HED - Public Health in Community Health Education Graduate Program

Master of Public Health in Community Health Education Program
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www.uwlax.edu/grad/community-health-education/master of public health

The Master of Public Health in Community Health Education Program (MPH-CHE) prepares health and human service professionals to serve in various settings where community health education approaches are employed to improve health and well-being. The first degree of its kind offered in the UW System, the MPH-CHE program has been nationally accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (https://ceph.org) since 1992. This practitioner-oriented program addresses behavioral theory, communication and motivational processes, community intervention strategies, and evaluation procedures for community health promotion and primary prevention. As a culminating experience, students complete either a research masters thesis or a graduate project in health education.

Each option requires the same core courses. Graduate students from other programs are not allowed to enroll in health education graduate courses unless departmental approval has been given.

Graduates are prepared to:

- Assess individual and community health needs
- Plan effective health education and health promotion programs
- Implement and evaluate educational experiences
- Coordinate and manage the provisions of health education services
- Serve as resource people in health education
- Communicate health and health education needs, concerns, and resources
- Conduct health education and promotion research
- Apply research principles and strategies in health education
- Manage and supervise health education programs in various settings
- Address public health issues
- Serve as health and wellness coordinators

Graduates are employed in:

- Public health agencies
- Volunteer and private agencies
- Hospitals and other health care settings
- Local, state, and national governmental agencies
- Business and industrial settings

Graduate degree

- Master of Public Health in community health education - MPH
  (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/graduate/programrequirements/publichealthincommunity/community-health-education-mph)

Community Health Education Courses

CHE 405/505 Cr.3
Strategies for Increasing Physical Activity in Communities
This course is designed for community health educators who plan to work with clients and patients in a variety of health and clinical settings. Students will come away with an understanding of how to advance the use of physical activity for the prevention and treatment of chronic disease and other health issues. The course will explore how physical activity improves health, including cardiorespiratory and metabolic diseases, overweight and obesity, musculoskeletal disorders, cancers, and mental health. Data on the prevalence and economic costs are presented to demonstrate the scope of the health issues and the importance of addressing them. Evidence-based strategies for increasing physical activity in individuals and populations using three approaches (informational, behavioral and social, and environmental and policy) will be explored. Strategies for implementing physical activity opportunities in communities will also be addressed. This course is taught largely at an undergraduate level. Graduate students will have additional course requirements/expectations. Offered Spring.

CHE 453/553 Cr.1-3
Cultural Issues in Health Ed: Ethnic, Racial, Religious, and Familial Groups
A study of cultural influences on health and illness. Values and attitudes held by different groups in America's pluralistic society need to be considered in health program planning. Various racial, ethnic, and religious groups' health beliefs and practices will be examined. Cultural influences and patterns of communication within cultures and how these affect health care and utilization of services will be identified. The U.S. health care system will be analyzed in terms of servicing its culturally diverse population. Designed for health professionals, this course will increase their sensitivity in working with people of various cultural origins. Repeatable for credit - maximum three. Offered Occasionally.

CHE 460/560 Cr.1
Medical Terminology for Health Education
A study of medical language used in clinics, hospitals, and other health agencies. Students in various health fields will learn to use medically related terms in their professional communication. Prerequisite: ESS 205 and ESS 206, or BIO 312 and BIO 313. Offered Fall, Spring.

CHE 466/566 Cr.1-3
Worksite Health Promotion
This course will focus on building an understanding of the components necessary for successful worksite health promotion. Included will be the development, implementation, and evaluation of worksite health promotion programs. There will be a direct emphasis on actual worksite conditions and situations, including constraints and advantages. The course will examine the relationship of a worksite health promotion program to the organization as a whole and the potential benefits for both the employee and the employer. Not repeatable for additional credit. Offered Occasionally.
CHE/SHE 475/575 Cr.1-3
Workshop in Health Education
Group study of varying health education topics, community agencies, and educational institutions. Repeatable for credit under different topics - maximum six credits combined CHE/SHE. (Cross-listed with CHE/SHE.) Departmental option for pass/fail grading. Consent of instructor. Offered Occasionally.

CHE 780 Cr.1-8
Community Health Education Preceptorship
Professional experience for graduate students in a variety of community health education and public health settings interacting with diverse populations for a semester or summer session. The candidate works under faculty supervision with a professional in health education and/or health promotion who serves as a mentor. Distinct health educator areas of responsibility are addressed. Repeatable for credit - maximum eight. Consent of department. Offered Fall, Spring, Summer.

