



College of Public Service
School of Health Sciences

*Master of Public Health
Student Handbook*



**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE
SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) Degree Program Student Handbook

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**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (M.P.H.) DEGREE PROGRAM
STUDENT HANDBOOK**

SECTION I JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Jackson State University is one of the nation's premiere Historically Black Universities, noted for praiseworthy accomplishments in providing educational and moral preparation to enable and empower graduates to succeed in an increasingly complex and competitive world. The seventh largest among the 117 Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and the fourth largest public institution in the State of Mississippi, Jackson State University provides programs at the baccalaureate, master, specialist, and doctoral levels. In 1979, Jackson State University was officially designated as the Urban University of the State of Mississippi. Located in the State's largest urban area in Jackson, the State capital, the University is surrounded by a population of 400,000 in the metropolitan area.

As the Urban University of the State, Jackson State is ideally suited and situated to provide academic and public service programs to address issues and concerns in the urban environment. The University's mission statement places emphasis upon the development of persons who can and will assume prominent roles in the dynamics of societal growth and change. Thus, the establishment of degree and non-degree offerings, training programs, and technical assistance are promoted by the University to extend its human, cultural, and physical resources into the urban community.

Jackson State University is in the forefront among institutions of higher learning in Mississippi in increasing its graduate level degree offerings. The master's in public health, master's and doctoral degrees in social work, the master's and doctorate in urban and regional planning, the doctorate in business administration, the doctorate in chemistry, and the master's in communicative disorders are among its most recent program offerings approved by the Board of Trustees, Institutions of Higher Learning. The master's in public health, communicative disorders, doctorates in social work, urban and regional planning, and business are court-mandated resulting from the historical *Ayers Case*.

B. ACCREDITATION

Jackson State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The M.P.H. Program is in the process of receiving national accreditation review by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) which accredits Public Health Programs and Schools of Public Health.

C. LOCATION

Jackson State University's Master of Public Health Program (M.P.H.) is located in the Jackson Medical Mall in Jackson, Mississippi, the capital and largest city in the State. Jackson is the geographic, political, industrial and cultural center of the State. The metropolitan area consists of a growing population presently estimated to be 400,000. The University's M.P.H. Program is easily accessible from U.S. highways and interstates. Jackson-Evers International Airport, with direct connections to major cities, is located fifteen minutes away.

D. MISSION OF JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

Consistent with the traditions of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Jackson State University's mission focuses on the provision of opportunities for African-Americans, in particular, to obtain higher education degrees to assist them in their survival as a people. The institution provides heroic leadership toward the securement of economic, political, and social justice for disadvantaged groups in American society.

Since it was founded in 1877 by the American Baptist Home Mission Society in Natchez, Mississippi, a primary focus of Jackson State University has been moral, social and intellectual development, mutual-aid in the African-American Community, and social justice in the larger society. The current University mission statement recognizes that many students will continue to come from circumstances where social, economic, and educational disadvantages require special support and sensitivity. To the extent practicable, the University seeks to accommodate these students in earning higher education degrees. Many of them, once in an empowering academic environment, prove to be academically gifted and become acclaimed graduates.

As the Urban University of the State of Mississippi, Jackson State University places emphasis on providing public service programs designed to enhance the quality of life and seeks solutions to urban problems in the physical, social, intellectual, and economic environments. The types of services rendered include conferences, workshops, technical assistance, training programs, and other degree and non-degree offerings which allow the University to extend its human, cultural, and physical resources into the community.

The knowledge, experiences, skills, and qualities acquired by graduates of Jackson State University include the following:

1. The ability to communicate effectively, through both oral and written expression.
2. The ability to demonstrate competency and creativity in a discipline for the purpose of obtaining and maintaining rewarding employment, and/or engaging in entrepreneurial activities.
3. The ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate ideas and data using logic and quantitative reasoning.
4. A familiarity with and the ability to effectively use current and appropriate technology.
5. A social consciousness which will enable one to think critically and responsibly about moral, social, economic, health, cultural, technological, and political issues, and to contribute to the improvement of society.
6. The achievement of a level of social maturity that will empower one to exercise good human relations skills, informed decision making, motivation and persistence.
7. A knowledge and recognition of the value of both one's own ethnic and cultural heritage and of the similarities and differences inherent in a multi-cultural society.
8. A demonstration of leadership and professionalism through the pursuit of research and educational experiences required in one's chosen career.

E. MISSION AND VALUES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

The mission of the Public Health Program is to provide quality education and leadership in community-based research and practice. Through collaborative efforts with communities, the Program promotes health and seeks to prevent disease and disability, with special emphasis on the underserved and at-risk populations in Mississippi, the nation, and the world.

Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the University assures quality academic programs, including the Public Health Program. The Program identifies the following three values that undergird and drive decisions and behavior: Quality, collaboration, and social justice. Administrators, faculty, and staff are committed to excellence, collaborate with others, and work for fairness and equity for all persons and communities. As demonstrated below, these values are operationalized throughout the Program and are implicit in the mission statement as they permeate the Program's goals and objectives. One of the University's six core values (tradition, accountability, learning, nurturing, service, and responsibility) underscore quality in academic and professional pursuits, specifically noted in the core value of accountability, which stresses "excellence in scholarly activities."

To promote quality, the Program implements multiple efforts to ensure applications of its values. This can be seen in the manner in which the Program developed its curriculum to ensure that a high educational standard is achieved and applied across all courses,

i.e., course syllabi. The use of the Student Instructional Rating System (SIRS) ensures that core competencies are included and updated in all syllabi. Further, the Program receives quality feedback via SIRS and graduating students' exit interviews and alumni surveys and conforms to new trends in the field, as, in virtually every class, students collaborate on research and writing and present oral reports in groups, reflecting how today's health professionals work collaboratively rather than in isolation from one other.

The Public Health Program has developed and implemented several activities and programs presented in the various sections of this self-study, which ensure the value of research collaboration. These activities have been enhanced by the work of the Institute of Epidemiology and Health Services Research and the Center of Excellence in Minority Health, which are integral parts of the Public Health Program. Through these two units, the Public Health Program has been successful in producing collaborative agreements for funding from various sources. For research and publication, faculty members collaborate within their unit, with colleagues in other units, the College, and the University as well as outside the University, and with students. The Public Health Program has several collaborative agreements with agencies for student field placements.

Social justice is evident in virtually every aspect of the program's activities. The Doctoral Program prepares students for advanced community practice, and the Program's commitment to reducing and eliminating health disparities has resulted in annual conferences, health forums and educational events, and research on this topic or related issues. Since 2004, the Program's specific focus of the annual October conference has been the reduction and elimination of disparities in the State, which speaks to the issues of social justice, fairness, and citizens' equality. This value is expressed in one of the institutional core values, which states that "The University believes in and accepts its duty to enhance each generation's capacity to improve the human condition" (JSU Graduate Catalog, 2005-2007). Furthermore, many members of the faculty serve on boards and organizations such as the NAACP that promote social justice. The diversity of faculty backgrounds further contributes to quality teaching, research, and service, as students are exposed to a wide array of expertise, research interests, and service concerns.

