



# JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

## *PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM*

### Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree Program Student Handbook

Table of Contents	Page
<b>SECTION I JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY</b>	
A. GENERAL INFORMATION	4
B. ACCREDITATION	5
C. LOCATION	6
D. VISION, MISSION AND GOALS OF THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH	6
<b>SECTION II MPH ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS</b>	
A. ADMISSION STATUS	7
B. TRANSFER OF CREDITS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS	7
<b>SECTION III MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) DEGREE</b>	
A. OVERVIEW	8
B. MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE CURRICULUM	8
C. DESCRIPTION OF COURSES AND PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS	11
D. CAPSTONE COURSES: CULMINATING EXPERIENCE	20
<b>SECTION IV ACADEMIC INFORMATION</b>	
A. MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH ORIENTATION	22
B. COURSE REGISTRATION	22
C. GRADES	22
D. CLASS SCHEDULE CHANGES	24
E. STATUS CHANGE	24
F. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE MPH PROGRAM	24
G. TIME LIMIT TO COMPLETE THE MPH DEGREE	24
H. REQUIRED FORMS FOR MATRICULATION	25
I. EXIT INTERVIEW REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION CLEARANCE	25
J. STUDENT ADVISEMENT	26
K. CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF STUDENT RECORDS	26

L. CLASS CANCELLATIONS AND DELAYED SCHEDULING	26
M. INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD APPROVAL OF RESEARCH	26
N. GRADUATE ENGLISH COMPETENCY EXAMINATION	27
O. TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE	27
P. GRADUATE AREA COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION	27
<b>SECTION V</b>	
<b>STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	
A. CIVIL RIGHTS AND NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY	30
B. ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE	30
C. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY	30
D. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE POLICY	30
E. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES POLICY	30
F. SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY	31
<b>SECTION VI</b>	
<b>STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
A. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	31
B. THE COMPUTING CENTER	31
C. THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY	32
D. HEALTH SERVICES	32
E. PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND THERAPEUTIC COUNSELING	33
F. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISEMENT	33
G. STUDENT HOUSING	33
H. RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS	33
I. OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES	33
<b>SECTION VII</b>	
<b>STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS/ACTIVITIES</b>	
A. THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM STUDENT ASSOCIATION	34
B. STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM GOVERNANCE	34
<b>Appendices</b>	
Appendix A. MPH Foundational Competencies	35
Appendix B. MPH Minimum Concentration-Specific Core Competencies	38
Appendix C. MPH Concentration Degree Study Plans	44

# **JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) DEGREE PROGRAM STUDENT HANDBOOK**

## **SECTION I            JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY**

### ***A. GENERAL INFORMATION***

Jackson State University has a distinguished history, rich in the tradition of educating young men and women for leadership. Founded as Natchez Seminary in 1877 by the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the school was established at Natchez, Mississippi “for the moral, religious and intellectual improvement of Christian leaders of the colored people of Mississippi and the neighboring states.” In November 1882, the school was moved to Jackson; in March 1899, the curriculum was expanded and the name was changed to Jackson College.

The state assumed support of the college in 1940, assigning to it the mission of training teachers. Subsequently, between 1953 and 1956, the curriculum was expanded to include a graduate program and bachelor’s programs in the arts and sciences; the name was then changed to Jackson State College in 1956.

Further expansion of the curriculum and a notable building program preceded the elevation of Jackson State College to university status on March 15, 1974. In 1979, Jackson State was officially designated *the* Urban University of the State of Mississippi. Presently, Jackson State University, a public university, is supported by legislative appropriations supplemented by student fees and federal and private grants. Jackson State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The University is located in Jackson, the state capital and the state’s largest urban area (population 400,000) as well as the geographic, political, industrial and cultural center of Mississippi. The main campus of the University is situated on a scenic 200-acre tract one mile west of the city’s main business district. The University is easily accessible from U.S. Highway 49 and Interstates 20 and 55. Jackson-Evers International Airport, with direct connections to major cities, is 15 minutes away.

### **JSU Vision**

Building on its historic mission of empowering diverse students to become leaders, Jackson State University will become recognized as a challenging, yet nurturing, state-of-the-art, technologically infused intellectual community. Students and faculty will engage in creative research, participate in interdisciplinary and multi-instructional/organizational collaborative learning teams and serve the global community.

## **History of the School of Public Health**

Jackson State University is in the forefront of state institutions of higher learning in expanding its graduate degree offerings. The master's degree in public health, the master's and doctoral degrees in social work, the master's and doctoral degrees in urban and regional planning, the doctor of business administration and chemistry, and the master's degree in communicative disorders are among the most recent degree programs approved by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning. The master's degree in public health and communicative disorders, and the doctor of social work, urban and regional planning, and business are court-mandated as a result of the historic *Ayers Case*. The doctor of public health (DrPH) degree program is the latest addition to the Public Health Program. The Program was established in Fall 2005.

The School of Health Sciences was established in 2003 under the College of Public Service according to the University's agenda and strategic plan known as Vision 2020. In April 2015, the School of Public Health emerged from the School of Health Sciences.

The School of Public Health (SPH) Initiative was approved by the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning in April 2015. This is the first and only such School developed in the State of Mississippi and at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU). The JSU School of Public Health Initiative offered the first and only Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) degree program in Mississippi.

The School of Public Health is dedicated to providing quality undergraduate and graduate instruction, scientific inquiry and service. It guides students as they acquire knowledge and develop skills, competencies and attitudes essential for the public health professions; encourages and promotes student and faculty research; provides an understanding and appreciation of ethnic and cultural diversity and the impact of diversity on personal and community health; and promotes lifelong learning and professional growth.

In December 2016, the application to transition from a Public Health Program to a School of Public Health (SPH) was submitted to the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). In February 2017, CEPH approved the application allowing JSU to begin the accreditation process for the School of Public Health. The School of Public Health Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony was held on April 5, 2017.

### ***B. ACCREDITATION***

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) Board of Councilors acted at its June 12-14, 2014 meeting to accredit the Public Health Program at Jackson State University for a seven-year term, extending to July 1, 2021.

### ***C. LOCATION***

The Jackson State University School of Public Health is housed at the Jackson Medical Mall at 350 West Woodrow Wilson Drive. Departmental offices, core faculty, School Dean, and the Health Sciences Library are also located at this site. Students are advised to familiarize themselves with the Jackson Medical Mall location in order to avail themselves of the services and resources available through the master of public health program.

