

MPH Course Roadmap: Health Promotion and Behavioral Science

Overview: This document shows the suggested course sequence for full-time students who wish to complete our 51-unit program in 2 years. Please follow this sequence when registering for courses and consult the [Graduate Student Handbook](#) for policies pertaining to GPA requirements. Elective course offerings may change each year and can be found in the mySDSU system during registration. Consult your assigned faculty advisor or the Graduate Advisor (Dr. Jenny Quintana, jquintan@sdsu.edu) for advice and support as needed.

Semester 1 (Fall) Total Required Units: 13	Semester 2 (Spring) Total Required Units: 13	Summer Total Required Units: 0
<p><u>Required Core/Concentration Courses (12 units)</u> PH603 Behavioral and Social Sciences in PH (3) * PH 601 – Epidemiology (3) PH 607 – Research Methods (3) * PH 661 – Theoretical Foundations of Health Promotion (3) *</p> <p><u>Required ILE Course (1 unit)</u> PH 797 – Research with faculty advisor (1)</p>	<p><u>Required Core/Concentration Courses (12 units)</u> PH 602 – Biostatistics (3) PH 605 – Health Services Administration (3) PH 662 – Program Planning and Intervention Development (3) * PH 604 – Environmental Det. of Health (3)</p> <p><u>Required ILE Course (1 unit)</u> PH 797 – Research with faculty advisor (1)</p> <p><u>Recommended Required Field Placement¹</u> Start PH 650R and 750F</p>	<p><u>Recommended Field Placement¹</u> Start Field Placement: PH 650R (3) and 750F (3)</p> <p><i>Generally, students complete the field placement hours during the Summer but enroll in the Fall semester of the following year (Semester 3). All paperwork must be approved prior to starting for hours to count.</i></p>
Semester 3 (Fall) Total Required Units: 16	Semester 4 (Spring) – Graduation Total Required Units: 9	Integrative Learning Experience Timeline
<p><u>Required Core/Concentration Courses (12 units)</u> PH 663 – Health Promotion Communications (3) * PH 672 – Public Health Program Evaluation (3) * PH 606 – Applied Research Methods: ILE Part I (3) *</p> <p><u>Required Field Placement (3-6 units)¹</u> PH 650R Field Placement (3) (130hrs) PH 750F –Field Placement (3) (160hrs; <i>can wait to register until Semester 4</i>)</p> <p><u>Required ILE Course (1 unit)</u> PH 797 – Integrative Learning Experience (1)</p> <p><u>Prescribed Elective(s) (3-6 units)</u> PH 700F - Qualitative Methods (3) PH 627 – Advanced Statistical Methods in PH (3) PH700A – Seminar in SPPS (2) <i>May not count towards degree; check with advisors</i></p>	<p><u>Required ILE Course (3 units)</u> ILE Plan A Thesis: PH 799A – Thesis (3) OR ILE Plan B Manuscript, Systematic Review or Capstone Project: PH 798 – Special Study (3)</p> <p><u>Required Field Placement (3 units)</u> PH 750F – Field Placement (3) (160hrs; <i>if not already completed during Semester 3</i>)</p> <p><u>Prescribed Elective(s) (3-6 units)</u> PH 700F - Data Analysis for HPBS: ILE Part II (3) PH 664 - Health, Society and Human Behavior (VIDAII)</p>	<p><u>Semester 2:</u> Develop a plan with your mentor(s) and sign an agreement form with your proposed faculty/ILE advisor and field preceptor (if applicable). Prepare and submit IRB protocol if needed.</p> <p><u>Semester 3:</u> Conduct project, gather data, etc. Conduct literature review and write introduction and methods sections of the final written product.</p> <p><u>Semester 4:</u> Conduct analyses and write results and discussion sections. If thesis, manuscript or systematic review, schedule oral defense; if capstone project, present at symposium.</p>
<p><i>Note:</i> The prescribed electives offered by the SPH may change each year; please see current course schedule on mySDSU and/or speak with your advisor before selecting your prescribed electives.</p>		

Important considerations for course planning in HPBS:

- *Unit Requirements:* The total number of units needed to graduate is 51, though students are allowed to take additional units if desired. The 51 units includes:
 - 18 units of required core public health courses (PH601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606)
 - 15 units of required HPBS concentration courses (PH607, 661, 662, 663, 672)
 - 6 units of field placement experience (650R & 750F)
 - 6 units of integrated learning experience (ILE; 797 & 798 or 799)
 - 6 units of prescribed electives (The [prescribed electives](#) offered by the SPH may change each year; please check current course schedule and speak with your advisor)
 - The electives specified in the above roadmap are the electives that will likely be offered every year and that past students have found most helpful for completing their ILEs; however, students can take any elective courses that they feel are best aligned with their academic and professional goals.
- *Course Sequence:* Some courses must be completed sequentially or by a certain point in the student's educational career (see more in *Advancement to Candidacy* section). **Courses denoted with *** in the roadmap are only offered once each year and therefore not taking them in the recommended semester could cause the student to delay their graduation by a semester or more.
- *Advancement to Candidacy:* Students must advance to candidacy the semester PRIOR to their semester of graduation, which means that they must complete core curriculum courses with the required GPA. **Bolded courses in the roadmap above** are core courses in the curriculum and must be completed at a "B- or better" and "B" average overall to advance to candidacy.
- ¹ *Field Placement:* PH650R and PH750F are the units associated with the required field placement. Field placement sites must be deemed safe and appropriate learning environments for students by the SPH. As such, students must complete all forms AND RECEIVE APPROVAL from the Field Placement Coordinator before starting ANY field placement, or else the hours worked will not be counted. Students must re-apply each time they enroll in field placement units; please see the Field Placement module on the Canvas homeroom for the latest instructions.
- *More notes on field placement:* Six units of field placement are required. Students can take additional field placement units as prescribed elective credit *if* their role continues and extends beyond the original learning objectives. Enrollment in the additional units will only be approved after the original, required units are completed.
- *Full-time vs. Part-time Status and Financial Aid:* To be considered a full time student, you must be [enrolled in at least 9 units](#). If you drop below 9 units, you may lose certain financial aid benefits. Please check with your financial aid office to ensure you are familiar with the requirements.
- *Integrated Learning Experience (ILE) Units:* Please see the [guidance](#) about the ILE options you can choose from and speak regularly with your faculty advisor about what is best for you. Different ILEs have different requirements for enrollment in terms of the course number and when the courses can be taken. For instance, if you are doing the Plan A Thesis, you must enroll in 799A only during the semester you plan to complete and defend your thesis. PH 799A is offered Fall or Spring only. If you plan to graduate in Summer, you must enroll in PH 799A in Spring and PH 799B in Summer.

Want more information? Check out these resources: [Graduate Student Handbook](#); Canvas Homeroom; [HPBS](#) site; [University Catalog](#)