SECTION II *ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS*

A. ADMISSION STATUS

Admission to the Master of Public Health Program is done on a selective basis, utilizing the following criteria:

Regular Status

1. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a 3.00 cumulative grade point average is required. International students must have equivalent standard and possess a satisfactory score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Examination.
2. A personal statement of professional goals.
3. Three letters of reference.
4. Completed application forms which may be obtained from the Division of Graduate Studies.

Conditional Status

Students not meeting regular admission requirements may be considered for preliminary or non-degree seeking admission with a GPA of 2.50-2.99 on a 4.0 scale. Students admitted in this status can earn regular status after completing 12 credit hours of program courses with a 3.0 or higher GPA.

B. TRANSFER OF CREDITS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A maximum of 9 graduate semester hours earned with a “B” or higher may be transferred from Jackson State University programs and other institutions toward the M.P.H. degree. Transfer credit is made upon the recommendation of the chair of the major department, the academic college dean or designee, and the approval of the Dean of the Division of Graduate Studies.

SECTION III MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (M.P.H.) PROGRAM

A. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

Full-time students can usually complete the curriculum in two years. Part-time usually requires two additional semesters. Students acquire the necessary professional knowledge, skills and competencies to be qualified for employed public health and medical care practice in their specialized disciplines. The program must be completed with a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA for the minimum 45 credit hours. The curriculum has 4 major components: core courses, required specialization, electives, and field residency. The core courses include the following basic subject studies as required by the CEPH: (a) philosophy and historical basis of public health concepts; (b) statistical basis of population health demography and quantitative, computer-based problem solving; (c) epidemiological foundations of public health; (d) social and behavioral determinants of community and personal health status; (e) environmental and biological factors in public health; and (f) management theory and practice of health and human services.

Required courses in each of three specialized areas assure thorough grounding in greater depth of the particular public health discipline in which the student chooses to qualify. Additional elective studies may be taken in the student's specialized discipline or from other specializations of individual preference. All students must complete integrating experiences through the field internship and applied master's project demonstrating scientific public health processes.

The M.P.H. curriculum requires 6 core courses or 18 credit hours (3 hours per course) for all students. Each department offers 5 required specialization courses or 15 credit hours in the advanced study of public health specialization. The concentrations are:

- Behavioral Health Promotion and Education
- Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Health Policy and Management

Elective courses are offered in each specialization. Students may complete their three (3) courses or 9 credit hours of electives within these specializations or other graduate level courses by advisor approval.

B. MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Appointed by the Associate Dean for one academic year or longer, the M.P.H. Program Coordinator shall work closely the Office of the Associate Dean, Department Chairs, faculty, and administrative staff to provide students with adequate information on program requirements. The coordinator develops, and disseminates schedule for administering the M.P.H. Comprehensive Examination and its evaluation and submit the results directly and simultaneously to the Associate Dean and Department Chairs. The coordinator also assesses with Department Chairs' input, students' overall strengths and challenges and share the information with administrators to frame or improve strategies for satisfactory student performance.

C. MISSION OF THE MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (M.P.H.) DEGREE PROGRAM

The mission of the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) Degree Program is to prepare students at Jackson State University to become competent practitioners in different areas of public health including behavioral health promotion and education, epidemiology, and health policy and management. Individuals with the M.P.H. degree can be expected to compete effectively in the job market and respond to the challenges posed by disparities in health and healthcare affecting minorities and other historically underserved populations. The Program will provide students with a master's experience that is multidisciplinary, problem-centered, fully engaged, and integrative of the diverse elements needed in the education of the public health practitioner.

D. PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the Program are to:

Instructional Goal: To provide students with discipline-specific and core competencies in the essential public health services. To achieve this goal, the program will prepare individuals at the master's and doctoral levels through mentoring and training in public health with a focus on the underserved and at-risk populations in Mississippi, the nation, and the world.

Research Goal: To provide leadership and advance social justice through evidence-based scientific inquiry, generate knowledge in the reduction of risk and prevention of disease and disability among underserved communities and at risk populations in Mississippi, the nation and the world.

Service Goal: To provide technical expertise, advocacy, and translational resources to internal stakeholders (university, school, departments, and program) and external stakeholders (local, national, and global communities, public agencies, and the private sector).

E. CURRICULUM

Behavioral Health Promotion and Education

Course Title

Core Courses	Hours
PHS 501 Public Health and Behavioral Science	3
PHS 502 Public Health Policy and Administration	3
PHS 503 Biostatistics and Computer Applications	3
PHS 504 Environmental and Occupational Health	3
PHS 505 Principles of Epidemiology	3
PHS 506 Research and Quantitative Methods	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	18
Elective Courses	
Any combination of approved electives	9
Practicum	
PHS 508 Public Health Internship	3
Required Courses	
PHS 531 Health Behavior, Promotion and Education	3
PHS 532 Community and Patient Health Education	3
PHS 533 Wellness and Maternal and Child Health Promotion	3

PHS 534 Communication and Health Education Marketing	3
PHS 535 Behavioral Change Program Strategies	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	15
Total Hours for Degree	45

Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Core Courses

Course Title	Hours
PHS 501 Public Health and Behavioral Science	3
PHS 502 Public Health Policy and Administration	3
PHS 503 Biostatistics and Computer Applications	3
PHS 504 Environmental and Occupational Health	3
PHS 505 Principles of Epidemiology	3
PHS 506 Research and Quantitative Methods	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	18

Elective Courses

Any combination of approved electives	9
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Practicum

PHS 508 Public Health Internship	3
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Required Courses

PHS 521 Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology (Methods II)	3
PHS 522 Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics	3
PHS 523 Chronic and Infectious Disease Epidemiology	3
PHS 524 Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology	3
PHS 525 Epidemiology of Minority and Special Populations (Methods I)	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	15

Total Hours for Degree 45

Health Policy and Management

Core Courses

Course Title	Hours
PHS 501 Public Health and Behavioral Science	3
PHS 502 Public Health Policy and Administration	3
PHS 503 Biostatistics and Computer Applications	3

PHS 504 Environmental and Occupational Health	3
PHS 505 Principles of Epidemiology	3
PHS 506 Research and Quantitative Methods	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	18

Elective Courses

Any combination of approved electives	9
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Practicum

PHS 508 Public Health Internship	3
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Required Courses

PHS 511 Organizational Design and Behavior	3
PHS 512 Public Health Policy, Law and Ethics	3
PHS 513 Financial Management of Health Services	3
PHS 514 Health Information Management Systems	3
PHS 515 Marketing Public Health and Strategic Planning	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	15

Total Hours for Degree	45
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F. Description of Courses and Prerequisite Requirements

PHS 501 Public Health and Behavioral Science (3 hours)

This course introduces public health organization and practice, including history, concepts, legal basis, purposes, programs and trends in the evolving of public and private sectors of social and preventive medicine in America. It discusses various behaviorally-related health determinants and presents a number of theories/models to change behaviors at individual and group levels.