### ***D. VISION, MISSION AND GOALS OF THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH***

#### **Vision**

Leadership for optimal public health

#### **Mission**

The mission of the Jackson State University School of Public Health is to prepare public health leaders and to improve the health of populations in the state of Mississippi, the nation and the world through evidence-based and community-oriented teaching, research and service.

#### **Goals**

To achieve its mission, the School has developed the following goal statements that address each of the three primary institutional functions: education, research, and service.

#### ***EDUCATION***

- Produce competitive and highly skilled public health professionals, equipped with the knowledge and skills to solve complex public health problems through rigorous, outcomes-based academic programs that enhance critical and analytical thinking skills.
- Sustain a nurturing educational environment that promotes academic excellence and effective public health practice through the recruitment and retention of qualified and diverse faculty and staff that demonstrate a commitment to academic excellence, research and practice, and progression and forward thinking in all public health disciplines.

#### ***RESEARCH***

- Promote health equity and social justice and reduce health disparities of disadvantaged populations locally, statewide, nationally and globally through ethical and rigorous research that ensures the inclusion of community in the research, translation and dissemination process.
- Enhance the research and practice skills of public health students through effective mentorship opportunities.

## *SERVICE*

- Transform public health issues through increased visibility within the community in the development of policy and advocating on behalf of disparate populations locally, statewide, nationally and globally.

## **SECTION II      MPH ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

### ***A. ADMISSION STATUS***

Admission to the Master of Public Health Program is done on a selective basis, utilizing the following criteria. Additionally, students must satisfactorily meet all requirements for admission to graduate studies at Jackson State University required by the Division of Graduate Studies.

To be accepted into the MPH program, the student must meet the following criteria:

#### **1. Regular Status**

Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a 3.00 cumulative grade point average is required. International students whose native language is not English are required to attain a satisfactory TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) Score, PET-A, or IELTS submitted or successful completion of ESLI before they enroll in graduate studies.

#### **2. Conditional Status**

Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a 2.8-2.9 cumulative grade point average is required. International students must meet equivalent standards and possess a satisfactory score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Examination.

3. The student must complete a program application; submit a résumé, and a personal statement of professional goals.
4. Three letters of reference with the completed application forms which may be obtained from the Division of Graduate Studies.
5. Official copy of undergraduate transcript(s)
6. Statement of Authenticity

### ***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 MPH degree. Transfer credit is made upon the recommendation of the students’ academic advisor, 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 (MPH) DEGREE

### A. OVERVIEW

Full-time students can usually complete the curriculum in two and one-half years. Part-time usually requires two additional semesters. Students acquire the necessary professional knowledge, skills and competencies to be qualified for employment in public health and medical care practice in their specialized disciplines. The program must be completed with a 3.1 or higher cumulative GPA for the minimum 45 credit hours required. The curriculum has 4 major components: core courses, required specialization, electives, and culminating experiences (field residency and an integrative learning experience course). The core courses include the following basic subject studies as required by the Council on Education for Public Health (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 the five specializations assure thorough grounding in greater depth of the particular public health discipline. Elective courses may be taken in the student's specialized discipline or from other specializations of individual preference after approval of the students' academic advisor. All students must complete capstone courses which integrate experiences through the field internship and applied master's project while demonstrating public health competencies, knowledge, skills and abilities of scientific public health processes.

The MPH curriculum requires 6 core courses or 18 credit hours (3 hours per course) for all students and 6 credit hours (three hours per course) toward the culminating/capstone courses (PHS 507 and PHS 508). The program requires 6 hours of electives. Each concentration offers 5 required specialization courses or 15 credit hours in the advanced study of public health specialization. The specializations are:

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

### B. MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE CURRICULUM

#### **Behavioral Health Promotion and Education**

##### Course Title

##### Core Courses

	Credit 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	6
---------------------------------------	---

**Capstone Project**

PHS 507 Applied Master's Project	3
----------------------------------	---

**Practicum**

PHS 508 Public Health Internship	3
----------------------------------	---

**Required Concentration 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 Communications and Health Education Marketing	3
---	---

PHS 535 Behavioral Change Program Strategies	<u>3</u>
--	----------

Total Hours	15
-------------	----

<b>Total Hours for Degree</b>	<b>45</b>
-------------------------------	-----------

**Biostatistics****Course Title****Core Courses****Credit 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	6
---------------------------------------	---

**Capstone Project**

PHS 507 Applied Master's Project	3
----------------------------------	---

**Practicum**

PHS 508 Public Health Internship	3
----------------------------------	---

**Required Concentration Courses**

PHS 522 Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics	3
---	---

PHS 524 Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology	3
--	---

PHS 571 Statistical Theory	3
----------------------------	---

PHS 572 Statistical Computer Application	3
--	---

PHS 601 Advanced Biostatistics and Computer Science Application	<u>3</u>
---	----------

Total Hours	15
-------------	----

<b>Total Hours for Degree</b>	<b>45</b>
-------------------------------	-----------

**Environmental and Occupational Health****Course Title****Core Courses****Credit 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	6
---------------------------------------	---

**Capstone Project**

PHS 507 Applied Master's Project	3
----------------------------------	---

**Practicum**

PHS 508 Public Health Internship	3
----------------------------------	---

**Required Concentration Courses**

PHS 541 Environmental Management and Industrial Hygiene	3
PHS 542 Environmental and Occupational Health Risk Assessment	3
PHS 543 Occupational Health and Safety Management	3
PHS 544 Environmental and Occupational Toxicology	3
PHS 545 Environmental Policy and Occupational Health Regulations	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	15
<b>Total Hours for Degree</b>	<b>45</b>

**Epidemiology**

**Course Title**

**Core Courses**

**Credit 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	6
---------------------------------------	---

**Capstone Project**

PHS 507 Applied Master's Project	3
----------------------------------	---

**Practicum**

PHS 508 Public Health Internship	3
----------------------------------	---

**Required Concentration Courses**

PHS 521 Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology	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	<u>3</u>
Total Hours	15
<b>Total Hours for Degree</b>	<b>45</b>

## **Health Policy and Management**

### **Course Title**

#### **Core Courses**

#### **Credit 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 6

#### **Capstone Project**

PHS 507 Applied Master's Project 3

#### **Practicum**

PHS 508 Public Health Internship 3

#### **Required Concentration 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
<b>Total Hours for Degree</b>	<b>45</b>

*Appendix A and B provide an overview of the MPH core and concentration-specific competencies with matching program study components.*

## ***C. DESCRIPTION OF COURSES AND PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS***

### **Required Core Courses (*all Concentrations*)**

#### **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 behavioral 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 health care organizations. Study emphasis is on the essentials of how executive and supervisory managers 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 will complete the design of a research study. Prerequisites: PHS 503 and PHS 505.

**Capstone Courses: Culminating Experience**

**PHS 507 Applied Master's Project — Integrative Learning Experience** (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. Prerequisites: PHS 506 Research and Quantitative Methods, and passage of the Graduate Area Comprehensive Exam

**PHS 508 Public Health Internship** (3 hours)

Students conclude their MPH studies with a supervised field experience in their respective specializations. This supervised internship operates for the full semester with a student commitment 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 department chair. Completion of the course requires the agency preceptor's evaluation. Prerequisite: All required courses completed and passage of the Graduate Area Comprehensive Exam.

## **Concentration Required Courses**

### ***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 the 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, combined with an MPH degree, create 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 socio-ecological 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 MPH 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 highlighting strategies to overcome barriers in health promotion and provision of care.

#### **PHS 534 Communication and Health Promotion (3 hours)**

This course provides an overview of communication and marketing within a health education context. It examines communication in health care settings, public health campaigns, and cultural differences in communication, and communication designed to promote health equity. Prerequisites: Completion of all MPH core courses, and PHS 531.

#### **PHS 535 Behavioral Change Program Strategies (3 hours)**

This course 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 behavioral change programs. Prerequisite: PHS 531 Health Behavior, Promotion and Education.

## ***Biostatistics***

### **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 begins 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), and 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, how to create 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 and the common feature of the PROC Step of statistical methods ranging from Descriptive Statistics through Analysis of Variance.

### **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 524 Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology (3 hours)**

This course reviews the basic statistical tools used in epidemiological 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 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 PHS 701 with modification in the

theoretical exercises and course expectations for examinations. Prerequisites: PHS 503, PHS 506, and PHS 572.

### ***Environmental and Occupational Health***

#### **PHS 541 Environmental Management and Industrial Hygiene (3 hours)**

This course introduces students to the basics of Environmental Management and Industrial Hygiene. The course will be divided into two parts. Part I will help students understand the regulatory approaches, effects of pollution and the source of pollutants, and the various environmental management issues. Part II will 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)**

This course 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)**

This course 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)**

This course examines the basic concepts of toxicology and demonstrates how the basic principles are applied to 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)**

This course 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.

### ***Epidemiology***

#### **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 interventional 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 epidemiological 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.

## ***Health Policy and Management***

**PHS 511 Organizational Design and Behavior (3 hours)**

This course examines universal organizational theories which adapt to private health care 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 economics 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 ensure overall effectiveness of 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.

*Electives*

**PHS 516 Human Resources Management in Public Health (3 hours)**

This course examines the role of public health and health-care administrators/supervisors regarding 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 the human resource process system.

**PHS 517 Managed Care Networks and Public Health (3 hours)**

This course introduces the dynamic impact that managed care has had on the delivery of health care services and the cost containment features of the health plans that thrived in the 1990s. 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 health care services.

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

This course 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)**

This course 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)**

This course introduces students 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 528 Genetic Epidemiology (3 hours)**

This course focuses on patterns of disease incidences in populations in order to infer the genetic basis of diseases. 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)**

This course provides an overview of 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)**

This course examines 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 health care 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 health-care personnel and their patients.

**PHS 537 Medical Anthropology in Public Health (3 hours)**

This course 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 551 Maternal and Child Health/Nutrition Program Management (3 hours)**

This course 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)**

This course addresses the determinants of health, morbidity and mortality across several transitions of the life-span of women; explores biological, behavioral, environmental and societal influences; and provides 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)**

This course 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)**

This course 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)**

This course 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)**

This course addresses food and its role in the culture, food beliefs and practices of various religious and ethnic groups in the United States. It 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)**

This course 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)**

This course focuses on the complex and essential interrelationships that exist within and among health care entities. This course will (1) identify and study components of the health care 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 health care industry is largely predicated upon an entity's ability to partner with other health-care providers.

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

This course focuses on the essential function of management and administration within nursing and mental health facilities. Attention will be given to the many facets of management and administration, with elaboration upon both the 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)**

This course focuses on management issues pertaining to the primary care and group practice settings in health care. 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)**

This course 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)**

This course 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 587 Special Topics in Public Health (1-3 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 U.S., 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 MPH students with 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)**

This course highlights selective topics in public health relevant to today's changing public health forum and environment. The topics are designed to encompass a broad range of public health issues. Thus, topics for discussion are addressed within each of the following core areas of public health: Behavioral Health, Biostatistics, Environmental Health, Epidemiology and Health-Related Conditions, and Health Care Planning and Organization.

**PHS 599 Independent Study in Public Health (1-3 hours)**

This is an individual directed study in a specific concentration of public health selected by the student and approved by the professor.

***D. CAPSTONE COURSES: CULMINATING EXPERIENCE***

***1. Practicum: Public Health Internship (PHS 508)***

The Program Field Placement Coordinator will assist in the placement of students for their Public Health Internship (3 credit hours). Students are expected to commit 400 clock hours during the semester under the supervision of a professional public health preceptor with

location, specific focus and activities during the internship will be determined by the student and preceptor and approved by the student's academic advisor and faculty of record. Comprehensive "guidelines" consistent with CEPH accreditation guidelines will be employed by the program and include appropriate covenants of mutual obligation between the university and internship 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.

Prerequisites to enrollment in PHS 508 Public Health Internship include:

- A. PHS 501 through PHS 506 plus concentration courses to total 36 hours.
- B. Successful completion of the Comprehensive Examination.
- C. Meet with Field Placement Coordinator semester prior enrolling in PHS 508
- D. Attend Internship Orientation
- E. Have an approved internship placement site
- F. Provide documentation to the Placement Office of successful completion of the following:
  - a. Attend Public Health Fall/Spring Orientation
  - b. Résumé-writing/ Interview Skills Workshop
  - c. Research Skills Workshop

## ***2. Applied Master's Project/ Integrative Learning Experience (PHS 507)***

Each MPH student will complete an integrative learning experience (ILE). The comprehensive examination must be passed prior to enrollment in the applied master's project/integrative learning experience. This course can only be taken in the last semester of enrollment in the program. Enrollment requires permission of the advisor, the instructor of record, and field coordinator. Student must have completed all necessary paperwork prior to class start date. Student should meet with the academic advisor and select two-three concentration-specific competences in conjunction with the three foundational MPH competencies that will guide the learning experience. The student will demonstrate mastery in a total of five-six competencies for the integrative learning experience.