Health Education Courses
HED 409/509 Cr.1
Stress Management and Relaxation Skills
An introduction to the detrimental effects of stress on an individual and the corresponding benefits of regular relaxation. This course will emphasize the basic skills of relaxation and will provide an experience that focuses on the practical application of these skills in one's life. Offered Fall, Spring.

HED 412/512 Cr.3
Women's Health Issues
This course will provide an opportunity for participants to identify major health issues confronting women today and to examine appropriate health prevention and health promotion lifestyle choices. It will explore health issues from the traditional medical model to the holistic model and provide a comprehensive overview of critical, contemporary women's health issues. Offered Occasionally.

HED 425/525 Cr.3
Violence and Injury Prevention
Participants will review the major forces leading to violent behavior and injury in the United States and globally. Trends over time will be carefully reviewed and analyzed in order to detect risk and protective factors. Violence and injury prevention strategies will be reviewed, resulting in the development of prevention and intervention proposals using community-based programming and curriculum development strategies. Offered Fall, Spring.

HED 467/567 Cr.1-2
Experiential Learning Strategies for Health Education
This course examines emerging educational processes, strategies, and issues and how they can be applied in the facilitation of health education and health promotion programs in the school and/or community setting. Topics will vary per offering and target audience. Prerequisite: HED 210 or teacher certification. Offered Occasionally.

HED 469/569 Cr.3
Drugs, Society, and Human Behavior
This course is directed at introducing social, psychological, pharmacological, and cultural aspects of drug use, misuse, and abuse. In addition, the methods, materials, and theories of drug abuse prevention in the school and community will be introduced. Prerequisite: BIO 100 or BIO 105. Offered Spring.

HED 471/571 Cr.2
Health Education Responsibilities, Competencies, and Certification
Participants will have the opportunity to review the National Health Educator Competencies Update Project research resulting in a new hierarchical model that serves as a framework for the responsibilities and competencies comprising the Entry, Advanced 1, and Advanced 2 levels. Each one of the seven responsibilities will be examined with practitioner examples, and a review will be conducted for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) national examination. Weekend and online formats. Offered Occasionally.

HED 472/572 Cr.3
Sexual Health Promotion
A review of current information on health and human sexuality. Emphasis is given to biological, psychosocial and educational aspects of human sexuality with special emphasis on instructional activities related to interpersonal communication, decision-making ability and clarification of values. Prerequisite: ESS 205 or BIO 313, ESS 206 or BIO 312. Offered Fall, Spring.

HED 473/573 Cr.3
Health Aspects of Aging
An exploration of the lifelong aging process and an examination of health factors affecting the elderly. Emphasis is given to the changes in a variety of health areas including, but not limited to, physical activity, nutrition, mental health, long-term care, sexuality, and death, dying and grief. The course will also include a service-learning component. This course is taught largely at an undergraduate level. Graduate students will have additional course requirements/expectations. Prerequisite: HED 210. Offered Fall, Spring.

HED 474/574 Cr.3
Nutrition Education
Basic principles of nutrition are covered as well as current problems and topics regarding both personal and world nutrition today. Designed for the public school teacher, the community health educator, or those in related fields. Offered Fall, Spring.

HED 485/585 Cr.1-3
Confrontations of Death
This course is designed to allow students to consider death both generally and on an individual basis. Various programs and experiences will be used to help individuals confront their own mortality and its relationship with the vitality of life. Offered Occasionally.

HED 495/595 Cr.1-3
Independent Study in Health Education
Individualized study of areas not available in existing courses. Repeatable for credit - maximum six. Consent of department. Offered Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer.

HED 701 Cr.3
Contemporary Issues in Health Education
Current basic issues and problems in health education. Designed to reinforce and extend the student's knowledge of contemporary health issues as they apply to the improvement of personal, family, and community health. Offered Fall.

HED 703 Cr.3
Foundations in Health Education
A study of scientific, social, psychological, ethical, legal, and educational foundations of health education. Professional competencies and practice settings will be reviewed. Applications of health concepts and effective educational strategies will increase the competencies of health education planning and program implementation. Offered Fall.
Public Health Courses

PH 707 Cr.3
Environmental Health
Examination of how environmental mechanisms influence human health and how humans impact environmental conditions. A critical analysis of current environmental problems and evidence linking these problems to disease causation and health enhancement. Solutions to environmental health problems will also be critically analyzed. Offered Fall, Summer.

PH 717 Cr.3
Emerging Public Health Issues
An in-depth policy and practice review of key emerging issues in public health and their societal impacts at the local, national, and international levels. Issues will be selected from the eight health challenge content areas advanced by the Institute of Medicine (2003) and additional sources. Implications for health education and health promotion will be addressed. Prerequisite: HED 701 and HED 703. Offered Fall.