PHS 502 Public Health Policy and Administration (3 hours)

This course presents an overarching introduction to national legislative issues and policy processes together with the managerial functions and practices in public and private healthcare organizations. Study emphasis is on the essentials of how executive and supervisory managers professionally perform their roles in the work of leading system-wide teamwork, strategy building, reengineering, resource acquisition, and market effectiveness in competitive environments.

PHS 503 Biostatistics and Computer Applications (3 hours)

This course introduces the principles and methods of statistical analysis. Topics include hypothesis testing, confidence limits, sample size, statistical tests of inferences, and simple linear and multivariate analysis. Statistical software packages such as SPSS and STATA will be used in illustrating the basic principles of data analysis.

PHS 504 Environmental and Occupational Health (3 hours)

This course introduces major community health concerns and problems in the related fields of environmental and occupational health with an emphasis on disease and disability. Students will review and analyze the policy and ecological change implications of these two public domains.

PHS 505 Principles of Epidemiology (3 hours)

This course explores the science and practice of epidemiology and its contributions to disease detection, measurement, and prevention in clinical and public health settings. Specific topics include measurement of disease frequency, measurement of disease association, standardization, bias, and study designs. This course also introduces the practical fields of epidemiology.

PHS 506 Research and Quantitative Methods (3 hours)

This course introduces students to applied research methods in public health. It emphasizes essential concepts, techniques and methods of research practice. Basic measurement procedures for analyzing health data are examined through SPSS computer software, and the student is required to complete the design of a research study. Prerequisites: PHS 503 and PHS 505.

PHS 507 Applied Master's Project (3 hours)

The Masters' Research Project provides a culminating experience of the student's scientific and professional practice preparation, including proposal formulation of the problem to be studied or an operational project to be implemented with the evaluating conclusion and defending report of the outcome. Prerequisite: PHS 506 Research and Quantitative Methods

PHS 508 Public Health Internship (3 hours)

Students conclude their M.P.H. studies with a supervised field experience in their respective specializations. This supervised internship operates for the full semester with a student commitment of a minimum of 400 clock hours with the placement organization, recognizing flexible arrangements for the mutual benefit of all parties and including possible compensation. The department, student, preceptor and field setting will abide by a formal affiliation agreement which provides policies and guidelines for the placement expectations and responsibilities. It culminates with an analytical focus on the student's concentration area. The report should emphasize the learning objectives and competencies for the internship. Enrollment requires permission of the advisor, the instructor of record, and chair. Completion of the course requires the agency preceptor's evaluation.

Required Courses

Health Policy and Management

PHS 511 Organizational Design and Behavior (3 hours)

This course examines universal organizational theories which adapt to private healthcare and public health services. Students study a framework of analysis looking at the management science explanations of human behavior in these settings from the perspectives of individual worker and patient roles, group and team relationships, and global systems. Topics include professional understanding of organizational culture, conflict, strategic design, change, measuring performance, and creating alliances.

PHS 512 Public Health Policy, Law and Ethics (3 hours)

This course provides an overview of principles and policies relating to public health law and ethical applications. This course will explore federal laws and directives, along with state statutes and local ordinances. Recent case law from federal and state courts will be used as illustrations.

PHS 513 Financial Management of Health Services (3 hours)

This course explains important financial management techniques applicable to health care settings. Course materials will include the language and function of financial management, analysis of an organization's financial position, management of working capital and current assets, budgeting, and the use of financial data for decision making. Students will further their knowledge of computerized information systems through class exercises. Emphasis will be placed on the application of techniques to health services organizations. Students will synthesize techniques through completion of an analysis project and/or research paper in health economic and financing. Prerequisite: HCA 450 or instructor's approval.

PHS 514 Health Management Information Systems (3 hours)

This course introduces students to systems in managing for-profit and not-for-profit organizations (such as manufacturing, banking, and health care organization) and emphasizes the role of information systems to increase productivity, to improve quality of products and services, and to insure overall effectiveness or organizational operations. Appropriate application software will be used to analyze cases and complete the class project. Prerequisite: Basic knowledge of computing skills.

PHS 515 Marketing Public Health and Strategic Planning (3 hours)

This course examines an overview of the strategic planning process and state-of-the-art marketing applications used by community health organizations. Marketing is viewed as a social change opportunity for public health practitioners and the analysis and design of market plans are studied. As an extension of the marketing audit, several key planning strategies and methods are critically reviewed for their relative value to managers and stakeholders in decision making of long range and short-term system futures.

Epidemiology and Biostatistics

PHS 521 Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology (3 hours)

The hallmark of the course is designing and presenting an epidemiological research study. Emphasis will be placed on the major types of epidemiological study designs: cross-sectional, case-control, cohort, and intervention studies. In addition, diagnostic studies to evaluate screening programs will be discussed. Prerequisite: PHS 505.

PHS 522 Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics (3 hours)

This course addresses modeling and practical application of statistical principals in data analysis. Statistical Software packages such as SAS and SPSS will be used. Topics include probability distributions, simple linear regression, multiple linear regression, log linear modeling, logistic recession, Poisson, and Cox-Proportional Hazard modeling. Prerequisites: PHS 503 and PHS 505.

PHS 523 Chronic and Infectious Diseases Epidemiology (3 hours)

This course introduces students to various fields of practical epidemiology. This course primarily addresses the epidemiology of cancer, cardiovascular, and infectious diseases. Prerequisite: PHS 505.

PHS 524 Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology (3 hours)

This course reviews the basic statistical tools used in epidemiology research. The course includes: sampling and sample size determination, methods to compute confidence intervals and p-values for key epidemiological measures of association, and an overview of regression and statistical methods for analysis of data. Prerequisite: PHS 503 and PHS 505.

PHS 525 Epidemiology of Minority and Special Populations (3 hours)

This course introduces the salient features of conducting epidemiological research in special populations with a particular emphasis on African Americans. This course covers the epidemiology of diseases and conditions affecting racial/ethnic minorities, children and the elderly. Other components include psychological and behavioral factors and preventive services. Prerequisite: PHS 505.

Behavioral Health Promotion and Education

PHS 531 Health Behavior, Promotion and Education (3 hours)

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of health promotion and health education, concepts and applications. It offers students an opportunity to develop a broad understanding of social, cultural and psychological factors as they affect health and health-related behaviors and outcomes at individual, family, and group/community levels. Areas of responsibilities for health educators, as required by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC) body, are discussed, and

students gain competencies essential to pass the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) examination. The CHES related skills and competencies in combination with an M.P.H. degree creates better job opportunities at state and national levels.

PHS 532 Community and Patient Health Education (3 hours)

This course examines professional health education practices in most community and individual settings where opportunities exist to acquire and behaviorally deploy personal health knowledge into action. Health risk factors are studied using the socioecological paradigm as applied to a selected community. Furthermore, the roles of the health educator as a community advocate, facilitator and collaborator are explored. Patient education in clinical settings focuses on equipping clinical personnel in the competencies and skills of health promotion techniques. Prerequisites: Completion of all M.P.H. core courses and PHS 531.

