

Proposed Programmatic Revision

CGS Agenda Item: 21-43
Effective Fall 21

MS Health Promotion

Effective Date: Fall 2021

Rationale: This revision is intended to accomplish three things: (1) revise program admission requirements; (2) revise program required courses to bring catalog language into line with practice; (3) add additional/newly created electives to the approved elective list.

Admission Requirements: In reviewing the admission process over the past 5 years, it has become apparent that letters of recommendation do not provide significantly valuable data to inform the admission process. In fact, for many students, particularly those from underrepresented groups, letters of recommendation are a significant barrier that causes them to self-select out before they even apply to graduate programs. We propose removing the requirement of letters of recommendation, and replacing it with a brief analytical writing sample to be developed by the Department. Such a writing sample is more consistent with the skills necessary to be successful in graduate school, and does not create an access barrier the way letters of recommendation can.

Revised Curriculum: When the MS Health Promotion was originally proposed, an international health (5600) course was included in the required course sequence at the insistence of one of the faculty. By the time the decision was made to convert the program from a traditional residential program to an online program, and we accepted our first graduate students, this faculty person had left the institution, and we no longer had any faculty with an expertise in international health. Furthermore, as we considered changing the program to an online offering, we researched numerous other Master's programs throughout the US, and none of the comparable programs required an international health course. All required a graduate level epidemiology course, so the decision was made to replace 5600 with the graduate level epidemiology course (5765). Also, a graduate level Health Communication course was subsequently developed, and replaces HCM 4910 in the required courses. Due to an oversight, the curricular changes, while approved at the Department level, were never formally submitted through the entire curriculum process.

CURRENT CATALOG COPY:

Program Mission: The mission of the online Master of Science in Health Promotion is to prepare leaders in the field of health practice by providing competencies and skills needed to be productive professionals who serve the health-promotion and leadership needs of diverse local, regional, national, and international populations. These competencies and skills include the ability to encourage collaborations across communities through leadership, research, and evaluation.

Admission Requirements: To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see "[Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs](#)"). Additional requirements include three letters of recommendation, a resume, and a statement of purpose. Admission is competitive, and meeting GPA requirements does not guarantee admission.

Degree Audit: The graduate plan of study is the EIU Degree Audit, which is generated automatically at the time of degree or certificate candidacy. Modifications of the standard EIU Degree Audit are submitted by the graduate coordinator to the certification officer in the Graduate School at the time modifications are approved. The Degree Audit serves as an unofficial summary of requirements for the program. Degree and certificate candidates are advised to review the comprehensive summary of the Degree Audit process

specified on the “[Requirements for All Degree and Certificate Candidates](#)” section of the Graduate Catalog. Individual programs may require candidates to submit plans of study in addition to the Degree Audit; candidates should consult with the program coordinator.

Degree Requirements

Degree requirements include those outlined for the master’s degree by the Graduate School (see “[Requirements for the Master’s Degree](#)”).

Curriculum for the Master of Science in Health Promotion

Total Credits: 33

Required Courses

Credits: 21

- [HCM 4910 - Applied Health Communication](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5600 - Essentials of International Health](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5700 - Theories and Principles of Health Behavior](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5750 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5770 - Leadership and Ethics for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5800 - Statistical Analysis for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5810 - Research Methods for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3

Electives

Credits: 6

All elective hours are subject to approval by graduate adviser.

- [PUBH 4800 - Drugs and Society.](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 4890 - Health and Aging.](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5765 - Epidemiology in Public Health](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5980 - Internship](#) Credits: 3-6
- [PUBH 5990 - Independent Study](#) Credits: 1-6
- [NTR 4753 - Nutrition and the Addicted Person.](#) Credits: 1
- [HSL 4820 - Death and Dying](#) Credits: 3
- [KSR 5120 - Social Psychology and Physical Activity.](#) Credits: 3
- [KSR 5225 - Physical Activity and Aging](#) Credits: 3

Project or Thesis Option

Students must choose the Project or Thesis Option. Those considering doctoral work are encouraged to complete the Thesis option.

Credits: 6

Project Option

6 hours

- [PUBH 5900 - Graduate Project](#) Credits: 3
- Select an additional 3 hours from PUBH or related area Credits / Units: 3

Thesis Option

6 hours

- [PUBH 5950A - Thesis I](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5950B - Thesis II](#) Credits: 3

Accelerated Graduate Program

Admission to the accelerated MS in Health Promotion requires that a student have completed a minimum of 60 hours of undergraduate course credit and have a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.25. In addition, applicants must have completed a minimum of 15 hours of Health Promotion courses, including at least 6 hours at the 3000 level.

To apply for the accelerated MS in Health Promotion, applicants meeting the above requirements must submit two academic letters of reference and a professional goals statement to the Graduate Coordinator and must also complete the Graduate School's Accelerated Program [Application](#).

Shared Coursework

Shared Credit Course Options: Students may select up to three courses from the list below. No more than one course may be at the 5000-level. All enrolled students must meet with the Health Promotion and Leadership graduate coordinator in addition to their undergraduate academic advisor to select courses.