Each student will identify a project that has a scope of work that can be completed in one semester. The student is expected to submit a summary proposal of a defined project that includes the research question(s)/public health problem and scope of work by the third week of the semester. *In order to optimize the student's public health experience in the program, it is strongly recommended that the project be related to, derive from or culminate the efforts and work of the internship experience.* Ideally, the student would have developed a research question, public health topic from the internship and have a description developed by the end of the internship.

Projects should be specific to the student's concentration. Completed projects should demonstrate acquisition of MPH foundational and concentration-specific competencies. A tangible product (paper/report) is required at the end of the integrated learning experience.

## **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 will have an opportunity to meet School of Public Health administrators, faculty, staff, current students and their assigned academic advisors.

### ***B. COURSE REGISTRATION***

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

1.      **Caution about Full-Time Employment**  
If students plan to enroll full-time, the Master of Public Health Program 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.      **Verification of Attendance**  
A student who is not listed on the official class roster at the beginning of the semester during student verification by the faculty of record will not be permitted to continue any class activity or attendance. The student must immediately consult with his/her academic advisor to resolve the issue and be properly registered for the class. The student must then appear on the official class roster and be approved by the faculty of record before being permitted to return to class.

### ***C. GRADES***

The grading system in the MPH Program is as follows:

1.      **Passing Grade in the MPH 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 3.00 cumulative grade-point average to graduate.

3. **Incomplete Grades**

When circumstances beyond a student's control prevent the completion of a course satisfactorily, the student has two options. One is to withdraw, if the 'drop' deadline has passed. The other is to request a grade of incomplete, "I," which allows a time extension. Such a request must be made before the semester ends and before the final exam. The granting of this privilege is entirely at the professor's discretion.

If the student is in residence, the deficiency must be made up and the grade changed by the instructor within the first six weeks of the following semester. If the student is not in residence, the deficiency must be made up within one calendar year from the date the "I" was given.

The professor 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 within the specific time, the grade so indicated will be recorded as the grade of record. When enrolled for thesis, research, or independent study, the "I/P" grade may be applied. No more than two "I's" are allowed at any time unless otherwise granted by the Graduate Dean. (Current JSU Graduate Catalog)

4. **Grievance of Grades**

Students who have concerns or divulge complaints about their education and the educational process should follow the Student Academic Grievance Procedure which is located in the Graduate Catalog.

5. **Policy on Repeating Courses**

Students in graduate degree programs are permitted to repeat two (2) courses upon the recommendation of the departmental graduate advisor. Only two repeats are allowed in a graduate program. Both grades will show on the transcript, and the highest grade will be used in computing the grade-point average (GPA). (Current JSU Graduate Catalog)

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 the highest grade 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 3.00, he/she will be placed on academic probation. The student will be required, in collaboration with their academic advisor, to develop and adhere to an Academic Enhancement Plan aimed at returning the student to good standing (GPA 3.00 or greater). This plan must be initiated by the academic advisor and approved by the department chair and the Division of Graduate Studies. The student will have until the end of the subsequent semester of enrollment to attain a cumulative grade-point average of 3.00 or greater. Failure to attain the required cumulative grade-point average by the end of the probationary period will result in further disciplinary action up to dismissal from the MPH Program. The probationary period in the MPH Program is defined as one subsequent semester of enrollment in the program after the cumulative grade-point average falls below 3.00.

***D. CLASS SCHEDULE CHANGES***

All class schedule changes must be approved by the student's academic 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 academic advisor.

***E. STATUS CHANGE***

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

***F. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE MPH PROGRAM***

To withdraw from the MPH Program, students must first notify their academic advisor 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 of course work during any semester, a withdrawal form rather than a drop/add must be filed/processed. 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" (withdrawal). From the 26th day until ten days before the end of the semester, withdrawal from the University results in "WP" (withdrawal passing) or "WF" (withdrawal failing).

***G. TIME LIMIT TO COMPLETE THE MPH DEGREE***

Students are required to complete the MPH 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 forms to be completed by graduate degree candidates. Each form must be completed under the direction of the student's academic advisor. It is important that students keep copies of these forms and have them available for Program, School, and University clearance.

- *Degree Plan (Degree Audit)* — It serves as a checklist for the candidate outlining the courses they must complete to earn the MPH degree. MPH Program students are required to complete form with academic advisor, in their first semester. **Students are required to complete this form and print a hard copy for signatures.**
- *Application for Graduate Degree Candidacy* — When approximately 12-15 semester hours have been completed the student should submit an application for advancement to candidacy. Please note that the student cannot be advanced to candidacy until:
  1. All admission requirements have been met.
  2. All incompletes (“I” grades) have been removed.
  3. Application for Candidacy approved by your departmental committee.
  4. The Graduate English Competency Examination has been passed, or ENG 500 completed with a grade of “B” or higher
  5. Overall GPA is 3.00 or higher.

**Students are required to complete this form and print a hard copy for signatures.**

- *Comprehensive Examination form.* Completion of 24 semester hours of MPH curriculum course work including all required core courses with a 3.00 grade-point average. And successful completion of Graduate English Competency Examination (GECE). **Students are required to complete the form and print a hard copy for signatures.**
- *Online Graduation Clearance* — This process is to be completed prior to commencement. Student must secure his/her graduation PIN from their academic advisor. Students must go into PAWS to start this process. See <http://www.jsums.edu>.
  - **NOTE: When completing the Online Graduation Clearance, students must not select the “Thesis” or “Project” option; this space must be left blank.**
- Graduate forms are available from: <http://www.jsums.edu/graduateschool/graduate-forms/>

## ***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 online clearance and payment of graduation fees);
- Facilitate a dialogue with students regarding their experiences in the MPH 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 MPH Program is assigned an academic 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 current semester. During this meeting, the advisor and student review and finalize the semester course schedule, register for the graduate English competency exam (GECE), and complete forms that must be filed with the Division of Graduate Studies for that semester. The second meeting is held during or 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 MPH Program are required to meet formally with their advisor at least once per semester. These sessions may involve discussions about the student's academic progress, opportunities for collaboration on research, professional presentations, or workshops. Students are encouraged and expected to initiate advisement sessions / meetings with their advisors. Academic advisors are expected to meet with their advisees during each term. These sessions will be documented and forwarded to the student's file.

