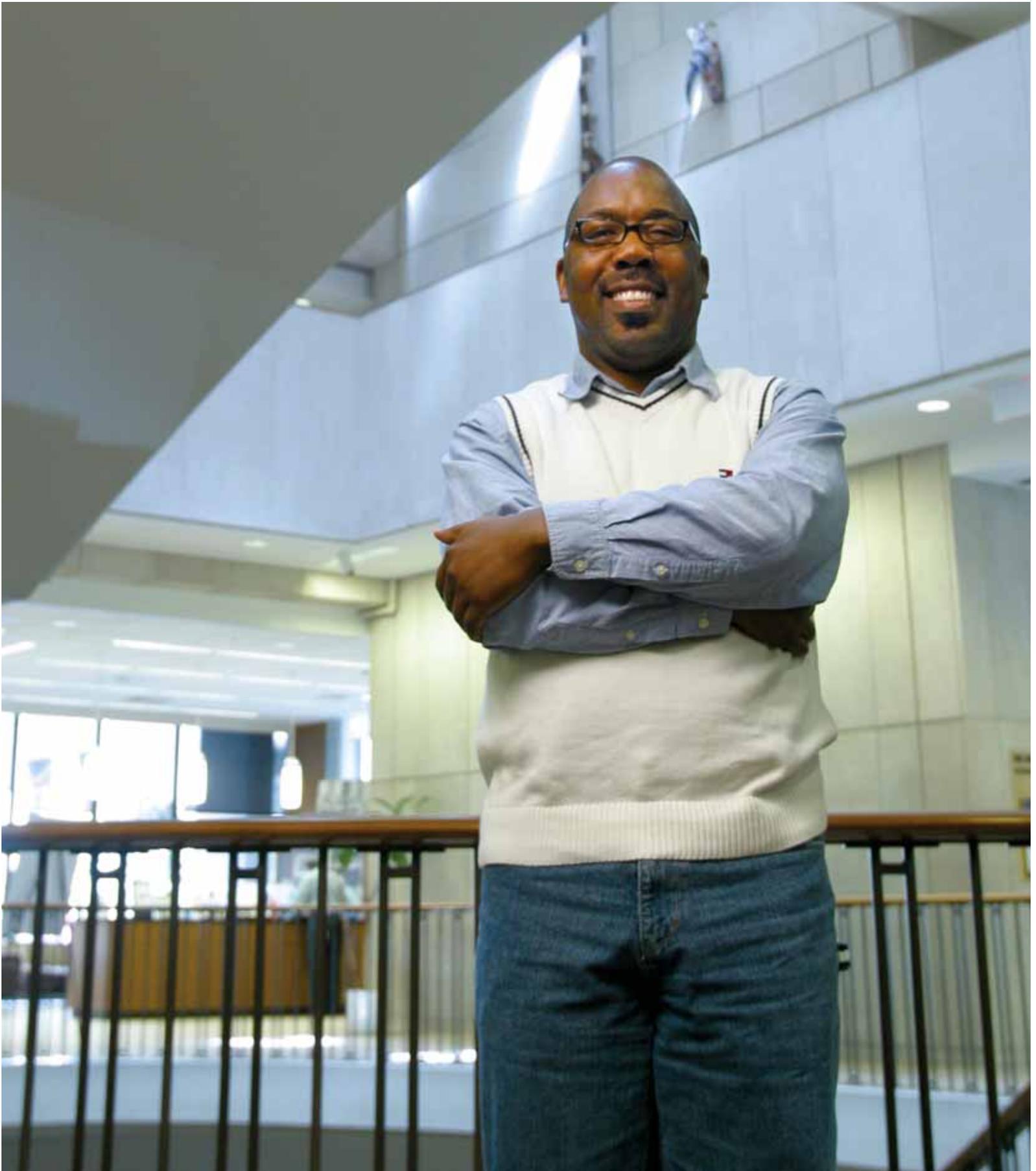


“I realized that the department provided the language and concepts to do the interdisciplinary research on racial and ethnic disparities that attracted me.”