- [PUBH 4800 - Drugs and Society](#). Credits: 3
- [PUBH 4830 - Perspectives on Health and Humor](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 4890 - Health and Aging](#). Credits: 3
- [HCM 5610 - Advanced Analysis and Development of Health Communication Campaigns](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5700 - Theories and Principles of Health Behavior](#) Credits: 3

- [PUBH 5750 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5765 - Epidemiology in Public Health](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5770 - Leadership and Ethics for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5800 - Statistical Analysis for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5810 - Research Methods for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3

PROPOSED REVISIONS:

Program Mission: The mission of the online Master of Science in Health Promotion is to prepare leaders in the field of health practice by providing competencies and skills needed to be productive professionals who serve the health-promotion and leadership needs of diverse local, regional, national, and international populations. These competencies and skills include the ability to encourage collaborations across communities through leadership, research, and evaluation.

Admission Requirements: To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see "[Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs](#)"). Additional requirements include ~~three letters of recommendation~~, a resume, and a statement of purpose. ~~Applicants will be screened based their application materials, and those who pass the initial screening will also be asked to prepare a writing sample [directions provided by the Department].~~ Admission is competitive, and meeting ~~minimum~~ GPA requirements does not guarantee admission.

Degree Audit: The graduate plan of study is the EIU Degree Audit, which is generated automatically at the time of degree or certificate candidacy. Modifications of the standard EIU Degree Audit are submitted by the graduate coordinator to the certification officer in the Graduate School at the time modifications are approved. The Degree Audit serves as an unofficial summary of requirements for the program. Degree and certificate candidates are advised to review the comprehensive summary of the Degree Audit process specified on the "[Requirements for All Degree and Certificate Candidates](#)" section of the Graduate Catalog. Individual programs may require candidates to submit plans of study in addition to the Degree Audit; candidates should consult with the program coordinator.

Degree Requirements

Degree requirements include those outlined for the master's degree by the Graduate School (see "[Requirements for the Master's Degree](#)").

Curriculum for the Master of Science in Health Promotion

Total Credits: 33

Required Courses

Credits: 21

- ~~● HCM 4910 - Applied Health Communication Credits: 3~~
- HCM 5610 - Advanced Analysis & Development of Health Communication Campaigns Credits: 3
- ~~● PUBH 5600 - Essentials of International Health Credits: 3~~

- [PUBH 5700 - Theories and Principles of Health Behavior](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5750 - Health Program Planning and Evaluation](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5765 - Epidemiology in Public Health](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5770 - Leadership and Ethics for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5800 - Statistical Analysis for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 5810 - Research Methods for Health Professionals](#) Credits: 3

Electives

Credits: 6

All elective hours are subject to approval by graduate adviser.

- [HCM 4910 - Applied Health Communication](#) Credits: 3 *
- [HSL 4820 - Death and Dying](#) Credits: 3
- [HSL 5100 - Societal Theories of Aging](#) Credits: 3
- [HSL 5846 - Public Policy and Grant Writing for Human Services Programming](#) Credits: 3
- [KSR 5120 - Social Psychology and Physical Activity](#) Credits: 3
- [KSR 5225 - Physical Activity and Aging](#) Credits: 3
- [NTR 4753 - Nutrition and the Addicted Person](#) Credits: 1
- [PLS 4793 - Civic & Nonprofit Leadership](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 4893 - Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 4873 - Human Resource Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 4800 - Drugs and Society](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 4830 - Perspectives on Health and Humor](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 4840 - Complementary Integrative Medicine for Health Service Professionals](#) Credits: 3
- [PUBH 4890 - Health and Aging](#) Credits: 3
- ~~[PUBH 5765 - Epidemiology in Public Health](#) Credits: 3~~
- [PUBH 5980 - Internship](#) Credits: 3-6
- [PUBH 5990 - Independent Study](#) Credits: 1-6

*only students enrolled in the Accelerated MS Health Promotion are allowed to use HCM 4910 as one of the electives in the graduate program

Project or Thesis Option

Students must choose the Project or Thesis Option. Those considering doctoral work are encouraged to complete the Thesis option.

Credits: 6

Project Option

6 hours

- [PUBH 5900 - Graduate Project](#) Credits: 3
- Select an additional 3 hours from PUBH or related area Credits: 3

Thesis Option

6 hours

- [PUBH 5950A - Thesis I](#) Credits: 3
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Accelerated Graduate Program

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To apply for the accelerated MS in Health Promotion, applicants meeting the above requirements must submit ~~two academic letters of reference and~~ a professional goals statement to the Graduate Coordinator and must also complete the Graduate School's Accelerated Program **Application**. **Applicants will be screened by the Graduate Coordinator and the Undergraduate Academic Advisor, and those who meet the requirements will be asked to prepare a writing sample [directions provided by the Department]. The Graduate Selection committee will review the writing sample, and make a final decision about admission.**

To remain in the Accelerated Graduate Program, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.25, and all courses taken for graduate credit as Shared Coursework must be taken for a grade. Students who fall below a 3.25 cumulative GPA will be removed from the Accelerated Graduate Program, and will have to apply to the MS Health Promotion graduate program as a traditional graduate student if they wish to pursue the graduate degree.

Accelerated Program Shared Coursework

Shared Credit Course Options: Students may select up to three courses from the list below. No more than one course may be at the 5000-level. All enrolled students must meet with the M.S. Health Promotion ~~and~~ Leadership graduate coordinator in addition to their undergraduate academic advisor to select courses.

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- [PLS 4793 – Civic & Nonprofit Leadership Credits: 3](#)
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- PUBH 5810 - Research Methods for Health Professionals Credits: 3

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Date approved by the department or school: 8/31/2021

Date approved by the college curriculum committee: 9/16/2021

Date approved by the Honors Council (*if this is an honors course*): Not Applicable

Date approved by CGS: