

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN PUBLIC HEALTH CORE CONCEPTS

### SECTION II: STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR THE PROGRAM

Students seeking a graduate certificate will come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences with a desire for a broad introduction to public health as a potential career path. The required courses are designed to provide a general understanding in the areas basic to public health so that each student will be able to:

1. **Biostatistics:** Apply statistical methods to the solution of problems in public health and medicine, including the use of health data and the design and analysis of surveys and experiments
2. **Epidemiology:** Understand the distribution and determining factors of disease, injuries, and death in human populations, exploring variations in relation to such considerations as age, gender, race, occupational and social characteristics, diet, and the environment
3. **Environmental health:** Identify, measure, and control biological, chemical, and physical hazards in the environment to promote and protect human health
4. **Health services administration:** Examine the organization and financing of the public and private sector activities required at local, state, and federal levels and treat disease
5. **Social and behavioral health:** Explore how people's health-related behaviors interact with their social, cultural, physical, and biological environments and learn how to combat health-damaging behaviors and become advocates for health-promoting behaviors

#### Relationship to Kansas State University Student Learning Outcomes

Graduate Certificate Program Student Learning Outcomes		University-wide SLOs for Graduate Programs			Program SLO is conceptually different from university SLOs
		Knowledge	Skills	Attitudes and Personal Conduct	
<b>Outcome 1 : Biostatistics</b>	Apply statistical methods to the solution of problems in public health and medicine, including the use of health data and the design and analysis of surveys and experiments	X	X		
<b>Outcome 2: Epidemiology</b>	Understand the distribution and determining factors of disease, injuries, and death in human populations, exploring variations in relation to such considerations as age, gender, race, occupational and social characteristics, diet, and the environment	X	X		
<b>Outcome 3: Environmental health</b>	Identify, measure, and control biological, chemical, and physical hazards in the environment to promote and protect human health	X			

<b>Outcome 4: Health services administration</b>	Examine the organization and financing of the public and private sector activities required at local, state, and federal levels and treat disease	X		X	
<b>Outcome 5: Social and behavioral health</b>	Explore how people's health-related behaviors interact with their social, cultural, physical, and biological environments and learn how to combat health-damaging behaviors and become advocates for health-promoting behaviors	X	X	X	

**How will the student learning outcomes be assessed? What groups will be included in the assessment plan?**

<b>Graduate Certificate Program SLOs</b>	<b>Measures used in the assessment of SLOs</b>	<b>Direct measure</b>	<b>Indirect measure</b>	<b>Who will be assessed?</b>
<b>Outcome 1: Biostatistics</b> —Apply statistical methods to the solution of problems in public health and medicine, including the use of health data and the design and analysis of surveys and experiments	Completion of either STAT 702 or STAT 703	Three exams and computer assignments; homework is assigned and discussed, but not graded	The MPH Program Director will administer an exit survey to each student at the completion of the certificate program.	All students in the program.
<b>Outcome 2: Epidemiology</b> —Understand the distribution and determining factors of disease, injuries, and death in human populations, exploring variations in relation to such considerations as age, gender, race, occupational and social characteristics, diet, and the environment	Completion of both DMP 708 and DMP 854	DMP708: Three exams, class assignments, and guest lecture quizzes  DMP 854: Six computer-based assignments; 4-6 papers from the scientific literature	The MPH Program Director will administer an exit survey to each student at the completion of the certificate program.	All students in the program.

<p><b>Outcome 3:</b>  <b>Environmental health</b>—Identify, measure, and control biological, chemical, and physical hazards in the environment to promote and protect human health</p>	<p>Completion of DMP 806</p>	<p>Weekly brief quizzes; written individual reports; oral presentations</p>	<p>The MPH Program Director will administer an exit survey to each student at the completion of the certificate program.</p>	<p>All students in the program.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 4:</b>  <b>Health services administration</b>—Examine the organization and financing of the public and private sector activities required at local, state, and federal levels and treat disease</p>	<p>Completion of HRIMD 720</p>	<p>Biweekly email journal entries; interview with a health care administrator; final comprehensive examination</p>	<p>The MPH Program Director will administer an exit survey to each student at the completion of the certificate program.</p>	<p>All students in the program.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 5:</b>  <b>Social and behavioral health</b>—Explore how people's health-related behaviors interact with their social, cultural, physical, and biological environments and learn how to combat health-damaging behaviors and become advocates for health-promoting behaviors</p>	<p>Completion of KIN 818</p>	<p>Two comprehensive written examinations; In-class discussions and assignments; a research paper</p>	<p>The MPH Program Director will administer an exit survey to each student at the completion of the certificate program.</p>	<p>All students in the program.</p>

When will these outcomes be assessed? When and in what format will the results of the assessment be discussed?

<b>Graduate Certificate Program SLOs</b>	<b>Year 1 (2008-2009)</b>	<b>Year 2 (2009-2010)</b>	<b>Year 3 (2010-2011)</b>	<b>Discussion group(s)</b>
<b>Outcome 1: Biostatistics</b> —Apply statistical methods to the solution of problems in public health and medicine, including the use of health data and the design and analysis of surveys and experiments	X	X	X	Course instructors, students, and members of the MPH Coordinating Committee.
<b>Outcome 2: Epidemiology</b> —Understand the distribution and determining factors of disease, injuries, and death in human populations, exploring variations in relation to such considerations as age, gender, race, occupational and social characteristics, diet, and the environment	X	X	X	Course instructors, students, and members of the MPH Coordinating Committee.
<b>Outcome 3: Environmental health</b> —Identify, measure, and control biological, chemical, and physical hazards in the environment to promote and protect human health	X	X	X	Course instructors, students, and members of the MPH Coordinating Committee.
<b>Outcome 4: Health services administration</b> —Examine the organization and financing of the public and private sector activities required at local, state, and federal levels and treat disease	X	X	X	Course instructors, students, and members of the MPH Coordinating Committee.
<b>Outcome 5: Social and behavioral health</b> —Explore how people's health-related behaviors interact with their social, cultural, physical, and biological environments and learn how to combat health-damaging behaviors and become advocates for health-promoting behaviors	X	X	X	Course instructors, students, and members of the MPH Coordinating Committee.

**What is the MPH Program's process for using assessment results to improve student learning?**

Based on input from course instructors and student evaluations, the current courses in the certificate program will be reviewed and revised as necessary. The same self-assessment survey used by students in the MPH degree program will be administered to each student at the completion of the certificate. Information from student evaluations of courses, discussions with faculty members and representatives of the units on the Coordinating Committee, and the student self-assessment surveys will be used to determine what information and skills need to be added to the core concept courses to improve the overall certificate program.