

MINUTES OF THE MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Date: January 11, 2012

Location: Mosier Hall N202

Members Present: Cates, Choma, Kastner, Larson, Montelone, Retzlaff, Stevenson

Members Absent: Fung, Heinrich, Kidd, Kelly, McElroy, Procter

Called to Order: By director Dr. Cates at: 1:35 PM **Quorum:** ___ Yes X No

Adjourned: 2:45 PM

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION
CALL TO ORDER	Meeting was called to order by Dr. Cates.	
APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING	Approval of December minutes will be done via e-mail as there was not a quorum present.	Send e-mail to all members concerning December and January minutes, and when approved, post to website.
FACULTY ITEMS	The group briefly discussed advising in the MPH program, particularly the selection of advisors, serving as advisors, and assisting those who advise.	
STUDENT ITEMS	None.	
COURSE ITEMS	<p>Dr. Cates updated the group on the status of the proposed course and curriculum changes. The proposal was approved by the MPH faculty, 36 out of 55 voted. All voted in favor for a 65% agreement. It will be on the January meeting of the Graduate Academic Affairs committee. If approved by all committees and Faculty Senate it will be effective Fall 2012.</p> <p>The group discussed the wording for pages 1 and 3 of the proposed handout for each emphasis area. Pages 1 and 3 are the same for each emphasis area and page 2 will list the unique emphasis area competencies and courses. (Attachment 1)</p>	

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION
COURSE ITEMS (CONTINUED)	Dr. Montelone suggested that we highlight the new requirement: The field experience report and/or thesis should address in a section at the beginning or end of the report/thesis, how each of the MPH core competencies and emphasis area competencies were used or met in the culminating/capstone experience.	
PROGRAM RELATED ITEMS	<p>Dr. Cates reviewed the current admissions process, specifically with each emphasis area having its own admissions committee. The MPH office gathers all application materials and screens and reviews them for minimum qualifications. Then the applications are forwarded to the emphasis area faculty for acceptance and advisor assignment.</p> <p>The group discussed the purpose of the admissions process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure student is not wasting time. Going to Graduate School should be an active decision, not a default because they do not know what to do after they graduate. • Protect quality of degree. We should not admit marginal students. • Meet accreditation requirements. CEPH requires that the process be transparent and consistent. <p>It was the consensus of this group that the current admissions process should continue instead of having one admissions committee that would review all applications regardless of emphasis area.</p> <p>The value of the GRE test was discussed. Dr. Cates analyzed the GRE scores with respect to the MPH final GPA (Attachment 2, Table 1) and the Entrance GPA and the final GPA (Attachment 2, Table 2) to see which one was a better predictor of the student's success. After some discussion, it was suggested to keep the GRE as a requirement for now but to look at the GRE scores of the students that dropped out or received more than one C in the program to see if there is any correlation.</p>	

ACCREDITATION ITEMS	Dr. Cates told the group that Deans Shanklin and Richardson are continuing to work with the Provost and Vice President Shubert on aligning our resourcing with CEPH accreditation.	
OTHER	This is the last meeting of the MPH Coordinating Committee. Dr. Cates thanked the group for their valuable contributions. The MPH program is moving to a new governance structure and this committee will be replaced by the MPH Faculty Advisory Council.	
FUTURE MEETING(S)	None. Changing to new governance structure.	

Attachment

Attachment 1.

Student Learning Objectives and Competencies *Emphasis: **Food Safety and Biosecurity***

The MPH Program is dedicated to assessment of student learning and to appropriate changes in curriculum and courses whenever necessary. At the completion of the degree the student should be able to meet all the Graduate School's Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), the MPH SLOs, along with the MPH Core Competencies and the Emphasis Area Competencies. All courses taken for the degree are expected to meet at least one core or emphasis area competency.

Kansas State University Graduate Student Learning Outcomes

Knowledge	Demonstrate [a] thorough understanding and/or competency in a specific area of emphasis, study, or profession.
Skills	Demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge through critical thinking, inquiry, analysis, and communication to solve problems and to produce scholarly and creative works including but not limited to design, art, performance, [and/or] original research in the form of [a] thesis or dissertation.
Attitudes and Professional Conduct	Exhibit an awareness of their responsibilities (professional integrity, ethical behavior, ability to work with diverse groups of peoples, etc.) and engage in professional conduct towards all constituent groups, including students, faculty, public, etc.

