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 theses 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 mew 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.