#### ***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) and approved by the department chair.

#### ***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 announcements on television and radio or announcements on the JSU Emergency System Information for class cancellations or if delayed scheduling is in effect at Jackson State University.

#### ***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's 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 (GECE) 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” (3.00) or higher to pass the course.

#### ***O. TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE***

All international students whose native language is not English are required to attain a satisfactory TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) Score, PET-A, or IELTS submitted or successful completion of ESLI before they enrolling in graduate studies.

#### ***P. GRADUATE AREA COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION***

All students are required to pass the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination (GACE) administered by the Master of Public Health Program as a prerequisite for graduation. The GACE is given twice each year (Fall and Spring).

#### **Graduate Area Comprehensive Exam Eligibility**

- Successful completion of the following public health core courses with a grade of “C” or better: PHS 501, PHS 502, PHS 503, PHS 504, and PHS 505.
- Successful completion of the Graduate English Competency Examination (GECE).
- Successful completion of **24** semester hours (public health core courses) of graduate coursework with a 3.00 grade point-average at the beginning of the semester in which the student plans to take the examination.
- No incomplete grade “I” on student transcript.
- Students must be registered for at least one credit hour during the semester in which the examination is taken. An audited course will not meet this requirement.
- Students may not appear for the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination until the Dean of the Division of Graduate Studies declares them eligible.
- The student must be officially admitted to the Master of Public Health Program and declared a Candidate for the Graduate Degree.
- The student must be certified as eligible to take the examination by the student’s academic advisor, department chair, and the Graduate Dean.
- The *application for the graduate area comprehensive examination* must be completed and returned to the Division of Graduate Studies on or before the deadline date specified in the Graduate Calendar.

#### **Application Procedure**

- Students can access an application on the Division of Graduate Studies website or pick up a form from the Division of Graduate Studies.

- The student completes the application to take the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination (GACE) and meets with their advisor for review and approval.
- Prior to approval, the advisor must verify that all requirements have been met for eligibility to take the GACE.
- The advisor signs the GACE application granting approval for the student to take the examination.
- The department chair signs the GACE application granting departmental approval for the student to take the examination.
- The student brings the approved GACE application to the Division of Graduate Studies by the deadline specified in the Graduate Calendar.
- Students who miss the deadline for their desired examination date must reapply and re-qualify to take the GACE on the next scheduled testing date.
- The Division of Graduate Studies will complete the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination Roster and mail notification to all qualified applicants and their departments as least five (5) days prior to each scheduled testing date.
- Students should consult with their advisor or department chair for the specific location and time for the examination.
- Students *cannot* take the examination as a walk-in and shall NOT be allowed to take the examination if their name does not appear on the official eligibility list.

#### **Failure of the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination**

- A student may be permitted to take the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination three times.
- A student who fails on the first attempt and scores less than 80 percent on three or more sections of the examination must retake the entire examination during the next scheduled testing date (Fall or Spring).
- A student who fails on the first attempt and scores less than 80 percent on two or fewer sections of the examination will only be required to retake the section(s) failed during the next scheduled testing date (Fall or Spring). The student must score 80 percent on each section in order to successfully pass the examination.
- If the student fails the second time, he/she must petition the Dean or designee to retake the entire examination. If approved, the student will be required to successfully complete remedial requirements to be determined by the Dean, department chair and academic advisor prior to retaking the examination.
- If the student fails to achieve an aggregate score of 80 present or above on the examination during the third attempt, he/she will be recommended for dismissal from the program.

#### **Guidelines for taking the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination**

- Students must be in their assigned seats at the scheduled start time for each examination section. Failure to start any section at the assigned time (on time) will result in disqualification of the entire examination. The student must retake the entire examination at the next scheduled testing date (Fall or Spring).

- Students are requested to read and follow all written instructions carefully. Failure to follow the instructions will result in disqualification from the examination.
- NO cell phones and other electronic devices are allowed in the room 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. All scrap paper must be turned in at the end of each examination section.
- Only one student at a time may go to the restroom. Students cannot take personal belongings (e.g., bags or other items) to the restroom. If a student wishes to get a personal item from his/her bag before going to the restroom, 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 should write their identification number (J Number) and name clearly on each answer sheet.
- Answers must be double spaced, and each page must be numbered.
- Students are requested to start each answer on a new page.
- Students must insert the question before beginning each answer.
- 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 sheets with the examination questions, and the scrap paper provided at the beginning of the examination.

The student will be notified by the Division of Graduate Studies about their results. **Please do not request your test score or outcome from your department by phone, e-mail, or by calling faculty members or the Division of Graduate Studies.**

For reasons of confidentiality, fairness, and legal implications regarding the administration of the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination, 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 graders. However, a student may request his/her score on the examination and, if needed, be shown a summary of the graders' comments.

## **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/Graduate Catalog).

### ***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, falsifying research data, presenting excuses which are untrue for failing to meet academic and professional standards) are a violation of professional public health values and ethics and University Policy which will result in 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 inappropriate use of alcohol and other illegal 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 up to dismissal 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 Act 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 MPH 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 basis. 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 and wireless network are located throughout the campus.

### ***C. THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY***

Jackson State University maintains an extensive library system and the Innovation Center in support of its programs of study and research. Electronic library resources are available from campus as well as from remote locations and may be accessed from the library website at <http://sampson.jsums.edu>.

#### 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.

### ***D. HEALTHSERVICES***

The Health Center staff is organized for treating the usual minor illnesses and injuries. The University physician's hours are 9:00-10:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, with the exception of Thursday morning, and 1:00-2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Family planning services are available by appointment only.

Students requiring emergency treatment should report to the Health Center. Transportation will be provided to an emergency room of a local hospital, if deemed necessary. Students who are suffering from chronic or prolonged illnesses or severe injuries may receive emergency treatment in the clinic, but the staff will assist the student and his/her family in arranging for the continuation of medical care outside of the University Health Center.

Every full-time student, graduate and undergraduate, is enrolled in a student insurance program. A description of insurance benefits may be found in a brochure available from the Health Center or the Division of Student Life. A student should present his/her validated I. D. card when requesting services in the Health Center. There is a nominal charge for some special drugs prescribed and filled in the Health Center.



### ***E. PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND THERAPEUTIC COUNSELING***

The Latasha Norman Center for Counseling and Disability Services is committed to working with JSU students experiencing certain adjustment challenges as they matriculate through their academic program and college experience. Its mission is to provide services and activities that can assist students as they transition and seek assistance with building their problem-solving skills, managing relationships and becoming more independent and confident. The center offers short-term student support services.