REGINALD TUCKER

Master's student, Department of Society, Human Development, and Health



Reginald Tucker entered the field of public health by an unlikely route. Awarded a full scholarship to the University of Tulsa, he majored in accounting. “I quickly learned it was a mismatch,” he says. “But I was the first person in my extended family to attend college, and I knew the job market was strong for accountants.”

During five years in a management training program and later as an internal auditor at Saint Louis University, he says, “I learned a great deal about the world of work.” While at Saint Louis University, he completed a master’s degree in counseling and family therapy, but he knew that such an “emotionally exhausting” field was not for him.

Reginald happened to read an article by Norman Anderson, then a professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health, about the relationship between stress and race. Looking at the SHDH website, he says, “I realized that the department provided the language and concepts to do the interdisciplinary research on racial and ethnic disparities that attracted me.”

It took Reginald some time to clarify his goals when he began his master’s program at HSPH. Then he took a course that introduced him to the idea of geography and fiscal disparities as influences on health; he immediately felt a connection to his own background and interests. Reginald plans to pursue these themes in a doctoral program at HSPH and later as an academic researcher.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIETY, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND HEALTH

THE MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT of Society, Human Development, and Health (SHDH) is to improve health throughout the lifespan, including a special emphasis on children and adolescents. This mission is achieved through research to identify the social and behavioral determinants of health, development and evaluation of interventions and policies leading to the improvement of population health, and the preparation of professionals and researchers who will fill leadership positions in advocacy and public service.

The department’s educational mission is to train both scholars and practitioners: scholars whose research will illuminate basic social determinants of health and who will identify and test innovative social policy and service interventions; practitioners who are skilled in designing, implementing, and evaluating health-enhancing interventions in action settings.

The department highlights four areas of interest:

Health and social policy A wide range of social policies—including but not limited to labor, poverty, family, housing, and educational policy—have a dramatic impact on health. This area of interest prepares students to design new and improve existing social

policies and focuses on strategies for the successful implementation of social policies that improve health. Students who study in this area may be interested in working on public policy through research, within the government, or in a nonprofit organization.

Human development The department’s emphasis on human development across the life course results from faculty research and interest in three areas: the physical, mental, and behavioral health and well-being of children and adolescents; basic developmental processes (including physical growth, nutrition, and psychological development); and growing attention to the impact of early-life conditions on long-term health and functioning. Course work includes material on physical growth and development, principles of psychological and social development, and longitudinal research methods. Research conducted by faculty members involves longitudinal studies of both at-risk and community samples, emphasizing cumulative risk and protective influences across the lifespan and implications for prevention, early intervention, and treatment strategies.

Planned social change This area of interest focuses on the application of theory in the design of intervention programs, as well as on research and evaluation methodology. The area includes work on interventions using

randomized clinical trial designs and quasi-experimental approaches. Attention is given to the following design steps: problem diagnosis, assessment, formative research, program design, and evaluation. The social settings for interventions may be communities, workplaces, schools and colleges, and health care facilities. Populations of interest include those who are underserved, marginalized, and in special need. Intervention strategies include educational interventions, community organizing and development, social marketing, communication, adult-learning approaches, and advocacy.

Social determinants of health This area of interest emphasizes the analysis of the major social conditions that affect the health of populations. Research stresses socioeconomic position, social and economic inequality, discrimination, social networks and support, social capital, work conditions, and psychological states. Seminars, tutorials, and courses enable students to explore a range of the health consequences of various social factors by studying varied subgroups, at different times and places and under diverse and changing conditions. Students examine mechanisms and processes through which social factors exert their impact, and also investigate mechanisms that mediate or moderate relationships between social factors and health outcomes.

Degree Programs in Society, Human Development, and Health

As described below, the department offers both 80-credit and 40-credit master of science (SM) programs, a dual-degree master's program for nurses, and a doctoral program leading to the doctor of science (SD) or doctor of public health (DPH) degree. Within both the doctoral program and the 80-credit master's program, students may follow a concentration in maternal and child health (MCH). For information about schoolwide requirements for master's and doctoral degrees, see page 58.

