



Master of Public Health GENERALIST

45-Credit, Online

COHORT 2 (Fall 2022 Start)



HARVARD
T.H. CHAN

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Powerful ideas for a healthier world

MPH-GEN CURRICULUM GUIDE

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Every effort is made to ensure the information contained in this guide is accurate at the time of publication. However, the curriculum, including degree requirements, courses, faculty, and program policies are subject to modification as deemed necessary by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health to provide students with the most meaningful educational experience and to remain current with professional standards and guidelines. This version of the MPH-GEN Curriculum Guide only pertains to students in the MPH-GEN Cohort 2 matriculating in Fall 2022.

MPH LEADERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION, AND RESOURCES

The Master of Public Health program is a school-wide degree program governed by the *MPH Steering Committee* and supported by the *Office of Educational Programs*.

MPH PROGRAM LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Faculty Director, MPH Program:** Murray Mittleman, mmittlem@hsph.harvard.edu
- **Assistant Dean for Professional Education:** Anne Occhipinti, aocchipi@hsph.harvard.edu

MPH GENERALIST FIELD OF STUDY LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

- **Field of Study Leader:** Bonnie Blanchfield, bblanchfield@hsph.harvard.edu
- **Academic Program Manager** Megan Kerin, mkerin@hsph.harvard.edu

MPH PROGRAM OFFICE – OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

hsph.me/mph-program-team | mphgen@hsph.harvard.edu | +1 617-432-0090

- **MPH Public Health Core Contact:** Ying-Ju Lai, Educational Programs Project Manager, yjai@hsph.harvard.edu

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

hsph.harvard.edu/registrar | registrar@hsph.harvard.edu | +1 617-432-1032

- **Academic Calendar:** hsph.me/academic-calendar
- **Harvard Course Catalog:** courses.harvard.edu
- **Harvard Chan Student Handbook:** hsph.me/student-handbook
- **Student Knowledge Center:** hsph.me/knowledge-center (information about course enrollment, etc.)

OFFICE OF CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

hsph.me/career-services | careers@hsph.harvard.edu

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

hsph.me/diversity | odi@hsph.harvard.edu

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

hsph.me/fin-aid-office | financialaid@hsph.harvard.edu

OFFICE FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

hsph.me/student-affairs | studentaffairs@hsph.harvard.edu

- **Student Support Services:** hsph.me/support-services

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM POLICIES

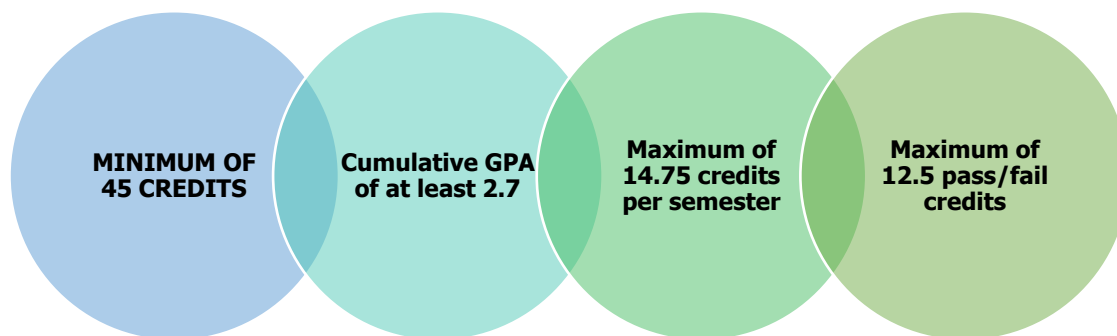
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

All MPH-45 students must fulfill the following requirements regardless of their field of study:

- **45 credits** minimum
- Successful completion of all courses required by your field of study
- Applied Practice Experience
- Integrative Learning Experience
- Cumulative grade point average of at least 2.7 (B- average)

PART-TIME AND PASS/FAIL REQUIREMENTS

- Students may not count more than 12.5 pass/fail credits towards their degree
- As students in a part-time program, MPH Generalist students cannot exceed a maximum of 14.75 credits per semester



PROGRAM POLICIES FOR MPH GENERALIST STUDENTS

Ordinal and Pass/Fail Grading Policy

Students enrolled in an MPH program at the School can take a maximum of 12.5 pass/fail credits during the degree program, and are required to have at least 32.5 ordinally graded credits from courses.