### ***F. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISEMENT***

All students from outside the United States attending Jackson State University on a student (F-1) visa come under the direction of the International Student Advisor. In addition to the MPH Program advisement service, special on-campus advisement is provided for these students. At the beginning of each semester, foreign students are required to register with the International Student Advisor as well as receive advisement by their MPH advisor. It is also necessary for students to keep the advisor informed concerning such matters as local address, change of address, change of student status, etc.

### ***G. STUDENT HOUSING***

The Director of Residence Life/Housing is responsible for the general supervision of on-campus residence halls. Information regarding off-campus housing is provided in a guide to metropolitan area apartment complexes. The guide is available upon request.

On-campus housing is provided in single-sex residence halls. All rooms are double occupancy. Students with special health needs are expected to report their specific housing requirements to the Director of Residence Life/Housing in a timely manner via the housing application. Each student living in University housing must have a completed housing application and a signed Residence Hall Agreement on file in the Department of Residence Life/Housing. Application for student housing may be obtained from the Undergraduate Admissions or the Department of Residence Life/Housing, P.O. Box 17540, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi 39217. Requests for application may also be made by calling (601) 979-2326 or (601) 979-3305 or may be accessed via the website at: <http://www.jsums.edu/main-for-prospective-students/>. Completed applications must be accompanied by the required application fee and returned to the Department of Housing before a student is assigned housing. The application processing fee is non-refundable.

### ***H. RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS***

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

### ***I. OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES***

The mission of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) services is to provide reasonable accommodations to students and employees who qualify under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Collaborating with faculty and staff will empower students/employees who have disabilities. Each

individual will be enabled to have equal access to an education and university life. Contact the office at 601-979-3704 or 601-979-6919 (TTY) or via the website at: <http://www.jsums.edu/disability/>.

## **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 MPH. 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 MPH program committees (e.g., Curriculum Committee). The MPH 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.

Appendix A  
MPH Foundational Competencies

<b>MPH Foundational Competencies</b>	<b>Learning Objectives</b>							
	<b>PHS 501 - Public Health and Behavioral Demography</b>	<b>PHS 502 - Public Health Policy and Management</b>	<b>PHS 503 - Biostatistics and Computer Applications</b>	<b>PHS 504 - Environmental and Occupational Health</b>	<b>PHS 505 - Principles of Epidemiology</b>	<b>PHS 506 - Research and Qualitative Methods</b>	<b>PHS 507 - Capstone Project</b>	<b>PHS 508 - Internship</b>
<b>1. Evidence-based Approaches to Public Health</b>								
a. Apply epidemiological methods to the breadth of settings and situations in public health practice					X			
b. Select quantitative and qualitative data collection methods appropriate for a given public health context			X			X		
c. Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using biostatistics, informatics, computer-based programming and software as appropriate			X			X		
d. Interpret results of data analysis for public health research, policy and practice						X		
<b>2. Public Health &amp; Health Care Systems</b>								
a. Compare the organization, structure and function of health care, public health and regulatory systems across national and international settings	X	X						
b. Discuss the means by which structural bias, social inequities and racism undermine health and create challenges to achieving health equity at organizational, community and societal levels	X	X						
<b>3. Planning &amp; Management to Promote Health</b>								
a. Assess population needs, assets and capacities that affect communities' health	X	X		X				
b. Apply awareness of cultural values and practices to the design or implementation of public health policies or programs	X	X						
c. Design a population-based policy, program, project or intervention		X				X	X	
d. Explain basic principles and tools of budget and resource management	X	X						
e. Select methods to evaluate public health programs						X		
<b>4. Policy in Public Health</b>								
a. Discuss multiple dimensions of the policy-making process, including the roles of ethics and evidence	X	X						
b. Propose strategies to identify stakeholders and build coalitions and partnerships for influencing public health outcomes	X	X						
c. Advocate for political, social and economic policies and programs that will improve health in diverse populations		X	X					
d. Evaluate policies for their impact on public health and health equity		X		X				
<b>5. Leadership</b>								
a. Apply principles of leadership, governance and management, which include creating a vision, empowering others, fostering collaboration and guiding decision-making	X	X						
b. Apply negotiation and mediation skills to address organizational or	X	X						

<b>Table 1.a. MPH Foundational Competencies Courses</b>								
<b>MPH Foundational Competencies</b>	<b>Learning Objectives</b>							
	<b>PHS 501 - Public Health and Behavioral Demography</b>	<b>PHS 502 - Public Health Policy and Management</b>	<b>PHS 503 - Biostatistics and Computer Applications</b>	<b>PHS 504 - Environmental and Occupational Health</b>	<b>PHS 505 - Principles of Epidemiology</b>	<b>PHS 506 - Research and Qualitative Methods</b>	<b>PHS 507 - Capstone Project</b>	<b>PHS 508 - Internship</b>
community challenges								
<b>6. Communication</b>								
a. Select communication strategies for different audiences and sectors	X	X				X		
b. Communicate audience-appropriate public health content, both in writing and through oral presentation	X	X			X	X		
c. Describe the importance of cultural competence in communicating public health content	X	X				X		
<b>7. Interprofessional Practice*</b>								
a. Perform effectively on interprofessional teams	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<b>8. Systems Thinking</b>								
a. Apply systems thinking tools to a public health issue	X	X	X	X	X	X		

\*Engagement with professionals outside of public health (e.g., architects, nurses), rather than engagement with individuals from other public health disciplines.

Appendix B  
MPH Minimum Concentration-Specific Core Competencies

## Concentration Competencies

**Table 2.a. Concentration Competencies**

<b>Competencies for MPH in the Behavioral Health Promotion and Education Concentration</b>	
<b>Competency</b>	<b>Course number(s) or other educational requirements</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain basic theories, concepts and models from a range of social and behavioral disciplines that contribute to public health research and practice</li> <li>2. Apply ethical principles to public health program planning, implementation and evaluation</li> <li>3. Outline the steps and procedures for the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs, policies and interventions</li> </ol>	<p>PHS 531 - Health Behavior, Promotion and Education</p> <p>PHS 532 - Community and Patient Health Education</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Develop community health assessments using information about health status, factors influencing health and assets and resources</li> </ol>	PHS 533 - Wellness and Maternal Child Health Promotion
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Select approaches for disseminating public health data and information (e.g., social media, newspapers, newsletters, journals, town hall meetings, libraries, neighborhood gatherings)</li> <li>6. Communicate information to influence behavior and improve health (e.g., uses social marketing methods, considers behavioral theories such as the Health Belief Model or Stages of Change Model)</li> </ol>	PHS 534 - Communication and Health Education Marketing
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Collaborate in community-based participatory research</li> <li>8. Specify multiple targets and levels of intervention for social and behavioral science programs and/or policies</li> </ol>	PHS 535 - Behavioral Change Program Strategies