PHS 533 Wellness and Maternal and Child Health Promotion (3 hours)

This course provides the historical perspective, organization and delivery of maternal child health services as well as an analysis of the major health determinants associated with the system of health care and health promotion for this population. Ethical issues, cultural diversity, special and vulnerable populations, disparate health outcomes, environmental health and nutritional issues will be emphasized while highlighted strategies to overcome barriers in health promotion and provision of care.

PHS 535 Behavioral Change Program Strategies (3 hours)

Examines the behavioral science theories which underpin the fundamental ingredients of most change strategies in continuous health program development. Several models/theories that are designed to alter behaviors are discussed. Theories and models of health perception, health promotion and education along with program planning, research and evaluation are explored. Theories of individual health behavior (e.g., Health Belief Model); interpersonal theories (e.g., Social Cognitive Theory), and models for community level behavioral change (e.g., PRECEDE-PROCEDE Model) are discussed and their applications are shown through research, practices, and actual projects that students undertake in targeted populations. Students also evaluate both classroom case studies and the actual community implementation of health behavior change programs. Prerequisite: PHS 531 Health Behavior Promotion and Education.

Environmental and Occupational Health

PHS 541 Environmental Management and Industrial Hygiene (3 hours)

Introduces students to the basics of Environmental Management and Industrial Hygiene. The course will be divided into two parts. Part I. To help students understand the regulatory approaches, effects of pollution and the source of pollutants, and the various environmental management issues. Part II. To place an emphasis on control of occupational health hazards that arise as a result of or during work. Prerequisites: PHS 504.

PHS 542 Environmental and Occupational Health Risk Assessment (3 hours)
Assists the student in developing the skills necessary to assess, evaluate and recommend control measures to reduce environmental and occupational risks. This course will involve study of chemical exposure and harmful action of chemicals on humans. Students will study scientific methods currently employed to assess human risk to environmental and occupational contaminants.

PHS 543 Occupational Health and Safety Management (3 hours)
Introduces the field of safety, prevention management and issues in occupational health. This course will provide the opportunity for the student to apply public health principles and decision making skills with relation to prevention of injury and disease, health promotion, and protection of worker populations from occupational hazards.

PHS 544 Environmental and Occupational Toxicology (3 hours)
Examines the basic concepts of toxicology and demonstrates how the basic principles are applied in occupational and environmental regulations. Toxicology, the study of the adverse effects of chemical or physical agents on biological systems is a pillar of both clinical medicine and public health. Students will acquire the armament to develop, interpret, and utilize toxicological data for solving environmental and occupational health problems.

PHS 545 Environmental Policy and Occupational Health Regulations (3 hours)
Examines Federal laws and regulations concerning environmental and occupational health. This course will introduce students to State environmental policy and occupational health regulations while emphasizing implementation and compliance with environmental and occupational health regulations and laws. Prerequisite: PHS 543.

Electives

PHS 516 Human Resources Management in Public Health (3 hours)
Examines the role of healthcare administrators and supervisors with respect to personnel interviewing, selection, orientation, performance counseling and appraisal, staff development, leadership development, and related functions of human resources management. Issues of job analysis, labor relations, performance appraisal, training and development and other concerns are studied in relationship to human resource process system.

PHS 517 Managed Care Networks and Public Health (3 hours) Introduces the dynamic impact that managed care has had on the delivery of healthcare services and the cost containment features of the health plans that thrived in the 1990's. The student will become familiar with all aspects of managed care (HMOs, PPOs, and POS) from effectiveness measurement of these health care plans, medical/loss ratios, profit

margins and outcomes measurement to the effect on access to quality healthcare services.

PHS 518 Policy Analysis of Health Legislation and Regulation (3 hours)

Identifies public policies that direct and or influence health care in the United States. Health legislation and regulations that support the implementation of policies will be analyzed. Policies will also be analyzed to determine their strategic importance and implications for individuals, communities and organizations.

PHS 519 Health Program and Evaluation (3 hours)

Provides an overview of theories and application of program planning, implementation and evaluation for public health programs while emphasizing essential components of program planning models and a range of evaluation objectives and designs.

PHS 526 Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology (3 hours)

Introduces the student to the application of epidemiological principles to environmental and occupational health problems. Topics include exposure assessment, study design and conduct of epidemiological studies in the environment and work place, and the effect on the healthy worker. Also examined will be epidemiological research on a range of known environmental and occupational hazards. Prerequisite: PHS 505 or permission of the instructor.

PHS 527 Occupational Disease and Injury Prevention (3 hours)

Introduces students to concepts and challenges of work related diseases and injury prevention. Students learn a systematic approach to identification and clarification of occupation risks and hazards and quantification of exposure effects relationships, with a view towards prevention.

PHS 528 Genetic Epidemiology (3 hours)

Focuses on the pattern of disease incidence in populations in order to infer the genetic basis of the disease. This course includes studying the extent to which environmental risk factors interact with genetic risk factors to increase susceptibility and manifestation of disease. Prerequisite: PHS 505 or permission of the instructor.

PHS 529 Psychosocial Epidemiology (3 hours)

Provides an overview of the literature incorporating social and personality factors, cultural influences upon individual behavior, stress, and related psycho-social factors as determinants of health. Health and illness determinants are multi-factorial and enmeshed in the social fabric and psychologic constitution of the person, or may involve a complex interaction of the person and environment. Psycho-social epidemiological models of chronic disease will be discussed. Prerequisites: PHS 505 or permission of instructor.

PHS 536 Health Education Competencies for Clinical Professionals (3 hours)

Examines the principles, methods and skills of education and promotion practices in alternative health services and medical care settings. Students learn why and how health professionals are able to teach and influence patient clientele roles and behaviors in supportive healing interventions of the healthcare environment. Clinical applications of health promotion and education address risk factor assessment, self-care, patient-program readiness, institutional decision making, consumer culture and emotional stress management. This study leads to the professional acquisition of skills to design and implement effective program planning, evaluation and training of healthcare personnel and their patients.

PHS 537 Medical Anthropology in Public Health (3 hours)

Explores the fundamental relationship of anthropology to the art and science of medicine and public health, broadly defined. Readings and lectures emphasize the impact of anthropology on current modes of biomedical research; alternative systems of health and healing including culture-bound syndromes; the role of anthropologists in biomedicine and public health; critical medical anthropology and the political economy of health; and the interplay between anthropology and other components of public health. Concepts of efficacy, outcome, and healing are also examined.

PHS 539 Pain Issues in Public Health (3 hours)

Exposes students to the cross-cultural and public health aspect of pain and pain related issues like assisted suicide, substance abuse, narcotic regulation, alternative therapy, palliative care and disability. Students will explore the roadblocks to better pain management as it relates to the public and providers discuss evidence based outcome measures, cost control issues and pain in special groups including minority populations.

PHS 551 Maternal and Child Health/Nutrition Program Management (3 hours)

Provides application of core public health functions to the field of maternal and child health and nutrition emphasis is on assessing community nutrition-related assets and problems, principles of grant writing, program planning, administration, budgeting, and evaluation; and leadership skills. Use of the media and social marketing is also covered.