Master of Science in Society, Human Development, and Health (80-credit and 40-credit programs)

The 80-credit, professional SM program prepares students for a variety of positions in community, public, and private settings. These roles include the design, management, and evaluation of programs, particularly health promotion and disease prevention programs, health communication programs, and those providing services to women, youth, and children. Other roles include work in research, public policy, and advocacy. Students in the MCH concentration are prepared for careers in maternal and child health practice, research, planning, policy development, and advocacy.

Recent graduates have taken such positions as the evaluator on a violence prevention program for adolescents, associate director of public health and research at Georgetown University, assistant medical director of the Rhode Island Health Department, and intern in the Presidential Management Program, Office of the Budget for Health and Human Services; others have gone on to earn doctoral degrees.

Applications are encouraged from students who have a strong social sciences and/or natural sciences background, public health experience, and defined public health goals. Solid mathematics and writing skills and successful experience with course work requiring critical reading and writing, drawing of inferences, and rigorous analysis are crucial. Previous graduate work is not required.

Students must earn at least 20 credits in departmental courses. They are not required to declare an area of interest within the department but are encouraged to take course work in all four. In addition to fulfilling HSPH, SHDH, and practice core requirements, students are expected to delineate professional goals and to develop an area of expertise. They often focus on a subject area (such as AIDS;

addiction; cardiovascular or cancer risk reduction; the health of children, adolescents or women; and mental health) and/or a skill area (such as program design and evaluation, communication, policy analysis, or marketing). Students must complete a practicum, which consists of skill development in a practice setting, a seminar, and a final paper.

Students in the MCH concentration elect one of two focus areas, each of which has specific requirements in addition to the basic master's degree curriculum. The epidemiology focus is for those wishing to develop research skills for work in research, advocacy, or policy organizations; the MCH program planning and policy focus is geared toward those interested in policy formulation or program design and management.

The 40-credit SM program is intended to prepare students for research careers in public and private agencies. Applicants eligible for the 40-credit program are established practitioners or investigators holding prior master's or doctoral degrees in the social/behavioral sciences, health care, or a public health field. Students in this program must fulfill the schoolwide requirements and earn 15 credits in departmental courses. They should work closely with their advisers to develop a study plan to meet their particular academic and career goals.

Master of Science in Society, Human Development, and Health (HSPH 40-credit program) and Parent-Child Nursing or Women's Health (Simmons College 40-credit program)

This professional, dual-degree program, which requires that 40 credits be earned at HSPH and 40 at Simmons, is designed to prepare nurse practitioners for leadership roles in child, youth, women's, or school health programs. Recent graduates have taken such positions as director of clinical services for the Family Planning Association of Maine and staff director for the World Health Organization Maternal Health and Safe Motherhood Program.

Applicants should hold a bachelor's degree from a program accredited by the National League for Nursing, a license to practice nursing, and the equivalent of at least three years of full-time nursing experience. International nurses with equivalent backgrounds are eligible to apply. Applicants must meet the general admission requirements of both HSPH and Simmons College.

Students enroll in half-time study at both Simmons College and HSPH for two academic years, in addition to studying at Simmons for one summer session. The curriculum of the HSPH portion of the program is the same as that for the 40-credit SM program. Continued matriculation is dependent on maintaining satisfactory academic progress in both programs.

Doctor of Science in Society, Human Development, and Health/Doctor of Public Health

The doctoral program provides a common core education addressing issues of society, human development, and health at the same time as developing expertise in one of the four previously described areas (health and social policy, human development, planned social change, and the social determinants of health). Students select one of the four areas of interest as their major. Students in the MCH concentration complete the normal requirements for the doctoral program. They select one of the four areas of interest as a major and complete a minor in maternal and child health. All students should consult the department's Curriculum and Advising Guide for a listing of required courses in each area.