Field of Study and Program Changes

Students in the MPH-GEN program are not eligible to change into another field of study or MPH degree program (from 45 credit to 65 credit) once admitted to the MPH Generalist. Students who want to change fields of study would need to reapply to a different MPH program and/or field of study.

Transfer Credits and Course Waivers

Students in the MPH-GEN program are unable to waive, substitute, or transfer in HSPH or outside credits into the MPH Generalist program.

On-Campus Harvard Chan Courses and Cross-Registration

MPH-GEN students are not permitted to take courses on campus or to cross-register for other courses due to their non-resident student status.

Student Status (Part-Time)

The MPH-GEN program is a part-time degree program. Students can take no more than 14.75 credits per semester. There is no option to complete this program as a full-time student.

Any student who needs to take fewer than 10 credits a semester must receive prior permission from the MPH Generalist program manager (mphgen@hsph.harvard.edu). Additionally, students who take below 10 credits per semester may not qualify for either US federal financial assistance (including loans) or most private loans. Students considering dropping below 10 credits are encouraged to contact the Office of Financial Aid to discuss the impact of this decision on their loan eligibility.

Billing and Enrollment

Students are billed a flat rate at the beginning of each semester (fall and spring) until the full program cost has been met. Course enrollment and pre-paying your tuition bill are closely connected at the Harvard Chan School. For questions about tuition or student billing, visit the *Student Billing website* (hsph.me/student-billing) or *contact the Registrar's Office* (hsph.me/registrar). Students are also responsible for course material fees, which are separate from tuition, and are typically posted after course enrollment.

Extending your Graduation Date

While the MPH Generalist program is designed to be completed in two years, some students may wish to have additional time to complete their degree. Students who wish to complete the program in three years may petition to extend their graduation date. *Students interested in the option of extending their degree to a third year must meet with the MPH-GEN program manager to discuss their curriculum plan, before formally petitioning to extend their graduation date.* Please be aware that students who complete the program in three years will be charged a continuation fee for their third year. More information about tuition and fees can be found here: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/student-billing/tuition-and-fees/>

Loan borrowing requires students to be enrolled for at least 10 credits per semester of credits that count towards their degree to qualify to borrow federal and most private loans. Students considering extending their programs to a third year should take this into consideration.

Leave of Absence

Students in the MPH Generalist have the option of taking a leave of absence from the program but cannot do so in their first semester of the program. The program recommends students who plan to take a leave of absence do so for at least an entire semester (summer, fall, spring). Students who wish to take a leave of absence for part of a semester may be charged a continuation fee. If planning to take a leave, students should contact the MPH-GEN program manager at mphgen@hsph.harvard.edu. The student will need to complete a Leave of Absence Petition (hsph.me/registrar-forms) and submit for the needed approvals.

International Students

Because students are learning remotely, the MPH Generalist program does not require nor issue student visas, and therefore MPH-GEN students are also ineligible for Optional Practical Training (OPT) status.

Online Programs at Harvard University

As with any other fully online degree program at Harvard, given the remote nature of this program, you will not have access to Harvard buildings or receive a photo ID. However, Harvard faculty, staff, and your fellow students will be available to meet with you through online web-based platforms (like Zoom). Additionally, you will have access to all Harvard's online library resources (<https://library.harvard.edu/services-tools/hollis>). If there is a change or update to University policy in any of these areas, students will be notified.

