

**PhD Program in Health Behavior (JDP)
Educational Objectives, Fall 2012 and Spring 2013**

Educational Objective
1. Describe the distribution and determinants of health and disease in populations and the factors that influence these distributions.
2. Describe major national and international health concerns, their established risk factors and other contributing factors for these problems.
3. Identify the ethical issues involved with studies of human populations.
4. Develop a systematic approach for planning, collecting, processing and analysis of information and data in research and practice settings.
5. Identify and apply appropriate analytic and statistical methods to data generated from a wide variety of public health research.
6. Translate public health research findings into recommendations for specific interventions, health policies, or further investigative research.
7. Communicate scientific findings clearly and concisely to other health professionals both orally and in writing, as well as to the media and broader community.
8. Develop and write fundable research proposals and critique those of other investigators.
9. Demonstrate the ability to plan and successfully complete independent research addressing a public health problem.
10. Demonstrate a sound grasp of the major influential theories and models of health behavior change.
11. Demonstrate knowledge of best practices for measuring health behaviors and related risk factors, and use psychometric principles to develop new reliable and valid measurement instruments.
12. Use qualitative research methods to address health behavior research questions and to plan interventions.
13. Design effective interventions to motivate a change in population health behavior.
14. Demonstrate a sound grasp of sophisticated designs that test the effectiveness of theoretically-based interventions in health behavior.
15. Demonstrate a sound grasp of the evidence of the effectiveness of policy interventions, particularly those focused on environmental incentives, in promoting healthy behaviors.
16. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the biological basis of health behaviors.
17. Demonstrate skills in writing research proposals that would be competitive at the National Institutes of Health and comparable funding organizations.