Current and recent doctoral students in the department have undertaken dissertation research projects on the following topics: socioeconomic position, allergic disease, and cancer risk; cross-national comparisons of perinatal care technologies on neonatal survival; poverty, policy, neighborhoods, and health; effectiveness of public policies for children with disabilities; social influences on health behaviors of college students with same-sex experience; depressive symptoms in postpartum women; gender inequality and health; measurement and social and physical contexts of physical activity; and cost-effectiveness of lead-poisoning prevention programs.

Recent graduates have taken such positions as Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, postdoctoral fellow at the National Development and Research Institute in New York, research scientist at Harvard University, project officers in philanthropic foundations, and assistant professors at schools of public health and medical schools. Graduates are pursuing careers in academia, government, and nonprofit organizations as leading researchers, teachers, policymakers, and program developers, such as chair of a department of obstetrics in Taiwan and chief of the lead-poisoning branch at the CDC.

Most students enter the doctoral program with a strong foundation in the social, behavioral, clinical, public health, or natural sciences and with an earned master's degree in a social science (such as sociology, psychology, economics, political science, public policy, and anthropology); clinical health (such as nursing and social work); public health (such as epidemiology and health education); or natural sciences (such as biology, physiology, and neurosciences).

For the SD the department accepts a small number of students without a master's degree directly into the program. Applicants to the DPH program must hold an MPH and a prior doctoral degree.

Limited funding is awarded on a competitive basis to qualified applicants in both master's and doctoral programs. Two training grants from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau support students in the MCH concentration. A fellowship for doctoral students is available in the area of cancer prevention, and some doctoral fellowships may also be available for underrepresented minorities. A limited number of universitywide presidential fellowships are available on a competitive basis to underrepresented minorities and to students from developing countries who are planning on public service or academic careers.

Traineeships have also been awarded in psychiatric epidemiology and aging. Students receive funding in other areas through research assistantships and their own grant applications.

Related Offerings

Interdisciplinary concentration in women, gender, and health, see page 56.

MPH concentration in family and community health, see page 52.

