Health Science (HS)

Courses

**HS A210 Introduction to Environmental Health 3 Credits**
Provides an introduction to the field of environmental health including health effects of global climate change. Reviews agents of environmental disease and public health applications.

**HS A220 Core Concepts in the Health Sciences 3 Credits**
Orientation to health issues in the United States and Alaska. Explores basic dynamics of health and illness, transition from infections to chronic illness, measures of population health and overall health care delivery system. Examines public health's history, goals and factors related to health across the socio-ecological model (including medical, psychological, socio-cultural, economic and environmental factors).

**HS A230 Introduction to Global Health 3 Credits**
Provides an introduction to the field of global health with a focus on links between health and economic and social development. Reviews the global burden of disease as well as the impact of culture on health.

**HS A326 Introduction to Epidemiology 3 Credits**
Provides an introduction to epidemiologic concepts and how epidemiologists use the scientific method to better understand the health status of human populations. Addresses disease surveillance, control of infectious and chronic diseases, selection of appropriate study designs for investigation of health determinants, and critical evaluation of epidemiologic studies and health policies.

**Prerequisites:** HS A220.

**HS A345 Planning and Implementation of Health Education Programs 3 Credits**
Theory and practice of program planning and implementation for health education and health promotion programs. Focuses on the use of educational strategies and methods to facilitate the development of policies, procedures, interventions, and systems that support the health of individuals, groups, and communities.

**Prerequisites:** HS A220.

**HS A370 Medical Sociology 3 Credits**
A historical and contemporary overview of selected social, political, and economic factors that influence the provision of health care in America. Focuses on the relationship between health care and race, sex, social stratification, and geographical location. Brief international comparisons with alternative for-profit and not-for-profit national health care systems.

**Crosslisted With:** SOC A370.

**Prerequisites:** SOC A101.

**HS A420 Introduction to Program Evaluation 3 Credits**
Introduces the theory and practice of program evaluation for applied health and human services settings.

**Registration Restrictions:** Junior or senior status and departmental approval

**Crosslisted With:** HUMS A420

**HS A433 Health Education: Theory and Practice 3 Credits**
Provides the theoretical foundation for health education and health promotion. Develops students' abilities to design and deliver health education programs.

**Registration Restrictions:** Faculty permission

**Crosslisted With:** NS A433

**Prerequisites:** HS A220 with a minimum grade of C or NS A300 with a minimum grade of C.

**HS A463 Physician Assistant Clinical Clerkship I 12 Credits**
The first of a two-part course that provides clinical practice in selected institution-based or specialty practice settings, such as psychiatry, dermatology, emergency medicine, orthopedics, surgery, or gynecology and obstetrics.

**Registration Restrictions:** Acceptance into the University of Washington MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Program or by instructor permission.

**HS A464 Physician Assistant Clinical Clerkship II 12 Credits**
The second of a two-part course that provides clinical practice in selected institution-based or specialty practice settings, such as psychiatry, dermatology, emergency medicine, orthopedics, surgery, or gynecology and obstetrics.

**Registration Restrictions:** Acceptance into the University of Washington MEDEX Northwestern Physician Assistant Program.

**Prerequisites:** HS A463.

**HS A465 Physician Assistant Family Practice Clerkship I 12 Credits**
The first part of a two-course sequence that encompasses the treatment of patients in all age groups. Focus is on health maintenance, preventive care, and the psychosocial aspects of illnesses as they relate to the patient and his/her family. Students will develop the skills necessary to evaluate, manage, and monitor common health complaints and problems.

**Registration Restrictions:** MEDEX 464. Acceptance into the University of Washington MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Program.

**HS A466 Physician Assistant Family Practice Clerkship II 12 Credits**
The second part of a two-course sequence that encompasses the treatment of patients in all age groups. Focus is on health maintenance, preventive care, and the psychosocial aspects of illnesses as they relate to the patient and his/her family. Students will develop the skills necessary to evaluate, manage, and monitor common health complaints and problems.

**Registration Restrictions:** MEDEX 465. Acceptance into the University of Washington MEDEX Northwest Physician Assistant Program.

**HS A490 Selected Topics: Health Care Issues in Alaska 1-6 Credits**
Provides specialized course content for health care professionals in Alaska. Topics covered will be of special interest to practitioners in both rural and urban settings. Subjects will be drawn from current health care priority areas including diseases specific to Alaska, substance abuse, behavioral health, and appropriate health care practices.

