



Master of Public Health

Choosing your Graduate Supervisory Committee

# Graduate Supervisory Committee

- Within the first year of study, generally at the beginning of the second semester, work with your advisor in the formation of the supervisory committee.
- You had an advisor assigned to you when you started the MPH program, this is your opportunity “choose” your major professor:
  - If you have a GTA/GRA position, the faculty member supervising you is likely your major professor (there are exceptions)
  - Your advisor may be your permanent major professor (if you choose)
  - Your advisor may become a committee member (if you choose)
  - Your advisor may not be on your official committee (if you choose)

# Supervisory Committee

- Required by the Graduate School – must have 3 members
- Major professor – MPH program faculty
- 1 or 2 from MPH program faculty OR
- 1 other graduate faculty member
- Committee members assist with:
  - Program of Study
  - APE & ILE
  - Completion of Report and Presentation

# How to identify members

- Faculty teaching your courses
- Faculty in your emphasis areas
- Faculty whose research align with your interests
- <https://www.k-state.edu/mphealth/faculty/faculty-staff.html>

# How to ask faculty to be on your committee

- Send the faculty member an email
  - Explain your interests and background
  - Indicate your emphasis area
  - Request them to consider being a member of your committee
- Follow up with a phone/Zoom call/appointment
- Ask the faculty members about their expectations
  - Is a thesis required?
  - Or is the APE and ILE required by the MPH program enough
  - Are presentations at conferences required/expected?
  - What is the expected timeline for the project writing/editing/defense?

# How to formalize the committee

- The graduate committee is formalized once the program of study (POS) is submitted
- All members must approve and sign your POS for this to occur
- September 30 Session – we will talk specifically about the POS

# Resources

- <https://www.k-state.edu/mphealth/current/> (MPH website)
- <https://www.k-state.edu/mphealth/faculty/faculty-staff.html> (MPH website)
- Electronic POS <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/academics/forms/> (Graduate School's website)
- MPH POS instructions <https://www.k-state.edu/mphealth/pdf/pos/MPH%20Electronic%20POS%20Instructions.pdf>
- MPH Graduate Handbook, see 4.1, 5.1 (p13) [https://www.k-state.edu/mphealth/pdf/mph\\_handbooks/18-19%20MPH%20GRADUATE%20STUDENT%20HANDBOOK.pdf](https://www.k-state.edu/mphealth/pdf/mph_handbooks/18-19%20MPH%20GRADUATE%20STUDENT%20HANDBOOK.pdf)
- Masters Supervisory Committee <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/graduate-handbook/chapter2.html#Supervisory%20Committee> (Graduate School's website)

# Contact us with any questions

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