PHS 552 Women's Health and Preventive Medicine (3 hours)

Addresses the determinants of health, morbidity, and mortality across several transitions of the life-span of women, explore biological, behavioral, environmental and societal influences, and provide an integrated approach to women's health issues and public health policy, practice, and research.

PHS 553 Child - Adolescent Health and Preventive Medicine (3 hours)

Analyzes child and adolescent public health issues, stressing the social, developmental, and environmental determinants of health status. The interrelationship of developmental issues, risk behavior, care-seeking behavior and the effectiveness of adolescent programs and services will be examined.

PHS 554 Maternal and Child Health/Nutrition Programs and Public Policy (3 hours)
Integrates maternal and child health and nutrition programs and policy to provide the foundation for advocacy and the development of health services for women, children, and their families. The historical foundation, organization, and delivery of maternal and child health and nutrition services and the influence of public policy is reviewed. Major issues such as cultural sensitivity, financing, and the unique needs of vulnerable groups such as minority populations and children with special health care needs as well as the social and environmental influences on health and the delivery of services are covered.

PHS 555 Maternal and Child Nutrition (3 hours)
Presents important aspects of growth and development, nutritional requirements and concerns, and dietary recommendations from conception to adulthood. emphasis is on the special nutritional concerns of minorities and the medical, psycho-social, and environmental factors influencing nutritional status. Current controversies, chronic disease prevention, and nutrition education and health promotion are covered.

PHS 556 Cultural Nutrition and Health Disparities (3 hours)
Food and its role in the culture, food beliefs and practices of various religious and ethnic groups in the United States. emphasizes the impact of culture, socio-economic differences and other factors on food practices and health beliefs to prepare students for providing culturally sensitive services to communities and clients.

PHS 557 Sports, Wellness, and Contemporary Nutrition Issues (3 hours)
Examines the scientific basis for diet and exercise recommendations, nutritional needs and concerns of athletes, ergogenic aids and nutrition supplements, eating disorders, health benefits and risks of vegetarian diets, and promotion of physical activity and healthy eating habits. Current nutrition issues and controversies covered include research in weight management and obesity treatment, high protein, low carbohydrate and other weight loss diets, health benefits of phytoestrogens and functional foods, food irradiation and biotechnology, dietary supplements and alternative nutrition and herbal therapies. Modern and ancient approaches to diet and exercise are explored.

PHS 561 Administration of Integrated Health and Hospital Systems (3 hours)
Focuses on the complex and essential interrelationships that exist within and among healthcare entities. This course will (1) identify and study components of the healthcare system (hospitals, clinics, home care agencies, hospice care, emergency medical services, etc.) and discuss the interrelationships necessary for their survival and (2) explore the variety of arrangements (networks, systems, alliances, etc.) used to integrate and manage these entities. This course will illustrate that survival within the healthcare industry is largely predicated upon an entity's ability to partner with other healthcare providers.

PHS 562 Nursing and Mental Health Facilities Administration (3 hours)

Focuses on the essential function of management and administration within nursing and mental health facilities. Attention will be given to the multitude of facets of management and administration, elaboration upon both theoretical and practical foundation of each facet. Attention will also be given to environmental factors, both internal and external, that managers must attend to within the nursing and mental health environment.

PHS 563 Primary Care and Group Practice Management (3 hours)

Focuses on management issues pertaining to the primary area and group practice settings in healthcare. This course will explore deeply a variety of management aspects, stressing management implementation strategies and techniques in the practitioner setting.

PHS 564 Comparative and International Health Systems (3 hours)

Introduces important methodological approaches to comparative analyses. For analytical purposes, the health systems of the world will be classified into four major categories. Important country examples from each of these categories will be discussed. More specific objectives of the course are: to discuss the health system categories and their determinants, to identify important components of a health system, and to illustrate the health system categories by selecting country case studies. Health care reform proposals of various countries will also be discussed.

PHS 565 Health Care in Developing Countries (3 hours)

Introduces the students to health care in settings with severe resource constraints, rapid population growth, critical competing priorities, poor data collection and high disease burden. Students are prepared for effectiveness in international health by studying infectious disease control, nutrition, environmental health, health practices and need for sustainability as they apply to the tropical setting.

PHS 571 Statistical Theory (3 hours)

This course is an introduction to the mathematical foundation of statistics and statistical theory. It provides an in depth coverage that includes probability theory, probability distributions, random variables, theories of statistical testing, interval estimation, and hypothesis testing. The course starts with defining a sample space and the random variable then expounds to include distribution and density functions and concludes with applications of hypothesis testing and confidence interval estimation. Prerequisites: PHS 503 or an equivalent introductory course in biostatistics.

PHS 572 Statistical Computer Applications (3 hours)

The purpose of this course is to teach two statistical computing applications: Statistical Packages for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Statistical Analysis Software (SAS). This course covers the basic and intermediate applications of these two statistical programming applications. For SPSS, students will learn the following: the basic components of the software (input, analysis and output interfaces), using the data

editor, creating SPSS data file, create and recode variables, and set properties of variables. For SAS, students will learn the following: components to a SAS program, syntax of SAS program, comment statements, the various features of the Data Step, Procedure (PROC) Steps, common features of both Steps, and SAS Utilities will be covered in much detail. Students will apply the knowledge and skills acquired to the generation of statistical reports using descriptive statistics and related charts. The common feature of the PROC Step of statistical methods ranging from Descriptive Statistics through Analysis of Variance.

PHS 597 Special Topics in Public Health (1-2 hours)

This course enables students to pursue a topic or project of their choice in Public Health, such as health disparities, prevalent illnesses in Mississippi and the US, e.g., diabetes and obesity, HIV/AIDS, cardiovascular ailments, and stroke; international health systems; interventional studies in public health; and tropical diseases, e.g., leprosy, onchocerciasis, trypanosomiasis, malaria, and yellow fever. The course provides M.P.H. students additional research methods training and skills in their public health concentration. Consent of department chair required.

PHS 598 Contemporary Issues in Public Health (3 hours)

Introduces contemporary issues of Public Health. Weekly reports will highlight areas of concern.

PHS 599 Independent Study in Public Health (3 hours)

Provides for the exploration of current public health related and/or issues on the needs, interests, and goals of the student under the guidance of a faculty member with appropriate expertise. The student will concentrate on a topic or issue not covered in another course. Course activities may include the planning, implementation, and/or evaluation of a community based public health project, a written paper, or participation in research. Advanced approval from the instructor is required.

PHS 601 Advanced Biostatistics and Computer Science Applications (3 hours)

This course is an advanced, intermediate level course in biostatistics with emphasis on statistical and analytical techniques important to researchers and practitioners within the public health setting. This course provides in depth coverage of biostatistical methods including statistical inference, sample size calculation, and multivariate regression techniques. This course is offered as an advanced PSH 701 with modification in the theoretical exercises and course expectations for examinations. Prerequisites: PHS 503 PHS 506 and PHS 572.

