

Dual Degree, Master of Social Work/Master of Public Health

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Master of Social Work

The Master of Social Work prepares advanced generalist social workers who:

- Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior in advanced generalist practice
- Advance human rights and social, racial, economic, and environmental justice in advanced generalist practice
- Engage anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (ADEI) in practice in advanced generalist practice
- Engage in practice-informed research and research-informed practice in advanced generalist practice
- Engage in policy practice in advanced generalist practice
- Engage with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in advanced generalist practice
- Assess individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in advanced generalist practice
- Intervene with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in advanced generalist practice
- Evaluate practice with individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities in advanced generalist practice
- Integrate the context of Alaska in advanced generalist practice

Master of Public Health

Based on national accreditation criteria (Council on Education for Public Health, ceph.org (<https://ceph.org/>)) and quality standards, the overall MPH student goal is to prepare public health professionals who can demonstrate attainment of the following 12 foundational public health knowledge learning objectives, 22 MPH core competencies, and 5 public health practice generalist track-specific competencies.

MPH Foundational Knowledge Learning Objectives

Profession and Science of Public Health

- Explain public health history, philosophy, and values.
- Identify the core functions of public health and the 10 Essential Services.
- Explain the role of quantitative and qualitative methods and sciences in describing and assessing a population's health.
- List major causes and trends of morbidity and mortality in the U.S. or other community relevant to the school or program.
- Discuss the science of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention in population health, including health promotion, screening, etc.

- Explain the critical importance of evidence in advancing public health knowledge.

Factors Related to Human Health

- Explain effects of environmental factors on a population's health.
- Explain biological and genetic factors that affect a population's health.
- Explain behavioral and psychological factors that affect a population's health.
- Explain the social, political, and economic determinants of health and how they contribute to population health and health inequities.
- Explain how globalization affects global burdens of disease.
- Explain an ecological perspective on the connections among human health, animal health, and ecosystem health (e.g., One Health).

MPH Competencies

Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health

- Apply epidemiological methods to settings and situations in public health practice.
- Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context.
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming, and software, as appropriate.
- Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy, or practice.

Public Health & Health Care Systems

- Compare the organization, structure, and function of health care, public health, and regulatory systems across national and international settings.
- Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities, and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and systemic levels.

Planning & Management to Promote Health

- Assess population needs, assets, and capacities that affect communities' health.
- Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design, implementation, or critique of public health policies or programs.
- Design a population-based policy, program, project, or intervention.
- Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management.
- Select methods to evaluate public health programs.

Policy in Public Health

- Discuss the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence.
- Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes.

- Advocate for political, social, or economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations.
- Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity.

Leadership

- Apply leadership and/or management principles to address a relevant issue.
- Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or community challenges.

Communication

- Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors.
- Communicate audience-appropriate (i.e., non-academic, non-peer audience) public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation.
- Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content.

Interprofessional Practice

- Integrate perspectives from other sectors and/or professions to promote and advance population health.

Systems Thinking

- Apply a systems thinking tool to visually represent a public health issue in a format other than standard narrative.

MPH in Public Health Practice Generalist Track-Specific Competencies

Public Health Response

- Address public health emergencies and/or disasters with a focus on preparedness, impact, response, and/or recovery.

Community Engagement

- Engage community partner(s) in identifying and/or addressing public health issues.

Professionalism and Ethics

- Demonstrate ethical decision-making in public health practice.

Diversity and Cultural Humility

- Apply concepts of social justice, equity, and/or cultural humility in addressing public health problems.

Circumpolar Health

- Analyze the unique social, cultural, and/or environmental conditions affecting population health in the Arctic.