**Registration Restrictions:** Successful completion of MEDEX NW first year courses or instructor permission.
HS A491 Health Issues in Alaska 3 Credits
Describes historical to present health status of Alaskans, emphasizing health disparities. Students research and implement strategies to reduce risk through health behavior change; evaluate clinical practices using quality measures to improve care quality; and explore social, cultural, and economic factors related to health policy and the clinician's role in health advocacy.
Registration Restrictions: Health sciences physician assistant track major or instructor permission
Prerequisites: HS A463 or HS A465.
Attributes: UAA Integrative Capstone GER.

HS A492 Senior Seminar: Contemporary Health Policy 3 Credits
Focuses on contemporary health policy issues with an emphasis on population-level public policies and health disparities.
Registration Restrictions: Completion of GER Tier 1 (basic college-level skills) courses and junior standing
Prerequisites: HS A220 and HS A326.
Attributes: UAA Integrative Capstone GER.

HS A495 Health Sciences Practicum 3 Credits
Applies health sciences and health education knowledge and skills to specific assigned projects within a community health organization. A minimum of 90 hours of work with the community organization is required.
Special Note: May be repeated once for a total of 6 credits.
Registration Restrictions: Health sciences major and junior standing
Prerequisites: HS A220 and HS A345.

HS A498 Senior Project in Health Sciences 3 Credits
Individual senior projects completed under the mentorship of a faculty advisor. May be repeated once as part of a two-semester sequence with initial results, an outline, and bibliography presented at the end of the first semester and a final paper at the end of the second.
Special Note: May be repeated once for a total of 6 credits.
Registration Restrictions: Senior standing. Approval by the faculty member acting as project advisor.
Prerequisites: HS A220 and HS A345 and (HS A420 or concurrent enrollment or HUMS A420 or concurrent enrollment).

HS A499 Senior Thesis in Health Sciences 1-3 Credits
Individual thesis projects completed under the mentorship of a faculty advisor.
Special Note: May be repeated once for a maximum of 6 credits.
Registration Restrictions: Senior standing. Approval by the faculty member acting as thesis advisor.
Prerequisites: HS A220.

HS A605 Public Health and Society 3 Credits
Incorporates behavioral and social science concepts in analyzing a variety of public health issues nationally, in Alaska and the circumpolar north. Presents how socioeconomic status, culture, race/ethnicity, age, and gender relate to health and disease outcomes and quality of life. Provides knowledge on health promotion and disease prevention interventions.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH program or faculty permission.

HS A610 Environmental and Occupational Health 3 Credits
Provides an in-depth understanding of environmental factors, including biological, physical, chemical and occupational factors that affect the health of a community. Combines an overall ecological concern with specific elements related to individual and community health, emphasizing the interrelatedness of the two.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH program or faculty permission.

HS A615 Health Services Administration 3 Credits
Provides students with knowledge and tools to understand the planning, organization, administration, management, evaluation and policies of public health programs in the U.S. and particularly Alaska. Applies an epidemiological model for health services delivery, strategic planning, health care quality management, performance standards, interagency cooperation, human resource management and ethics.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH program or faculty permission.

HS A624 Circumpolar Health Issues 3 Credits
Provides a critical analysis of key circumpolar health issues, with a particular emphasis on the application of current research to professional practice, programs and policy. Aims to develop and demonstrate, among the students, a level of professionally sophisticated critical analysis skills, problem-solving abilities, and expertise in public health issues most relevant to Alaska and other circumpolar regions. Provides opportunity for students to explore these issues within an Alaskan context in their assignments.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH program or faculty permission.