G. PRACTICUM: PUBLIC HEALTH INTERNSHIP

The Program will assist in placement of students for their field training which will be registered for 3 credit hours and at least one full semester and commit a minimum of 400 hours during the semester under the supervision of a professional public health

preceptor and faculty oversight. The location and specific internship activities will be worked out individually and flexibly between the student and field work organization. Comprehensive “guidelines” following the requirements of CEPH accreditation will be employed by the program and include appropriate covenants of mutual obligation between the university and field agency through a written affiliation agreement. The purpose of this experience is to provide students with in-depth opportunities to apply and demonstrate their acquired knowledge and skill competencies in a public health setting as practice preparation for professional employment upon graduation.

SECTION IV ACADEMIC INFORMATION

A. MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH ORIENTATION

At the beginning of the academic year, mandatory orientation sessions are conducted. During the orientation sessions, students are introduced to the policies, procedures, and organization of Jackson State University and the Public Health Program. Particular emphasis is directed to the curriculum and academic expectations of the Master of Public Health Program. Students meet the College Dean, Associate Dean of the School, M.P.H. Program faculty and staff, and their assigned faculty advisors.

B. COURSE REGISTRATION

Students who have been accepted by the Division of Graduate Studies of Jackson State University and the M.P.H. Program on a full- or part-time basis register for courses offered by the M.P.H. Program.

1. Caution About Full-Time Employment

If students plan to enroll full-time, JSU strongly advises against simultaneous full-time employment which generates barriers to the completion of field internship and class attendance. If students plan to enroll on a part-time basis and are employed full-time or part-time, JSU strongly advises consultation with employers regarding arrangements to complete the field internship.

2. Admit to Class Slip

A student who is not listed on the official class roster at the beginning of the semester must submit to the instructor an admit to class slip to verify official enrollment. An instructor is not permitted to add the student’s name to the class roster without this slip. The admit to class slip must be obtained from the registrar’s office.

C. GRADES

The grading system in the M.P.H. Program is as follows:

A = 4.00	C = 2.00	F = 0.00
B = 3.00	D = 1.00	

1. Passing Grade in the M.P.H. Program
Students may not receive a grade of "C" in more than two courses.
2. Cumulative Grade Point Average Requirement
Students must have attained a 3.0 cumulative grade point average to graduate.
3. Incomplete Grades

INCOMPLETE is the designation used to indicate failure to complete assignments or other course work, including final or other examinations, by the end of the term in which the student is enrolled. The grade of "I" (Incomplete) is recorded when the student has not completed the course for some unavoidable reason that is acceptable to the instructor.

An incomplete grade of "I" is to be considered only when the majority of the course requirements and assignments have been successfully completed and there is a documented crisis situation of illness, accident, or other occurrence which prevents a student from completing the remaining requirements before the school term ends.

The student must make up the deficiency within the first three weeks of the next term in which he/she is enrolled. The deficiency must be removed and the grade changed by the instructor within the first six weeks of the next school term in which the student is enrolled.

When the student is not enrolled at JSU, the deficiency must be corrected within one calendar year from the date the grade of "I" was given. The instructor is required to indicate on the grade sheet the grade the student should receive if the incomplete is not removed within the prescribed time period. If the student fails to complete the course requirements satisfactorily within the specified time, the alternate grade, the grade assigned with the incomplete grade, will be recorded as the grade of record (e.g., I/A or I/B).

4. Grievance of Grades

Students who have a concern about a course grade should follow the University's Student Academic Grievance Procedure which is presented in the University's Student – Grievance Procedures Handbook.

5. Policy on Repeating Courses

Students may repeat only one course in the program with the recommendation of the advisor. Students desirous of this option must submit a written request to the graduate advisor during the subsequent semester or term/session in which they are enrolled. The advisor must indicate support (or non-support) for the request in writing to the Department Chair. When a student is allowed to repeat a course, both grades will show on the transcript and both will be used in computing the cumulative grade point average.

6. Late Attendance and Absence from Class

The extent to which students are committed to their academic and professional responsibilities is reflected in their efforts to attend class regularly and on time. Students are expected to remain in class until official break and until the class session has officially ended. When circumstances prevent a student from meeting these responsibilities, he/she is expected to give prior notice to the course instructor or present documentation that emergency circumstances prevented prior notice.

7. Probation

If a student's cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0, he/she will be placed on academic probation. The student will have until the end of the subsequent semester of enrollment to attain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0. Failure to attain the required cumulative grade point average by the end of the probationary period will result in dismissal from the M.P.H. Program. The probationary period in the M.P.H. Program is defined as one subsequent semester of enrollment in the program after the cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0.

D. CLASS SCHEDULE CHANGES

All class schedule changes must be approved by the student's faculty advisor and the Department Chair. Students may not add or drop courses or change status (e.g., full-time to part-time) without the approval of the faculty advisor.

E. STATUS CHANGE

Change from part-time to full-time or vice-versa must be initiated by the student and faculty advisor and forwarded through the administrative channels.

F. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE M.P.H. PROGRAM

To withdraw from the M.P.H. Program, students must first notify their faculty advisor and the M.P.H. Program Coordinator of their intent in writing. A withdrawal form must be completed by the student and submitted to the department chair. Formal withdrawal from the University is arranged through the Office of Student Affairs. No withdrawal from the University is official until the student has processed the appropriate forms. If a student cancels the entire registration, even if it is only a single course, a withdrawal form rather than a drop/add form must be filed. During the first 15 days from the start of registration, withdrawal from a class or from the University results in No Grade. For the next ten days, it results in "W". From the 26th day until ten days before the end of the semester withdrawal from the University results in "WP" or "WF".

G. TIME LIMIT TO COMPLETE THE M.P.H. DEGREE

Students are required to complete the M.P.H. Program within eight (8) years of starting the program.

H. REQUIRED FORMS FOR MATRICULATION

The Division of Graduate Studies at Jackson State University has developed four forms to be completed by graduate degree candidates. Each form must be completed under the direction of the student's faculty advisor. **It is important that students keep copies of these forms and have them available for program, school, and University.**

- Form I is the degree plan for all first year students, outlining the courses they must successfully complete to earn the M.P.H. degree. Form I is to be filed at the beginning of the semester the student enters the M.P.H. Program. **Students are required to use the format presented in orientation which allows the complete curriculum to be typed in the space provided on the form.**
- Form II is the petition for graduate degree candidacy. Form II is to be filed after completing 12 credit hours.

- Form III is the application for the M.P.H. degree. Form III is filed by the date listed in the Graduate Calendar in the semester you plan to graduate. At this point the student should have filed an application to take the Comprehensive Examination.
- Form IV is the final clearance for graduation. Form IV is filed in the semester the student expects to graduate (after the exit interview with the Program Coordinator and the Department Chair).