Academic Deadlines & Harvard Email

Students are responsible for knowing and meeting all deadlines and regularly reading their Harvard email. The School's academic calendar is posted on the Registrar's Office website (hsph.me/academic-calendar). MPH Generalist students should follow the same last date to enroll/last date to drop deadlines as other Harvard Chan School students. The deadlines for each term can be found in the [Academic Calendar Summary](#) on the [Registrar's Office website](#).

It is strongly recommended that students not join courses after they begin, to avoid missing any required assignments or group project work during the first two weeks of the course.

The Harvard Chan Semester-Based System

The Harvard Chan School uses a semester-based system. For more information, see hsph.me/navigating-your-field-of-study.

Graduation

Completion of the MPH public health core curriculum and field of study requirements for the MPH degree is monitored by the MPH-OEP Office. It is the student's responsibility to proactively reach out to the MPH-GEN staff and field of study leader if any concerns arise. Students are also encouraged to map out their program using a degree audit sheet to ensure they are meeting their requirements as expected.

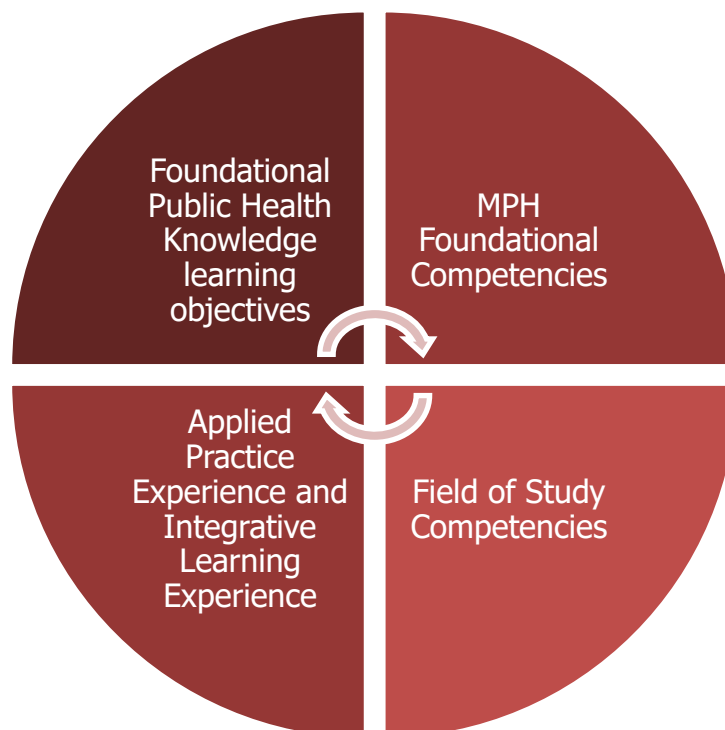
MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH: PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The MPH degree is the most widely recognized professional credential for leadership in public health. The MPH curriculum emphasizes active, student-directed learning, problem solving, and the acquisition of skills essential to the practice of public health. The program is organized around the Foundational Public Health Knowledge learning objectives, the MPH Foundational Competencies, the Applied Practice Experience, and the Integrative Learning Experience laid out by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Students pursue a career-oriented field of study. Each field of study has defined five distinct competencies that enhance the 12 Foundational Public Health Knowledge learning objectives and the 22 MPH Foundational Competencies.

HARVARD CHAN'S COMPETENCY AND APPLICATION-BASED MPH CURRICULUM

The MPH public health core curriculum is developed in accordance with the Council on Education for Public Health's 12 Foundational Public Health Knowledge learning objectives and 22 MPH Foundational Competencies required of all students receiving an MPH degree at accredited institutions. To learn more, visit hsph.me/mph-competencies.

The Foundational Public Health Knowledge learning objectives and the MPH Foundational Competencies are primarily met through the Harvard Chan MPH public health core curriculum, the Applied Practice Experience, and the Integrative Learning Experience.



MPH GENERALIST OVERVIEW

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

MPH Generalist (MPH-GEN) students will complete coursework in a part-time, fully online program. The degree is designed to be completed in two years (with the option to extend to a third year). The program enables students to pursue a rigorous MPH degree while working and living anywhere in the world. It is designed to give students the knowledge, skills, and applied experience to play a leadership role in solving challenging and urgent public health problems, at home and on a global level.