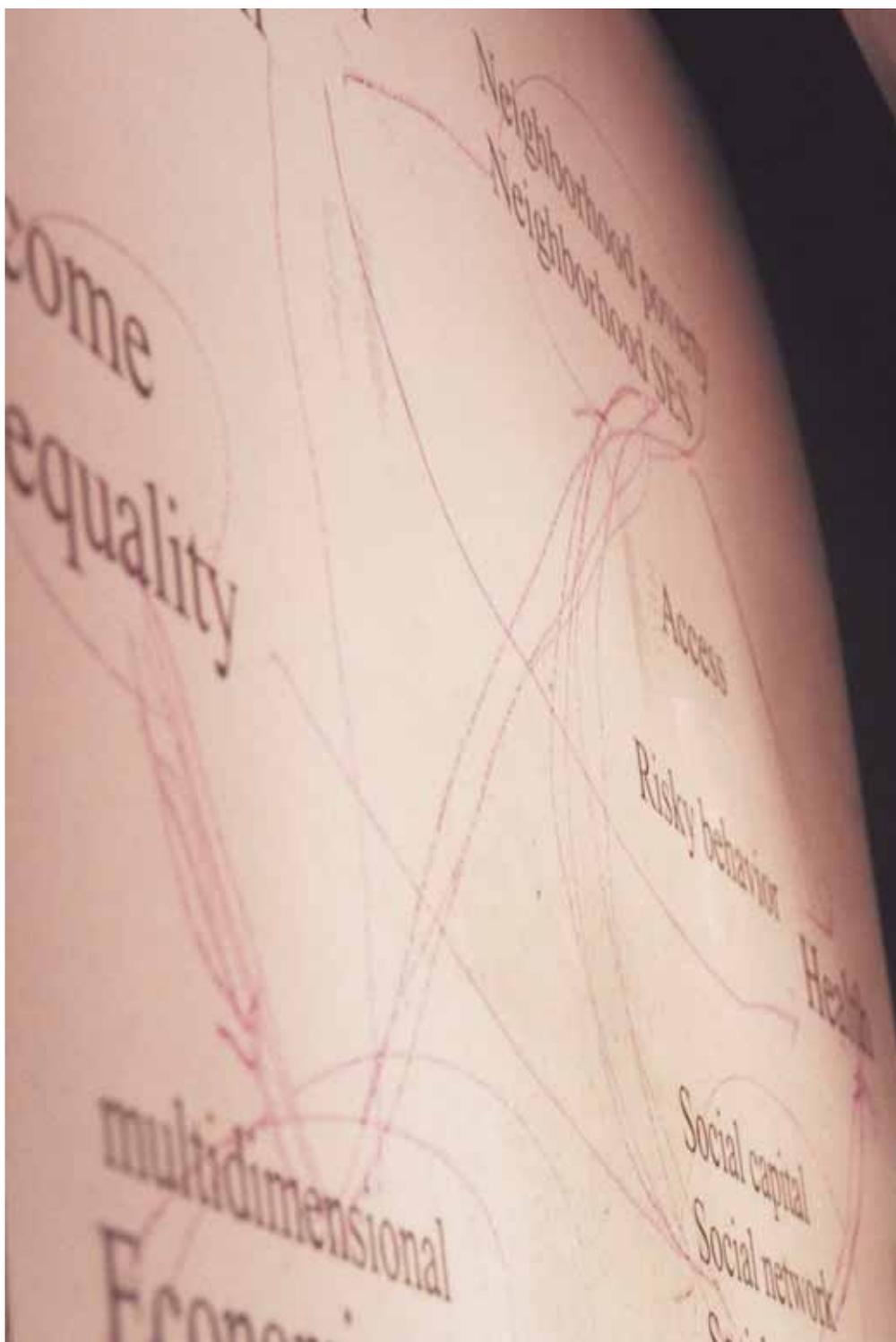
Contact Information

For more information about research and training in Society, Human Development, and Health, please contact Patricia Lavoie, Department of Society, Human Development, and Health, 677 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115.

Phone: 617-432-3762

Fax: 617-432-3755

Email: tlavoie@hsph.harvard.edu



DEPARTMENT FACULTY

Please note that some faculty members may be on leave during academic year 2004–05.

Department chair: Lisa F. Berkman, MS, PhD;

Thomas D. Cabot Professor of Public Policy. Social epidemiology; epidemiology of aging.

Dolores Acevedo-Garcia, MPA, PhD; Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Effects of residential segregation on minority health; health effects of welfare reform and immigration policies on U.S. immigrants and citizens.

Iain W. Aitken, MB, BChir, MPH; Lecturer on Society, Human Development, and Health. Maternal health care; management of primary health care workers; design and financing of urban health care systems in developing countries.

Elizabeth M. Barbeau, MPH, ScD; Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Workplace health and safety policy; work-site cancer prevention; tobacco policy; health inequalities.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION

Please note that the courses listed are subject to change and some are not offered every year. Complete course descriptions are available at <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/registrar/courses>.