I. EXIT INTERVIEW REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION CLEARANCE

All candidates for graduation are required to have an exit interview with the Department Chair. The purpose of the exit interview is to:

- Ensure that candidates have met all requirements for graduation and understand procedures for final graduation clearance (e.g., completion of Form IV and payment of graduation fees);
- Facilitate a dialogue with students regarding their experiences in the M.P.H. Program, complete a program evaluation for the Public Health Program, and discuss their future professional plans; and
- Encourage support of the Public Health Program and the Jackson State University Alumni Associations/Organizations.

J. STUDENT ADVISEMENT

Each student admitted to the M.P.H. Program is assigned a faculty advisor. First year students are required to meet formally with their advisor at least twice during the first semester. The initial meeting with the advisor is held prior to or during registration for the upcoming semester. During this meeting, the advisor and students review and finalize the semester course schedule and complete forms that must be filed with the Graduate School for that semester. The second meeting is held after midterm. In this meeting, there is a careful review of the student's academic progress, discussion of the future field internship, and other areas of professional development.

Students who are beyond their first semester in the M.P.H. Program are required to meet formally with their advisor at least once per semester. These sessions may involve opportunities for collaboration on research, professional presentations, or workshops. Students are encouraged and expected to initiate meetings with their advisors. Faculty advisors are expected to meet with their advisees during each term.

K. CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF STUDENT RECORDS

Student educational records shall be kept confidential, with respect to requests made by any person other than appropriate personnel from the Public Health Program and the University. Information in student educational records will be released only when the student has given written consent (e.g., information for employment).

L. CLASS CANCELLATIONS AND DELAYED SCHEDULING

Adverse weather conditions or power outages, etc., may necessitate class cancellations or delayed scheduling of classes. Students should be alert to television and radio announcements on class cancellations at Jackson State University or call the main switchboard at Jackson State University to find out if classes have been canceled or if delayed scheduling is in effect.

M. INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD APPROVAL OF RESEARCH

All student and faculty research on human subjects and animals must be approved by the University's Institutional Review Board (IRB) and/or the University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IAUCC) prior to conducting the research. Procedures and dates for the IRB and IACUC to review research proposals are made available to students and faculty through the Jackson State University Website.

N. GRADUATE ENGLISH COMPETENCY EXAMINATION

Graduate students are required to take the Graduate English Competency examination during the first semester of graduate study to demonstrate competency in the areas of English grammar and usage and general writing skills. Students with unsatisfactory performance on this examination must enroll in English 500 and attain a letter grade of "B" (3.0) or higher to pass the course.

O. TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

All foreign students whose native language is not English are required to attain a passing score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) before they enroll in graduate studies.

P. AREA COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

All students are required to pass an area comprehensive examination administered by the M.P.H. Program as a prerequisite for graduation. Students must file an application to take the comprehensive examination by the date indicated in the Graduate Catalog.

The first qualification requirement for the comprehensive examination is a 3.0 cumulative grade point average at the beginning of the semester in which the examination will be administered. The second qualification requirement is that students must have completed 24 semester hours of course work toward their degree. The student must be registered for at least one credit hour in the semester in which the examination will be taken. An audited course will not meet this requirement. Students who do not pass the examination may not retake it until the following semester.

The Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination is given twice a year (Fall and Spring). A student may be permitted to take the Comprehensive Examination twice. If the student fails the second time, he/she must petition the College Dean or designee to take the examination a third time.

Following is a summary of the rules guiding the administration and the writing of the Comprehensive Examination:

- Students are requested to read the written instructions carefully. Failure to follow the instructions will result in disqualification from the examination.
- All cell phones must be turned off completely during the exam.
- Students may not use cell phones or any other electronic device during the examination.
- Students must leave all possessions (e.g., bags, purses, cell phones, books, and papers) on the counter.
- Students may not take or use any scrap paper other than that provided by the proctor at the beginning of the examination.
- Only one student at a time may go to the bathroom. Students may not take personal belongings (e.g., bags or cell phones) to the bathroom. If a student wishes to get a personal item from his/her bag before going to the bathroom, he/she must remove the item from his/her bag in front of the proctor.
- Students may not communicate with each other during the examination.
- Students must keep their personal identification number secure. The number will be used throughout the examination.
- Students may not put any identification other than their number on their answers as written on their CD, USB Drive, or disk.
- Students should write their identification number clearly on the CD, USB Drive, or disk provided.
- Answers must be double-space, and each page must be numbered.
- Students may use any font but the size must be at least 12 points.
- Students are requested to start each answer on a new page and must insert their identification number at the top of each page.
- Students must insert the question before beginning each answer.
- Students are required to save all answers in the same file; multiple files will not be considered.

- Students are advised to save their answers every few minutes on the CD, USB Drive, or disk using the same file name as their identification number.
- Students are asked to raise their hand if they have a question (the proctor will come to them to assist).
- At the end of the examination, students must turn in to the proctor the CD, USB Drive, or disk, the sheets with the examination questions, and the scrap paper provided at the beginning of the examination.

For reasons of confidentiality, fairness, and legal implications regarding the administration of comprehensive examinations, at no time will a student be allowed to take, read, examine, or compare his/her examination paper(s) either prior to or after they have been collected and scored by the examiners. However, a student may request his/her score on the examination and, if needed, be shown a typed summary of the examiners' comments.

Finally, each student shall type his/her answers into a computer and, at the end of the examination period, print a hardcopy and submit it to the examination proctor. Each student will also save a copy of his/her work on the CD, USB Drive, or disk, and submit to the proctor an electronic copy along with the hardcopy.

SECTION V STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. CIVIL RIGHTS AND NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Jackson State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, creed, age, ethnicity or national origin, disability, political orientation, or sexual orientation.

B. ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Jackson State University maintains an academic environment where students can register their concerns or complaints regarding matters related to academic affairs (see guidelines located in the University's Student Handbook).

C. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY

All acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on exams, plagiarizing – presenting another person's work as one's own, having another person write one's paper, making up research data, presenting excuses which are untrue for failing to meet academic and professional standards) are a violation of social work values and ethics and University Policy which will entail appropriate penalties (see Jackson State University's Policies and Procedures Relating to Student Conduct).

D. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE POLICY

Jackson State University adheres to Mississippi's laws on alcohol and other drugs. Persons or groups in violation of state law and University policies will be subject to arrest and prosecution by the State's civil authorities, or subject to disciplinary action by the University.

Any person arrested for an alcohol related incident shall appear before the Student Affairs Disciplinary Committee or be referred to the civil authorities. If convicted of an alcohol related offense, the student shall be placed on probation, suspended, expelled, or dismissed from the University.

E. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES POLICY

Jackson State University acknowledges and adheres to the laws of the State of Mississippi as set forth in Section 41-29-101-185 of the Mississippi Code of 1979 (Supp. 1988), which prohibits the sale, distribution, manufacture, possession or use of a controlled substance in the State. The University also complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Acts Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 1012-225), which requires an institution to certify to the Department of Education that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the illicit use of drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees.