HS A625 Biostatistics for Health Professionals 3 Credits
Reviews principles of statistical reasoning and quantitative skills for analyzing health data. Illustrates descriptive and inferential statistics. Addresses multivariate parametric and non-parametric statistical tests. Compares methodological techniques and the choice of appropriate statistical methods to answer health research questions. Emphasizes interpretation of statistical results in public health research and practice.
Registration Restrictions: Graduate standing or instructor permission, and a grade of C or better in undergraduate statistics course

HS A626 Principles of Epidemiology 3 Credits
Presents the study of patterns of disease and injury in human populations and the application of this study to the control of health problems. Introduces students to the basic principles and study designs of epidemiology. Covers the application of epidemiologic methods to the understanding of the occurrence and control of conditions such as infectious and chronic diseases, psychological and behavioral disorders, community and environmental health hazards, accidents, and genetic conditions.
Registration Restrictions: Graduate standing or instructor permission.
HS A628 Program Evaluation 3 Credits
Explores the principles and methods of conducting evaluation of health-related programs. Discusses topics such as conducting community needs assessment, program development, evaluation types and models, evaluation designs, politics and ethics of conducting evaluation in community-based settings, and how to effectively communicate the process involved in evaluation and the findings to stakeholders.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH or MSW program or faculty approval; MSW students must have successfully completed the MSW foundation requirements.
Crosslisted With: SWK A628

HS A629 Public Health Research Tools and Methods 4 Credits
Introduces basic principles and methods of health-related research from its conception to analysis and evaluation. Provides an overview of quantitative and qualitative research methods and issues related to their reliability and validity. Provides hands-on training of quantitative and/or qualitative analytical software and completion of CITI Human Subjects Research Education course in lab.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH program or faculty permission.
Prerequisites: HS A625 with a minimum grade of B and HS A626 with a minimum grade of B.

HS A630 Public Health Emergencies and Disasters 3 Credits
Explores public health issues concerning natural and human-generated disasters and emergencies that occur in Alaska, the U.S., and different parts of the world. Covers topics on geophysical and weather-related problems, infectious diseases, war, and related concerns. Addresses prevention, mitigation and public health interventions, which include planning, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies, as well as socio-economic, political, legal and ethical challenges.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH program or faculty permission.

HS A648 Motivational Interviewing 3 Credits
Motivational Interviewing (MI) is an empirically-supported, person-centered, goal-oriented approach for facilitating change by exploring & resolving ambivalence. With background lectures on the theoretical and empirical bases of MI, class sessions emphasize demonstration and practice of MI skills and strategies for diverse behavioral applications (e.g., addictions, health promotion, chronic disease management).
Registration Restrictions: Graduate standing.
Crosslisted With: PSY A648 and SWK A648

HS A654 Cross-Cultural Health Issues 3 Credits
Explores concepts of culture, cultural values, ethnocentrism, and topics related to health, illness, and healthcare delivery. Focuses on cultural competency: how to better understand health behaviors influenced by culture, cross-cultural communications, perceptions of illness and disease, as well as challenges and barriers that are encountered.
Registration Restrictions: Graduate standing and instructor approval

HS A655 Global Health and Development 3 Credits
Overview of global health issues and determinants of health, primarily in lesser developed countries. Covers maternal and child health, reproductive health, nutrition, infectious diseases, and environmental health issues. Explores intervention strategies and the impact of social, cultural, political, and economic factors.
Registration Restrictions: Graduate standing and instructor approval

HS A683 Innovative Practices in Telehealth 3 Credits
Provides an overview of telehealth with an emphasis on telebehavioral health in Alaska. Includes topics on the history of telehealth and current legal, technical and logistical considerations to prepare leaders in the expanding field of telehealth. Includes hands-on experience with telehealth technology and clinical exercises.
Registration Restrictions: Graduate standing or instructor permission
Crosslisted With: SWK A683

HS A690 Selected Topics in Public Health 1-4 Credits
Focuses on special, emerging, current, local, and other topics in public health.
Special Note: May be repeated for credit with different subtitles.
Registration Restrictions: Department permission.

HS A698 MPH Project Practicum 1-5 Credits
The MPH Project Practicum culminates a program of advanced study and evidences a high degree of scholarly and professional competence. It serves as the basis for evaluating the student in the area of evidence-based professional public health service.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to the MPH program and academic advisor approval.

HS A699 Thesis Practicum 1-5 Credits
The thesis practicum culminates a program of advanced study and should evidence a high degree of scholarly and professional competence. It serves as the basis for evaluating the capability of its author in the areas of applied research and professional practice. The thesis practicum is a reflection of the student's capabilities, with the help and guidance of the faculty and appropriate community members. The student's work is reviewed by her/his thesis committee to judge the author's scholarship and professional presentation, and to ascertain that the student has demonstrated his/her knowledge and ability to receive the Master's Degree.
Registration Restrictions: Admission to MPH program and academic advisor approval.