MPH Student Learning Outcomes and Core Competencies Expected of Each MPH Student

MPH SLO: Knowledge and Skills	
Demonstrate these core competencies in each of the five core areas of public health and in at least one area of emphasis.	
Biostatistics Required Course: STAT 701 - Biostatistics (3 hrs)	Apply descriptive and inferential methodologies for testing specific public health or research hypotheses according to the type of study design and measurement scale.
	Apply basic informatics techniques in the acquisition of public health data and in the analysis of survey and experiential designs.
Environmental Health Sciences Required Course: DMP 806 - Environmental Toxicology (2 hrs)	Describe genetic, social and psychological factors that affect health outcomes following exposure to environmental hazards.
	Explain the general mechanisms of toxicity in eliciting an adverse response to various environmental exposures.
	Describe current environmental risk assessment methods, and be able to specify approaches for assessing, preventing, and controlling environmental hazards that pose risks to human health and safety.
Epidemiology Required Course: DMP 754 - Introduction to Epidemiology (3 hrs) Or DMP 708 - Veterinary Epidemiology (2 hrs) AND DMP 854 - Intermediate Epidemiology (3 hrs)	Properly calculate and use measures of disease, injuries, and death in human populations (e.g., prevalence, incidence, relative risk, attributable risk, population attributable risk, etc.) to describe problem magnitude; and to investigate associations to such consideration as age, gender/sex, race, occupation, social characteristics, diet, and environment.
	Draw appropriate inferences from epidemiologic data, and identify the data's strengths and limitations.
	Comprehend basic ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of epidemiological data.
Health Services Administration Required Course: HMD 720 - Administration of Health Care Organizations (3 hrs)	Recognize how the roles and interaction between various stakeholders in the healthcare system (including health care providers, other members of the healthcare workforce, consumers of healthcare, etc.) impact the accessibility of healthcare.
	Describe the demographic trends which impact healthcare, and in turn, public health in the United States.
Social and Behavioral Sciences Required Course: KIN 818 - Social and Behavioral Basis of Public Health (3 hrs)	Identify basic theories, concepts, and models from a range of social and behavioral disciplines that are used in public health intervention and policies.
	Identify the causes of social and behavioral factors that affect the health of individuals and populations with specific emphasis on underserved populations.

In addition to the above, each MPH emphasis area has its own set of unique competencies expected of students completing coursework in the emphasis area.

Capstone/Culminating Experience SLO

At the completion of the MPH coursework and field experience, or thesis and field experience, the student will be expected to meet the following MPH SLO:

MPH SLO: Integration

Demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and skills to solve problems and to produce scholarly work in a culminating experience in the form of a thesis, report, and/or community-based field project.

The capstone/culminating experience requirement for the MPH degree is typically completed at the end of the coursework so that a student may apply the knowledge gained from graduate courses. It is met with the following:

- Six credit hours of field experience with a capstone project and a written report and oral presentation of the field experience and project; or
- Six credit hours of public health research with a written Master's thesis and oral presentation for the capstone project along with three credit hours of field experience.
- The field experience report and/or thesis should address in a section at the beginning or end of the report/thesis, how each of the MPH core competencies and emphasis area competencies were used or met in the culminating/capstone experience.

Requirements and Credit Hours Needed		Select from these Courses	
Field Experience Option			
Field Experience	3-6 hours	FDSCI 840	MPH Field Experience (Food Safety and Biosecurity) Note: Students may enroll in all 6 hours of field experience in one semester or split it between two semesters and enroll in 3 hours of field experience each semester
Thesis Option with Field Experience			
Thesis	6 hours	FDSCI 899	Master's Research/Thesis (Food Safety and Biosecurity)
Field Experience	3 hours	FDSCI 840	MPH Field Experience (Food Safety and Biosecurity)

This experience is the culmination of one's graduate education and training that reflects not only on the student's accomplishments, but also on the quality of the program. Field experience should include work at a public health agency or similar organization outside of the normal academic setting and should allow the student to apply the knowledge learned from the core and emphasis area courses.