In compliance with federal and state laws, Jackson State University prohibits the sale, manufacture, possession, distribution and use of all illegal drugs. Furthermore, Jackson State University will enforce the following regulations:

1. Any student(s) found guilty of the illegal use, sale, manufacture, distribution or possession of illegal drugs will be suspended or dismissed from the University.
2. Any student(s) who violates the laws regarding illegal drugs will be subject to federal, state and university disciplinary procedures.
3. Since the use and sale of illegal drugs is a federal offense, any student found violating these laws shall be referred to state and federal authorities for prosecution.

F. SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

No form of sexual harassment by employees or students will be tolerated at Jackson State University. It is the policy of Jackson State University that no member of the academic community may sexually harass another (see JSU Student Handbook).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The M.P.H. Program adheres to Jackson State University's policies and disciplinary procedures relating to conduct and acts contrary to academic and professional standards and conduct and acts considered criminal on and off the JSU campus as detailed in the most recent JSU Student Handbook.

SECTION VI STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

A. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Graduate School offers graduate assistantships, graduate scholarships, graduate work-study, Federal Perkins Loans (NDSL) and Federal Stafford Loans (GSL). Graduate scholarships are administered both on a competitive and need bases. Scholarships provide either full or partial tuition waivers. Assistantships and work-study grants require part-time student work in the School of Public Health.

Scholarships and other financial support may be offered to matriculating students holding regular admission status and maintaining a 3.30 program GPA as determined by the department through the application review process.

B. THE COMPUTING CENTER

The University Computing Center ranks among the finest in the state. A large scale computer is the heart of the facility. Functioning in the range of hundreds of thousands of operations per second, it is one of the newest generations of computers with time sharing capabilities. Interactive terminals for execution of conversational instructional programs are located throughout the campus. Programming languages supported include COBOL, BAL, FORTRAN, PL1, and BASIC. Scientific packages of programs and subroutines are also available for research and instruction.

C. THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Jackson State University maintains an extensive library system in support of its programs of study and research. The system includes the Henry T. Sampson Library and the Information Services Library at the Universities Center.

The Henry T. Sampson Library

Included among the many unique collections of the Henry T. Sampson Library are the following:

The African American Collection - a circulating collection of books by and about African Americans that is located on the main floor of the library.

The Government Documents Collection - A collection of over 154,000 federal and state documents is available to the public through the Federal Depository Library Program. This collection is housed on the fifth floor.

Special Collections - a collection of non-circulating, unique and/or rare resources located on the fourth floor. Comprising the Special Collections are the University Archives, the Presidents' Room, the Margaret Walker Alexander Collection, the Bolton C. Price Collection, the African-American Collection, and the Mississippi Collection.

The Health Sciences Library

The Health Sciences Library, which currently functions as a satellite branch of the H.T. Sampson Library on the JSU main campus, is located in the School of Health Sciences in the Jackson Medical Mall. A copy machine, microfilm and microfiche materials, microfiche reader/printer, and CD-ROM workstations are available along with several CD-ROM databases.

The Universities Center Library

The facilities of the Center are equipped with state-of-the-art technology. The professional academic programs of the College of Public Service and the JSU Division of Libraries and Information Resources support the Health Sciences Library and the Center.

D. HEALTH SERVICES

The Jackson State University Health Center is operated as an infirmary for the benefit of the student body. This facility is not a licensed hospital. The Health Center provides out-patient and limited in-patient facilities for treating minor illnesses and injuries under the supervision of part-time physicians, registered nurses and practical nurses.

Nurses are available 24 hours a day to treat minor illnesses and injuries, supply prescribed medications and give infirmary bed care to those full-time students requiring it, including full-time students living in the local community. All injuries should be reported to the Health Center. In case of serious illness or injury, the nurse on duty will refer the student to the proper person and/or place for treatment. However, in case of hospitalization, the student may return to the Health Center for convalescence if he/she and his/her doctor agree. The ill or injured student is responsible for the cost of any special medication and equipment, care given by a specialist, or hospitalization, which is not covered under the Student Insurance Program, including care recommended by the Health Center.

E. PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND THERAPEUTIC COUNSELING

Usually all counseling can be considered under this heading. However, students often have complaints which arise from internal or environmental conflicts which are more developmental than situational in nature. With the aid of a staff development program, which the University has undertaken and the acquisition of additional qualified staff personnel, considerably more professional resources are available to help students in this area. Services include: (1) providing psychological assessment, including individual psychological tests to help diagnose those areas in which students may have problems; (2) providing intensive individual therapeutic counseling for students who may have serious emotional disturbances during the period they are in attendance at the University; and (3) recommending treatment on a referral basis for students who may need additional professional services.

F. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISEMENT

All students from outside the United States attending Jackson State University on a non-immigrant student visa come under the direction of the International Foreign Student Advisor. Special on-campus advisement is provided for these students. At the beginning of each semester, foreign students are required to register with the Foreign Student Advisor. It is also necessary for them to keep the advisor informed concerning such matters as local address, change of address, change of student status, etc.

G. STUDENT HOUSING

On-campus and off-campus student housing falls under the general supervision of the Dean of Student Affairs for Housing. On-campus housing consists of seven dormitories. Students who wish to reside in the residence halls while attending Jackson State University should request an application form for housing.

The application for housing form must be filled in and returned with a room and a housing fee to the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs for Housing, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi 39217. Applicants should make money orders payable to Jackson State University. The housing fee is required of all students who plan to reside in the dormitory and it must be paid at least 15 days prior to the date the student plans to enter the dormitory.

Full-time graduate students are eligible to reside in on-campus housing if they wish. Married student housing is not available on campus.

H. RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

A variety of religious organizations are active on the Jackson State University campus and invites participation of all interested students, faculty and staff.

I. OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is generally regarded as the first civil rights legislation for persons with disabilities. Included within the various sections of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is the call for nondiscrimination in federal agencies (Section 501) and the establishment of the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Section 502). Of direct importance to the post secondary level community is Section 504, which is a program to access statute.

The program access statute requires that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be denied access to, or the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination by any program or activity provided by an institution or entity receiving federal assistance. It is the Section 504 mandate that promotes the development of disabilities support programs at colleges and universities. Subpart E of Section 504 deals specifically with the mandate for institutions of higher education. While it does not require that special educational programming be developed for students with disabilities, it does require an institution (public or private) to be prepared to make academic adjustments and reasonable modifications to policies and practices in order to allow the full participation of students with disabilities in the same programs and activities available to non-disabled students. Additional information is available through the Office of Support Services for Students and Employees with Disabilities at 601.979.3704 (telephone), 601.979.6919 (TTY).

SECTION VII STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS/ACTIVITIES

A. THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM STUDENT ASSOCIATION

All students are invited to participate in the Master of Public Health Student Association. Student association members elect officers for the academic year. Faculty members serve as advisors to the SPHA. During the academic year, the association is involved in civic, professional, and social activities. The association also serves as a source of social support for student members.

B. STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM GOVERNANCE

The Student Association is requested to elect or appoint student members to serve along with faculty on M.P.H. program committees (e.g., Curriculum Committee). The M.P.H. Program faculty strongly encourages student participation on program committees and in program governance. Students also may participate on various committees of the Public Health Program.