.
- The minimum GPA for the graduate program would be 3.0. Students who drop below a 3.0 in any one semester will agree to remediation help as specified by the student handbook for one semester. If their GPA does not improve to at or above 3.0 for the next semester, students may be dismissed from the program.
- Candidates must successfully complete 150 supervised practicum hours during an off-campus field practicum course.
- Candidates must successfully complete 250 contact hours towards their graduate project with a culminating graduate project paper completed.
- A minimum of 42 credits is required for the Master of Public Health in Epidemiology degree.
- Candidates must consult with their department advisor and graduate academic records and degree specialist in the Office of the Registrar one year prior to graduation to declare intent to graduate. (See Graduate Graduation Check description in the Admission, Enrollment, and Graduation Requirements section (<http://catalog.biola.edu/general-information/admission-enrollment-graduation-requirements/>)).

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Program Core Requirements		
PHLT 505	Principles of Epidemiology ¹	3
PHLT 510	Community and Global Health ¹	3
PHLT 515	Principles of Biostatistics ¹	3

PHLT 520	Health Behavior and Health Promotion	3
PHLT 525	Environmental Health	3
PHLT 530	Global Health Leadership	3
or PHLT 540	Theology of Work and Vocation	
PHLT 535	Public Health Policy and Practice ¹	3
PHLT 605	Research Methods	3
PHLT 610	Public Health Integrative Experience	2
PHLT 615	Graduate Project	4
PHLT 620	Public Health Practicum	3
Epidemiology Electives (Select 9 credits)		9
PHLT 640	Global Communicable Disease Control	
PHLT 650	Current Issues in Epidemiology	
PHLT 652	Molecular Epidemiology	
PHLT 654	Epidemiology of Chronic Disease	
PHLT 656	Outbreak and Emergency Preparedness	
PHLT 658	Cancer Epidemiology	
PHLT 660	Applied Methods in Epidemiology	
Total Credits		42

¹ Public Health, B.S. MPH Grad Track students take PHLT 505, PHLT 510, PHLT 515, and PHLT 535 in their last undergraduate year.