PH 720 Cr.3
Program Assessment, Planning, and Evaluation in Health Promotion
This course is designed to provide the learner with program assessment, planning, communication, and evaluation skills. Emphasis is placed on community organizing principles, intervention planning, community assessment, group communication dynamics, evaluation design, and grant writing skills. Opportunities to apply these skills to a variety of community health settings are provided. Offered Fall.

PH 755 Cr.3
Epidemiology and Public Health Issues
Examination of epidemiologic concepts in relation to specific public health issues. Disease investigation techniques, casual factors, case histories, and related biostatistics are examined and educational implications are discussed. Prerequisite: PH 340 or CHE 340 or equivalent. Offered Summer.

School Health Education Courses

SHE 407/507 Cr.3
Health Education in the Elementary School
Introduction of the school health program for the elementary education major and physical education major. Consideration is given to school health services and healthy school living, with a further emphasis on health instruction and health content for the elementary school. Prerequisite: admission to teacher education. Offered Occasionally.

SHE 410/510 Cr.6
Application of Curriculum Processes and Instructional Techniques
This senior level experience provides an opportunity to apply the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of the Interstate Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium Standards (InTASC). The primary focus is on a teacher candidate’s growth and development in the InTASC standards. The traditional field experience or participation in a Professional Development School experience will address how the InTASC standards impact teaching and learning. Further analysis of method selection and instructional strategy development is included from a practical as well as philosophical point of view. Lect 4, Lab 2. Offered Fall.

SHE 415/515 Cr.3
School Leadership for Health Educators
This course will develop teacher candidates’ leadership skills in school health programming. An overview will be included on the following topics: group dynamics, leadership theories and styles, resources and grants, curriculum assessment and analysis, administration and coordination of health curriculum, and professional skills. Prerequisite: SHE 310 or equivalent. Must be taken concurrently with SHE 510 and acceptance into teacher education program. Offered Fall.
CHE/SHE 475/575 Cr.1-3
**Workshop in Health Education**
Group study of varying health education topics, community agencies, and educational institutions. Repeatable for credit under different topics - maximum six credits combined CHE/SHE. (Cross-listed with CHE/SHE.) Departmental option for pass/fail grading. Consent of instructor. Offered Occasionally.

SHE 705 Cr.2
**Introduction to School Health Education**
This introductory course will cover the components of Comprehensive School Health Education programs including: basic health knowledge, central health concepts, health tools of inquiry, and pedagogical practices within the field of health education; the role, function, and responsibility of a health education teacher; an overview of health content and common teaching strategies; history of health education; common school health education philosophical and theoretical approaches; and National and State Health Education Standards. Prerequisite: admission to school health education 910 or master's degree program. Offered Spring.

SHE 710 Cr.3
**Leadership in Health Education**
This course will provide graduate students with the knowledge and skills necessary to provide leadership for health education in their schools and communities. Included will be an overview of comprehensive/coordinated school health programs, behavioral change theory, leadership skill development, community partnership development, and program planning and administration. Offered Summer.

SHE 715 Cr.3
**Health Education Curriculum and Pedagogy**
This course will provide graduate students with the knowledge and skills necessary to develop effective curriculum and learning strategies for health education. The course will provide a hands-on atmosphere where knowledge is used and skills are practiced. Offered Summer.

SHE 720 Cr.4
**Health Issues of Youth and Adults**
This exploratory course is designed to identify health issues affecting youth throughout various stages of their development. Societal institutions supporting the healthy growth and development of youth will be identified, while students consider strategies to enable the healthy mental, emotional, physical, social, spiritual, and environmental development of today’s youth between the ages of 1-21 years. In addition, this course will provide graduate students who do not have an undergraduate major in health education with the necessary background in health content areas (nutrition, physical activity, sexuality, stress, violence/abuse, substance use and abuse, disease prevention, environmental health, consumer health and mental and emotional health), with application to their own lives. This course will function as a hybrid course with both classroom instruction and distance learning. Prerequisite: SHE 705; admission to school health education 910 certification or master’s degree program. Offered Spring.

SHE 792 Cr.1
**Student Teaching/Intern Seminar**
Through this course for student teachers/interns, university course work is correlated with successful teaching practices in the schools. Students build on their knowledge base, reflect on their teaching, and analyze school culture with their peers. Each seminar aligns with the InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards based on the needs of the student teachers/interns. To be taken concurrently with SHE 494 or 495. Pass/Fail grading. Offered Fall, Spring.