The MPH Generalist program begins in the fall semester. Initially, students will take foundational MPH courses, including biostatistics, epidemiology, social determinants of health, leadership and communication, health systems, and health policy and politics, as well as courses on evidence-based decision-making, public narrative, crisis response, and public health ethics. In the second portion of the program, students will have the opportunity to choose from a select list of online electives focused on health policy, health management, and analytic and research methods. They will also complete a practicum project with the guidance of Harvard Chan faculty and a practicum preceptor that enables them to apply knowledge and skills from coursework to a public health problem in a real-world setting. Courses are delivered asynchronously with optional opportunities for synchronous engagement built into each class.

COMPETENCIES

- Prepare written and oral communications that utilize storytelling and evidence to build support and persuade others for public health action
- Formulate and evaluate population and community-based solutions to respond to community and stakeholder needs
- Integrate ethical arguments and solutions into complex public health problems, policies and systems
- Synthesize, assess, and use evidence to make informed public health decisions for immediate and long-term action
- Identify and assess a public health threat and design an appropriate response for action and recovery

MPH PUBLIC HEALTH CORE CURRICULUM

The MPH public health core curriculum is comprised of a school-wide, pre-matriculation course, ID 100: *Foundations for Public Health*; the biostatistics and epidemiology core; and five courses (MPH 101 – MPH 105) in other foundational public health areas. ID 100 and MPH 101 – MPH 105 are offered in an online format only, with optional synchronous opportunities for engagement with the course material. ID 201 lectures are taught online, and the course has an online lab component. In general, MPH Generalist students are expected to complete most of the MPH public health core curriculum by the end of the fall semester.

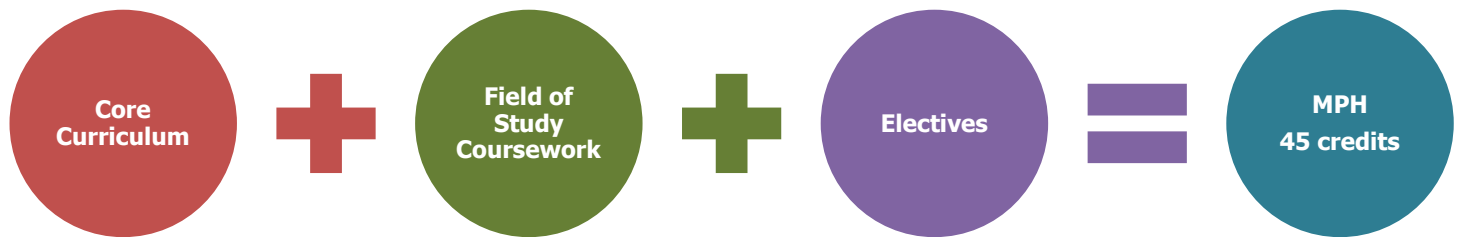
MPH PUBLIC HEALTH CORE				
Course Number	Title	Semester	Credits	Notes
<i>ID 100 is a fully online and asynchronous summer-based course required of all Harvard Chan students. While students will be given access to the ID 100 course materials via Canvas in July, each student will need to formally enroll in ID 100 via my.harvard during the fall enrollment period.</i>				
ID 100	Foundations for Public Health	Summer into Fall 1	1.0 (Pass/Fail Only)	Asynchronous, self-paced, online course. Takes approx. 10-12 hours total and must be completed by Sunday, August 21, 2022. Must be completed in first year of program.
<i>For more information about MPH 101 – MPH 105, see additional information section below.</i>				
MPH 101	Qualitative Methods for Public Health: A Brief Introduction	Fall 2	0.25 (Pass/Fail Only)	Asynchronous, self-paced, online course. Takes approx. 8-10 hours total. Must be completed in first year of program.
MPH 102	Health Systems	Fall 1, Summer, or Winter Session	1.25	Asynchronous online course with set deadlines for completion of each module. <i>MPH-GEN students will enroll in a specific section of this course.</i>
MPH 103	Leadership and Communication	Fall 2 or Winter Session	1.25	Asynchronous online course with set deadlines for completion of each module. <i>MPH-GEN students will enroll in a specific section of this course.</i>
MPH 104	Social, Behavioral, and Structural Determinants of Health	Fall 1, Summer, or Winter Session	1.25	Asynchronous online course with set deadlines for completion of each module. <i>MPH-GEN students will enroll in a specific section of this course.</i>
MPH 105	Public Health Policy and Politics	Fall 2	1.25	Synchronous online course that meets weekly. Sessions are recorded for those who cannot attend live.