<i>Physical Growth and Development</i>	<i>Community Intervention Research Methods</i>
<i>Nutrition in Child Health and Development</i>	<i>Child Abuse and Neglect: Current Topics</i>
<i>Nutritional Surveillance</i>	<i>SHDH Department Proseminar</i>
<i>Biological and Clinical Foundations of Reproductive and Child Health</i>	<i>Public Health Genetics: Contemporary Issues and Challenges</i>
<i>Social Epidemiology</i>	<i>Qualitative Research Methods for Public Health</i>
<i>Reproductive Health Care in Developing Countries</i>	<i>Practice of Preventing Intimate Partner Violence</i>
<i>Community-Based Child Health Programs in Developing Countries</i>	<i>Social Policy and Legal Dilemmas: Child Custody and Visitation</i>
<i>Mental Health of Children and Adolescents</i>	<i>Applied Methods for Secondary Data</i>
<i>Media and Health Communication: Practical Skills</i>	<i>Multilevel Methods for SHDH Statistical Research: Concept and Application</i>
<i>Practicum in Program Assessment, Monitoring, and Evaluation</i>	<i>Analytic Techniques of Secondary Data</i>
<i>Human Development and Public Health: A Life-course Approach</i>	<i>Social and Behavioral Research Methods</i>
<i>Society and Health</i>	<i>Issues in MCH Programs and Policies</i>
<i>Communication in Health Care Settings</i>	<i>Introductory Physiology and Social Determinants of Health</i>
<i>Race, Ethnicity, and Health: Perspectives from Social and Behavioral Sciences</i>	<i>Approaches to International Tobacco Control</i>
<i>Adolescent Health</i>	<i>Inequality and Health</i>
<i>Women, Health, and Development: Reconciling Science and Policy</i>	<i>Violence Against Women</i>
<i>Health Promotion Through Mass Media</i>	<i>SHDH Master's Seminar</i>
<i>Developmental Disabilities I: Evaluation, Assessment, and Systems</i>	<i>Doctoral Seminar on Society, Human Development, and Health</i>
<i>Developing Radio Communications</i>	<i>Innovative Strategies in Health Education</i>
<i>Developmental Disabilities II: Value, Policy, and Change</i>	<i>Health Literacy</i>
<i>History, Politics, and Public Health: Theories of Disease Distribution</i>	<i>Methods for Research on Social and Behavioral Dimensions of Public Health</i>
<i>Childbirth Health Policy and Epidemiology</i>	<i>Planned Social Change</i>
<i>Introduction to High-Risk Behavior: Epidemiology, Prevention, and Public Policy</i>	<i>Personality and Cognitive Development: Application to Public Health</i>
<i>Society and Its Effects on Child Health</i>	<i>MCH Doctoral Seminar</i>
<i>Psychosocial Theories of Health and Health Behavior</i>	<i>Policy Analysis Methods for Public Health</i>
<i>Social Services for Children, Adolescents, and Families</i>	<i>Advanced SHDH Doctoral Seminar</i>
<i>Services for Children with Disabilities</i>	<i>Place, Migration, and Health</i>
<i>Health and Social Policy in the Workplace</i>	<i>Health and Social Policy Doctoral Seminar</i>
<i>Psychosocial Aspects of Aging</i>	<i>Leadership in Minority Health Policy</i>
<i>Future Health Communication: New Media and Emerging Technologies</i>	<i>Issues in Minority Health Policy</i>

Gary G. Bennett, MA, PhD; Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Social/psychosocial determinants of racial and ethnic disparities in chronic disease morbidity and mortality; development of web-based health behavior change interventions.

Stephen L. Buka, SM, SM, SD; Associate Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health and of Epidemiology. Causes and prevention of behavioral and developmental disorders of children.

Felton J. Earls, MD; Professor of Human Behavior and Development. Longitudinal research to understand how community, family, and individual factors influence delinquent and criminal behavior.

Karen M. Emmons, MA, PhD; Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Cancer prevention; smoking and health effects of environmental tobacco smoke; health care and community-based interventions.

Michael L. Ganz, MS, MPhil, PhD; Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Relationship between socioeconomic factors, behaviors, ecologic factors, and maternal and child health measures.

Steven L. Gortmaker, SM, PhD; Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Statistical evaluation methods; socioeconomic position and child health; social, behavioral, environmental, and policy influences on obesity and other chronic conditions.

S. Jody Heymann, MPP, MD, PhD; Associate Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Influence of social, labor, education, and poverty policies on health; strategies for decreasing the incidence and impact of diseases burdening poor and marginalized populations.

Ichiro Kawachi, MD, PhD; Professor of Social Epidemiology. Social inequalities in health, especially related to income distribution; stress and cardiovascular disease; quality of life and healthy aging; tobacco control.

Nancy Krieger, MS, PhD; Associate Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Social inequalities in health, especially regarding race/ethnicity, social class, and gender; cancer, especially breast cancer; cardiovascular disease, especially hypertension.

Laura D. Kubzansky, MSc, PhD, MPH; Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Psychosocial determinants of health; social inequality and health; emotion and cardiovascular disease.

Laura A. McCloskey, PhD; Associate Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Origins and sequelae of wife and child abuse; family origins of child psychopathology; women's mental health and victimization; posttraumatic stress.

