

Advanced Certificate in Foundations of Public Health



Public health is an interdisciplinary field that seeks to prevent injuries, illness and premature death; promote health and wellness; and prolong life at the group, community and population levels. Hofstra's Advanced Certificate in Foundations of Public Health is designed for professionals working in a public health agency or organization or in a related health or human services field who wish to gain the skills and evidence-based approaches used in the profession of public health. The program can be completed in one year.

To earn the certificate, students are required to complete 12 semester hours (four courses) in addition to a noncredit Foundations of Public Health Seminar. The 12 semester hours may be applied as transfer credit to Hofstra's Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited Master of Public Health program.

The following courses must be completed to earn the Advanced Certificate in Foundations of Public Health:

MPH 201 - Foundations of Public Health Seminar Semester Hours: 0 (fall and spring)

This two-day (weekend) hybrid seminar provides a foundation in public health – its interdisciplinary nature; key historical moments and developments; models and frameworks for understanding health in populations; primary concerns such as infectious and chronic disease; and disparities in health status by race, socioeconomic status and gender.

MPH 202 - Epidemiology I Semester Hours: 3 (spring only)

This course provides an introduction to descriptive and analytic epidemiology. The focus is on understanding sources and uses of epidemiological data, calculating and applying measures of morbidity and mortality to describing and analyzing the health status of populations, epidemiological study designs, bias and confounding, and making causal inferences using epidemiological data.

MPH 203 - Biostatistics I Semester Hours: 3 (spring only)

This course provides an overview of biostatistics theories and methods commonly used in public health sciences. The course also introduces the basic concepts of statistical inference, including hypothesis testing, p-values, and confidence intervals.

MPH 204 - Social and Behavioral Determinants of Health Semester Hours: 3 (fall only)

This course examines the health status of populations within a social ecological framework, examining how individual behavior, family and social networks, cultural practices and social factors, as well as public policies, interact to influence and produce health in populations.

MPH 205 - Public Health Program Planning and Evaluation Semester Hours: 3 (fall only)

This course prepares students to plan, implement and evaluate public health programs as well as examine challenges to program development and outcomes brought about by differential access to care, care quality, and cost of services.

Admission requirements include:

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university.
- A minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0.
- An interview with a faculty member.
- A detailed resume that includes related professional experience.
- Two letters of recommendation (one from an academic source and one from a professional source).

To apply for the Advanced Certificate in Foundations of Public Health, visit hofstra.edu/gradapply

For more information, contact Director of Public Health Programs Dr. Anthony Santella at

Anthony.Santella@hofstra.edu or 516-463-5932 or visit hofstra.edu/publichealth.