**Table 2.b. Concentration Competencies**

<b>Competencies for MPH in the Epidemiology Concentration</b>	
<b>Competency</b>	<b>Course number(s) or other educational requirements</b>
1. Describe a public health problem in terms of magnitude, person, time and place	PHS 521 - Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology PHS 523 - Chronic and Infectious Disease Epidemiology PHS 525 - Epidemiology of Minority and Special Populations
2. Comprehend and explain the importance of ethical and legal principles pertaining to the collection of epidemiologic data and informing scientific, technical and political discussions of health issues	PHS 523 - Chronic and Infectious Disease Epidemiology PHS 525 - Epidemiology of Minority and Special Populations
3. Apply basic terminology and definitions of epidemiology and calculate measures of association	PHS 521 - Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology PHS 522 - Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics PHS 524 - Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology
4. Communicate epidemiologic information to lay and professional audiences	PHS 521 - Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology PHS 523 - Chronic and Infectious Disease Epidemiology PHS 525 - Epidemiology of Minority and Special Populations
5. Draw appropriate inferences from epidemiologic data	PHS 521 - Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology PHS 522 - Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics PHS 524 - Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology

**Table 2.c. Concentration Competencies**

<b>Competencies for MPH in the Biostatistics Concentration</b>	
<b>Competency</b>	<b>Course number(s) or other educational requirements</b>
1. Describe the basic concepts of probability, random variation and commonly used statistical probability distributions	PHS 571 - Statistical Theory PHS 601 - Advanced Biostatistics and Computer Science Applications
2. Apply descriptive techniques and statistical methods for drawing inferences and summarizing public health data	PHS 522 - Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics PHS 524 - Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology PHS 572 - Statistical Computer Applications
3. Define and apply appropriate informatics techniques in public health research	PHS 524 - Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology PHS 572 - Statistical Computer Applications PHS 601 - Advanced Biostatistics and Computer



	Science Applications
4. Interpret results of statistical analyses found in public health studies	PHS 522 - Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics PHS 524 - Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology PHS 572 - Statistical Computer Applications
5. Develop written and oral presentations based on statistical analyses for both public health professionals and lay audiences	PHS 601 - Advanced Biostatistics and Computer Science Applications

**Table 2.d. Concentration Competencies**

<b>Competencies for MPH in the Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration</b>	
<b>Competency</b>	<b>Course number(s) or other educational requirements</b>
1. Identify and discuss various risk management and risk communication approaches in relation to issues of environmental justice and equality	PHS 541 - Environmental Management and Industrial Hygiene
2. Specify current environmental risk assessment methodologies	PHS 542 - Environmental and Occupational Health Risk Assessment
3. Specify approaches for assessing, preventing and controlling environmental hazards that pose risks to human health and safety	PHS 543 - Occupational Health and Safety Management
4. Explain the general mechanisms of toxicity in eliciting a toxic response to various environmental exposures.	PHS 544 - Environmental and Occupational Toxicology
5. Describe and discuss federal and state regulatory programs, guidelines and authorities that control environmental health issues	PHS 545 - Environmental Policy and Occupational Health Regulations

**Table 2.e. Concentration Competencies**

<b>Competencies for MPH in the Health Policy and Management Concentration</b>	
<b>Competency</b>	<b>Course number(s) or other educational requirements</b>
1. Identify the main components and issues of the organization, financing and delivery of health services and public health systems in the U.S.	PHS 513 - Financial Management of Health Services PHS 514 - Health Information Management Systems PHS 516 - Human Resources Management in Public Health (elective)

<b>Competencies for MPH in the Health Policy and Management Concentration</b>	
<b>Competency</b>	<b>Course number(s) or other educational requirements</b>
2. Discuss the policy process for improving the health status of populations.	PHS 512 - Public Health Policy, Law and Ethics PHS 513 - Financial Management of Health Services PHS 515 – Marketing Public Health and Strategic Planning PHS 507 - Capstone Project
3. Describe the legal and ethical bases for public health and health services.	PHS 512 - Public Health Policy, Law and Ethics PHS 515 – Marketing Public Health and Strategic Planning PHS 516 - Human Resources Management in Public Health (elective)
4. Apply quality and performance improvement concepts to address organizational performance issues.	PHS 516 - Human Resources Management in Public Health (elective) PHS 508 - Internship
5. Demonstrate leadership skills for building partnerships.	PHS 511 - Organizational Design and Behavior PHS 513 - Financial Management of Health Services PHS 516 - Human Resources Management in Public Health (elective) PHS 508 - Internship
6. Apply principles of strategic planning and marketing to public health	PHS 511 - Organizational Design and Behavior PHS 515 – Marketing Public Health and Strategic Planning PHS 516 - Human Resources Management in Public Health (elective)
7. Communicate health policy and management issues using appropriate channels and technologies.	PHS 511 - Organizational Design and Behavior PHS 514 - Health Information Management Systems PHS 516 - Human Resources Management in Public Health (elective) PHS 508 - Internship
8. Apply the principles of program planning, development, budgeting, management and evaluation in organizational and community initiatives.	PHS 513 - Financial Management of Health Services PHS 516 - Human Resources

<b>Competencies for MPH in the Health Policy and Management Concentration</b>	
<b>Competency</b>	<b>Course number(s) or other educational requirements</b>
9. Explain methods of ensuring community health, safety and preparedness	Management in Public Health (elective)
10. Apply “systems thinking” for resolving organizational problems.	PHS 511 - Organizational Design and Behavior PHS 512 - Public Health Policy, Law and Ethics PHS 513 - Financial Management of Health Services PHS 514 - Health Information Management Systems PHS 515 – Marketing Public Health and Strategic Planning PHS 516 - Human Resources Management in Public Health (elective) PHS 507 - Capstone Project PHS 508 - Internship

Appendix C  
MPH Concentration Degree Study Plans

**Jackson State University**  
**School of Public Health**  
**Master of Public Health Program**  
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION**  
**Full-Time Plan of Study**

**CORE COURSES**

**First Year**

**Fall Semester and Spring Semester (12 hrs. per Semester)**

		<b>Credit Hours</b>
PHS 501	Public Health and Behavioral Demography	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 Qualitative Methods	3
PHS 531	Health Behavior, Promotion and Education	3
PHS_____	Elective	<u>3</u>
		24