BIostatistics and Epidemiology Core				
Course Number	Title	Semester	Credits	Notes
Integrated Biostatistics and Epidemiology (7.5 credits)				
ID 201	Core Principles of Biostatistics and Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	Fall only	7.5	MPH-GEN students will enroll in a specific section of ID 201 as well as a specific ID 201 lab section just for students in the MPH-GEN program.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT MPH CORE COURSES

MPH 101 – MPH 105

All MPH students are required to complete **MPH 101** in their first year of the program. This online, asynchronous course is expected to take approximately 8-10 hours to complete, and students can complete the course at their own pace. **MPH 102, MPH 103, and MPH 104** are online, asynchronous courses with set deadlines for the completion of each module. Optional online opportunities for synchronous engagement with the course material will be offered. **MPH 105** is an online, synchronous course that meets weekly. Live attendance is strongly encouraged; however, MPH 105 class sessions will be recorded for students who are unable to attend the course synchronously.



PLANNING YOUR PROGRAM

Students in the MPH-GEN program must complete a minimum of 45 credits. Students enroll on average for 10-12.5 credits per semester (fall and spring). The first year of coursework prioritizes required coursework for all students and includes the MPH core courses, which provide foundational public health skills needed to prepare you for more advanced coursework and your practicum.

In the second year of the program, students will complete additional required coursework, including a practicum, and take electives. Courses in the MPH-GEN are largely asynchronous, with optional synchronous sessions. Periodic cohort meetings will be scheduled for students to meet with their peers, staff, and faculty.

Your field of study leader and program manager are excellent resources in helping you to map out your degree completion plan. Students are encouraged to schedule appointments with their program manager each term to ensure they remain on track for graduation. A student's academic advisors are also valuable resources for supporting a student's selection of elective courses, as well as helping students make connections with other faculty and support resources at the School.

TWO-YEAR CURRICULUM PLAN

The below curriculum plan outlines the most common path to degree completion. Students are encouraged to check in with their program manager ahead of each enrollment period, to ensure they are on track.

Course Number	Course Title	Term	Credits	Notes to Students
Year 1 Curriculum				
Fall 2022				
ID 100	Foundations for Public Health	Summer – Fall 1	1.0 (Pass/Fail Only)	ID 100 must be completed and submitted through Canvas by Sunday, August 21, 2022.
ID 201 3*	Introduction to Biostatistics and Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	Fall	7.5	MPH-GEN students must also enroll in the associated lab section
MPH 101	Qualitative Methods for Public Health – A Brief Introduction	Fall 2	0.25 (Pass/Fail Only)	
MPH 103 3*	Leadership and Communication	Fall 2	1.25	
MPH 105	Public Health Policy and Politics	Fall 2	1.25	
				Total Fall Credits: 11.25