If completing a thesis, the area of research should be focused on population-based health questions rather than on basic research in a laboratory. This does not preclude doing laboratory analyses of data gathered in populations of animals or humans. A thesis completed as partial fulfillment for the MPH degree must be accepted by the Graduate School, becomes a single-authored publication and contributes to the body of knowledge in public health.

Summary

Requirement	Credit Requirement	Total
MPH Core Courses required by all emphasis areas	14-16 hours	14-16 credit hours
Food Safety and Biosecurity emphasis area courses	18-22 hours	18-22 credit hours
Field Experience or Thesis and Field Experience	6-9 hours	6-9 credit hours
Total required for MPH degree		42 credit hours

All MPH graduate students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above in ALL graduate course work to remain in good standing in the program and to graduate with an MPH degree. Detailed information concerning this requirement may be found on the Graduate School website: <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/>

Attachments

Attachment 2.

Table 1. GRE / MPH Final GPA (after Dec 2011)

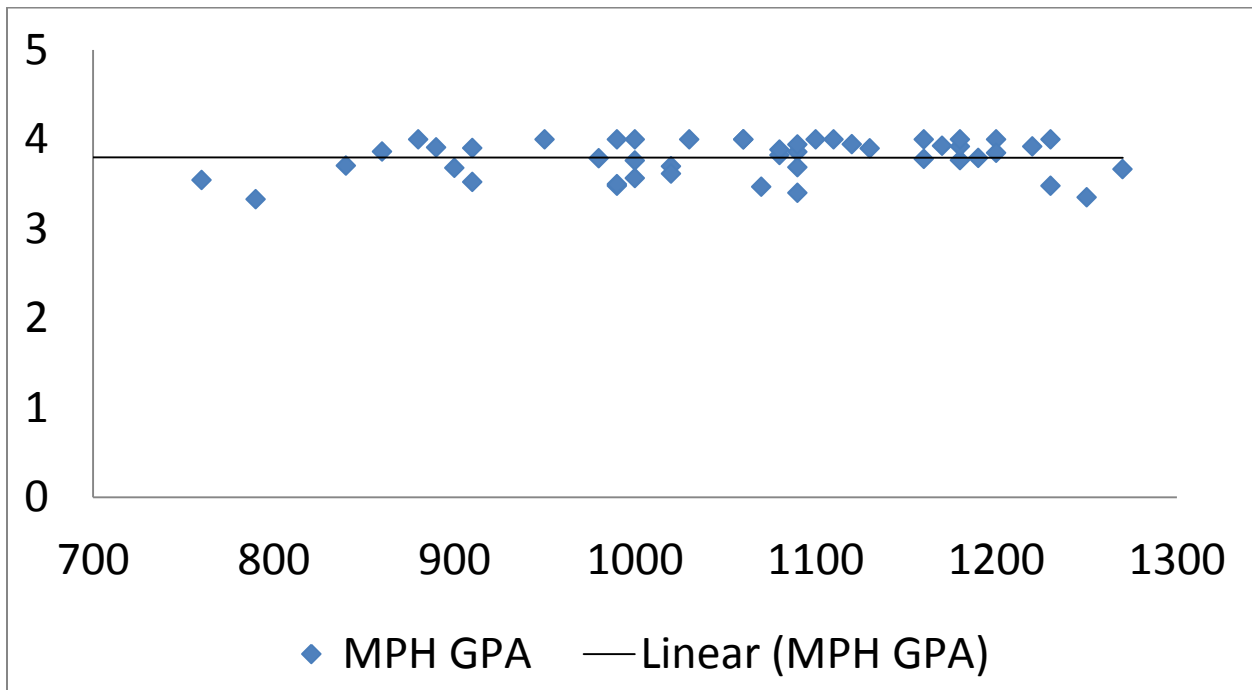


Table 2. Entrance GPA / MPH Final GPA (after Dec 2011)