Marie C. McCormick, MD, ScD; Sumner and Esther Feldberg Professor of Maternal and Child Health. Infant mortality; outcomes of high-risk neonates and interventions to ameliorate adverse outcomes.

Beth E. Molnar, SM, SD; Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Child and adolescent mental health; family violence and abuse; psychiatric epidemiology.

Karen E. Peterson, RD, SD; Associate Professor of Nutrition and Society, Human Development, and Health. Epidemiology of malnutrition in industrialized and developing countries.

Rima E. Rudd, MSPH, ScD; Senior Lecturer on Society, Human Development, and Health. Public health and adult education pedagogy; normative change and change strategies, including small-group communications and social marketing.

Jay G. Silverman, PhD. Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Effects and prevention of intimate partner violence against adolescents and adult women.

Glorian Sorensen, MPH, PhD; Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Cancer prevention in the workplace; intervention research in community and occupational settings.

S. V. Subramanian, MA, MPhil, PhD; Assistant Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Application of multilevel methodologies for analyzing complex socioeconomic data structures.

Kimberly M. Thompson, MS, SD; Associate Professor of Risk Analysis and Decision Science. Analysis of the risks, costs, and benefits of using airbags as life-saving devices; applications of value of information techniques to environmental health decisions.

K. Viswanath, MCJ, MA, PhD; Associate Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health. Mass media and public health; communication and social inequities in health; risk communication; new media developments in health communication.

Henry Wechsler, AM, PhD; Lecturer on Society, Human Development, and Health. Alcohol and drug use and related high-risk behaviors among youth; epidemiologic, preventive, and public policy approaches to substance-abuse prevention.

Secondary Appointments

(primary appointments at Harvard Medical School)

Allen C. Crocker, MD; Associate Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Chronic illness and developmental disabilities in children; mechanisms of disability.

Barbara Gottlieb, MD, MPH; Assistant Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Women's health; unintended pregnancy; depression; minority and community health; adolescent and school health.

Charles J. Homer, MD, MPH; Associate Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Application of epidemiologic methods to assess the effectiveness of health care services.

Ellice S. Lieberman, MD, MPH, DPH; Associate Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Perinatal epidemiology; risk factors for adverse pregnancy outcomes; assessment of new technologies and care practices in obstetrics.

Judith S. Palfrey, MD; Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Development of preschool children; interface of health and educational services for children.

Joan Y. Reede, MD, MPH, SM; Assistant Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Biomedical manpower and academic/research career development; health services to and impact of health policy on minority and other populations.

Michael O. Rich, MD, MPH; Assistant Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Children's health and communications media; the illness experience from the patient's perspective.

Benjamin P. Sachs, MD, BS, MRCS, LRCP, DPH; Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Epidemiology and health policy relating to women and children in technological evaluation, infant mortality, and medical services.

Edward C. Tronick, MS, PhD; Associate Professor in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health. Neurodevelopment of infants and children exposed to drugs in utero; depressive symptoms and mother-infant interaction.

Adjunct Faculty

Norman B. Anderson, MA, PhD. American Psychological Association.

Robin J. R. Blatt, MPH. Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Mary Jean Brown, SM, SD. National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Prevention and Control.

H. William DeJong, MA, PhD. Boston University School of Public Health.

Johanna T. Dwyer, SM, SM, SD. Stern Nutrition Center, Tufts Medical Center.

Roberta E. Goldman, MA, PhD. Boston University School of Medicine.

David T. Helm, MA, PhD. Children's Hospital.

Daniel J. Kindlon, MS, PhD. Consultant.

Lawrence C. Kleinman, MD, MPH. Psychologist in private practice.

Michael G. Marmot, MB, MPH, PhD. International Centre for Health and Society, University of London, United Kingdom.

Anne M. Stoddard, SM, SD. New England Research Institute.

Norma M. Swenson, MPH. Consultant.

Lisa Tieszen, MA. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Deborah K. Walker, EdM, EdD. Programs and Prevention, Massachusetts Department of Public Health.