**Make sure to enroll in the MPH-GEN section of this course*

Spring 2023				
ID 290	Emergency Response, Disasters, and Public Health	Spring 1	2.5	MPH-GEN Field of Study course
ID 252	Ethical Basis of the Practice of Public Health	Spring 1	2.5	MPH-GEN Field of Study course
ID 562	Narrative Leadership – Using Storytelling to Mobilize Collective Action in Public Health	Spring 2	2.5	MPH-GEN Field of Study course. <i>Half of the cohort will take ID 562 in Spring 2023 with the other half taking it in Spring 2024.</i>
ID 256	Evaluating Today’s Complex Public Health Initiatives	Spring	2.5	MPH-GEN Field of Study course
ID 946 A	Applied Practice Experience	Spring	1.25	A/B course with grade issued in Spring 1 2024.
Total Spring Credits: 8.75-11.25				
YEAR 1 CREDITS: 20-22.5				
Year 2 Curriculum				
Summer 2023				
MPH 104	Social, Behavioral and Structural Determinants of Health	Summer Session	1.25	
Total Summer Credits: 1.25				
Fall 2023				
MPH 102	Health Systems	Fall 1	1.25	
ID 255	Public Health Leadership: Personal Mastery	Fall 2	1.25	MPH-GEN Field of Study course
ID 254	Political Epidemiology: Oppression and Resistance as Determinants of Health	Fall 2	1.25	MPH-GEN Field of Study course
ID XXX	Climate Change & Public Health	Fall 1	2.5	MPH-GEN Field of Study Course
Electives		Fall	5.0	Students should select two electives (5 cr.) from list of MPH Generalist electives. You must complete at least 2.5 credits from the list of Methods elective courses before graduation.
Total Fall Credits: 11.25				

Spring 2024				
ID 946 B	Applied Practice Experience	Spring 1	1.25	A/B course with grade issued in Spring 1 2024.
ID XXX	Integrative Learning Experience	Spring 2	1.25	
ID 562	Narrative Leadership – Using Storytelling to Mobilize Collective Action in Public Health	Spring 2	2.5	<i>For students who did not already take this course in Spring 2023.</i>
Electives		Spring, Spring 1, Spring 2	7.5	Students should select three electives (7.5 cr.) from list of MPH Generalist electives. You must complete at least 2.5 credits from the list of Methods elective courses before graduation.
				Total Spring Credits: 10-12.5
				YEAR 2 CREDITS: 22.5-25
45 CREDITS TOTAL				

MPH GENERALIST ELECTIVES

MPH Generalist electives are shown in three categories: Methods, Health Management, and Health Policy. Students must take at least one elective (2.5 cr.) from the Methods category. Additional electives may come from any of the three categories. The courses listed below are ones that the program has currently approved as electives. MPH-GEN students interested in taking online HSPH that are *not* on the list of approved electives below may submit a petition for approval to enroll.

Because of the need to complete required courses in the first year of the program, MPH-GEN students will typically not take elective courses until the second year of the program. Students who wish to take an elective course during the first year are required to submit a petition, along with an explanation of why the course is essential to their study in the first year. Petitions should focus on a specific course and not be a general request for any elective that is available. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, depending on the specific situation and whether there is space available in the class. Priority in the online elective courses is given to students in their second year of the program.

Course Number	Course Title	Term	Credits
Methods Electives			
EPI 527	Design and Conduct of Trials in Preventive Medicine	Fall	2.5
EPI 528	Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis	Fall	2.5
EPI 529	Applications of Epidemiology	Fall + Spring	1.25 + 1.25
HPM 559	Qualitative Research	Fall	2.5
HPM 506	Practical Scientific Methods for Improving Health and Healthcare	Spring	2.5
ID 224	Survey Research Methods for Public Health	Fall	2.5
ID 257	An Introduction to Implementation Science	Spring 2	2.5
BST 215	Linear and Longitudinal Regression	Spring	2.5
Management Electives			
ID 273	Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Healthcare	Spring 1	2.5
ID XXX	Organizational Behavior	Spring 2	2.5
Policy Electives			
HPM 260	Health Economics with Applications to Global Health Policy	Summer	2.5
RDS 202	Decision Science for Public Health	Spring	2.5

APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE AND INTEGRATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Each field of study in the MPH program requires an Applied Practice Experience (APE) (“Practicum”), and an Integrative Learning Experience (ILE), which are completed as part of a practicum course for each field of study. Together, MPH Generalist students will earn 3.75 credits through coursework associated with their APE and ILE.