**Summer Session**

Elective 500 Level (Optional)	3-6
-------------------------------	-----

***Behavioral Health Promotion and Education Concentration Courses***

**Second Year**

**Fall Semester**

PHS 532 Community and Patient Health Education	3
PHS 533 Wellness and Health Promotion Management	3
PHS 535 Behavioral Change Program Strategies	<u>3</u>
<b>GACE</b>	9

**Spring Semester**

PHS 534 Communication and Health Education	3
PHS_____ Elective	3
PHS 507 Applied Research Project	3
PHS 508 Public Health Residency	<u>3</u>
	12

Total Program Hours	45
---------------------	----

**Disclaimer: The Plans of Study for both the MPH and DrPH programs represent the recommended course sequence and/or course rotation schedule. Students should note that extenuating circumstances may necessitate changes in the course offerings each semester.**

**Jackson State University  
School of Public Health  
Master of Public Health Program  
BIostatISTICS  
Full-Time Plan of Study**

**CORE COURSES**

**First Year**

**Fall Semester and Spring Semester (12 hrs. per Semester)**

		<b>Credit Hours</b>
PHS 501	Public Health and Behavioral Demography	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 Qualitative Methods	3
PHS ____	Elective	3
PHS ____	Elective	<u>3</u>
		24

**Summer Session**

Elective 500 Level ( Optional)	3- 6
--------------------------------	------

***Biostatistics Concentration Courses***

**Second Year**

**Fall Semester**

PHS 522 Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics	3
PHS 571 Statistical Theory	3
PHS 572 Statistical Computer Application	<u>3</u>

**GACE**

9

**Spring Semester**

PHS 524 Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology	3
PHS 601 Advanced Biostatistics and Computer Sc. Application	3
PHS 507 Applied Research Project	3
PHS 508 Public Health Residency	<u>3</u>
	12

Total Program Hours	45
---------------------	----

**Disclaimer: The Plans of Study for both the MPH and DrPH programs represent the recommended course sequence and/or course rotation schedule.  
Students should note that extenuating circumstances may necessitate changes in the course offerings each semester.**

**Jackson State University**  
**School of Public Health**  
**Master of Public Health Program**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**  
**Full-Time Plan of Study**

**CORE COURSES**

**First Year**

**Fall Semester and Spring Semester (12 hrs. per Semester)**

		<b>Credit Hours</b>
PHS 501	Public Health and Behavioral Demography	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 Qualitative Methods	3
PHS ____	Elective	3
PHS ____	Elective	<u>3</u>
		<b>24</b>

**Summer Session**

Electives	(optional)	3-6
-----------	------------	-----

***Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration Courses***

**Second Year**

**Fall Semester**

PHS 541	Environmental Management and Industrial Health	3
PHS 543	Occupational Health and Safety Management	3
PHS 544	Environmental Policy and Occupational Toxicology	<u>3</u>
	GACE	9

**Spring Semester**

PHS 542	Environmental and Occupational Health Risk Assess.	3
PHS 545	Environmental Policy and Occupational Health Regulations	3
PHS 508	Public Health Residency	3
PHS 507	Applied Research Project	<u>3</u>
		<b>12</b>

Total Program Hours		45
---------------------	--	----

**Disclaimer: The Plans of Study for both the MPH and DrPH programs represent the recommended course sequence and/or course rotation schedule. Students should note that extenuating circumstances may necessitate changes in the course offerings each semester.**

**Jackson State University**  
**School of Public Health**  
**Master of Public Health Program**  
**EPIDEMIOLOGY**  
**Full-Time Plan of Study**

**CORE COURSES**

**First Year**

**Fall Semester and Spring Semester (12 hrs. per Semester)**

		<b>Credit Hours</b>
PHS 501	Public Health and Behavioral Demography	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 Qualitative Methods	3
PHS ____	Elective	3
PHS ____	Elective	<u>3</u>
		24

**Summer Session**

Elective(s) 500 Level	(optional)	3- 6
-----------------------	------------	------

***Biostatistics Concentration Courses***

**Second Year**

**Fall Semester**

PHS 521	Advanced Seminar in Epidemiology	3
PHS 522	Multivariate and Probabilistic Statistics	3
PHS 523	Chronic and Infectious Disease Epidemiology	<u>3</u>

**GACE**

9

**Spring Semester**

PHS 524	Statistical Methods for Applied Epidemiology	3
PHS 525	Epidemiology of Minority and Special Populations	3
PHS 507	Applied Research Project	<u>3</u>
PHS 508	Public Health Residency	12

Total Program Hours	45
---------------------	----

**Disclaimer: The Plans of Study for both the MPH and DrPH programs represent the recommended course sequence and/or course rotation schedule.**

**Students should note that extenuating circumstances may necessitate changes in the course offerings each semester.**



**Jackson State University**  
**School of Public Health**  
**Master of Public Health Program**  
**HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT**  
**Full-Time Plan of Study**

**CORE COURSES**

**First Year**

		<b>Credit Hours</b>
PHS 501	Public Health and Behavioral Demography	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 Qualitative Methods	3
PHS ____	Elective	3
PHS ____	Elective	<u>3</u>
		24

**Summer Session (Optional)**

Electives 500 Level	3-6
---------------------	-----

***Health Policy And Management Concentration Courses***

**Second Year**

**Fall Semester**

PHS 511	Organizational Design and Behavior	3
PHS 512	Public Health Policy, Law and Ethics	3
PHS 513	Financial Management of Health Services	<u>3</u>
<b>GACE</b>		<b>9</b>

**Spring Semester**

PHS 514	Health Information Management Systems	3
PHS 515	Marketing Public Health and Strategic Planning	3
PHS 507	Applied Research Project	3
PHS 508	Public Health Residency	<u>3</u>
		12
Total Program Hours		45

**Disclaimer: The Plans of Study for both the MPH and DrPH programs represent the recommended course sequence and/or course rotation schedule.**

**Students should note that extenuating circumstances may necessitate changes in the course offerings each semester.**



## **SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE PROGRAM  
350 West Woodrow Wilson Drive, Suite 320  
Jackson, MS 39213  
(601)979-8806

For additional questions or information, please contact the MPH Degree Program, at (601) 979-8806 (telephone) or 601-979-8809 (fax). Further information may also be obtained through the Division of Graduate Studies at (601) 979-2455. We look forward to hearing from you.