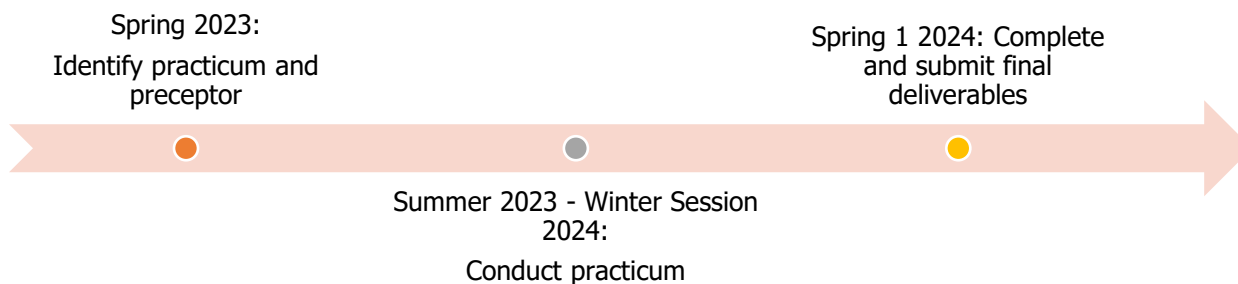
APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

All MPH-GEN students complete a minimum of 120 hours toward their Applied Practice Experience (APE), referred to as a “practicum” or field placement. The practicum is generally completed by working on a project under the guidance of a preceptor at an outside organization. The objectives of the practicum are to help students integrate, synthesize, and apply the knowledge and competencies from program coursework to a real-world public health problem or issue; explore a substantive public health topic that is of interest to the student; and enhance the skills needed to function in a professional public health setting.

Part-time students must arrange their practicum timeframe and practice course enrollment with the approval of their practice course instructor. Part-time students are encouraged to meet with the Field Education and Practice Office (mph-practice@hsph.harvard.edu) to discuss proposed arrangements before finalizing their plans with their practice course instructor.

Applied Practice Experience Timeline

MPH Generalist students will complete a 120-hour practicum to be conducted anytime from the summer before their final year through Winter Session of their final year in the program. It is the responsibility of the student to identify their practicum project; students are encouraged to meet individually with their practice course instructor early to discuss their interests.



Learning Agreement

Prior to starting a practicum, students must complete a Learning Agreement, which outlines the scope, deliverables, work plan, and timeframe for the project. Learning Agreements must be approved by the practice course instructor. Learning Agreements are approved through the CareerConnect web portal and electronically signed by the student, the preceptor, and the practice course instructor before the practicum begins.

Applied Practice Experience Products

Students will submit a minimum of two products that they produce during their practicum to demonstrate a total of five competencies that are defined by each field of study. The list of competencies will include three foundational competencies and two field of study-specific competencies.

Resources for Identifying a Practicum

Practica and abstracts from previous years: [hsph.me/mph-prior-practice](https://hsph.harvard.edu/hsph-me/mph-prior-practice)

CareerConnect: <https://hsph-harvard-csm.symplicity.com/students>

INTEGRATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) includes self-assessment, critical reflection on students' professional growth, and demonstration of attainment of the MPH Foundational Competencies and specific field of study competencies. These competencies, listed online ([hsph.me/mph-competencies](https://hsph.harvard.edu/hsph-me/mph-competencies)), are achieved through successful coursework, field practice, extracurricular activities, and other learning opportunities that students identify independently.

All students complete a baseline and endpoint survey to self-assess their MPH competencies.

A paper, presentation, class-based activity, applied project, and/or other assignments are determined by each field of study to demonstrate mastery of MPH Foundational Competencies and field of study competencies.

FOR MORE DETAILS

Field Education and Practice website: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/public-health-practice-resources/>

MPH Field Practice email: mph-practice@hsph.harvard.edu