



# 2022-2024 MPH Generalist Curriculum Guide

COHORT 2 (Fall 2022-May 2024)

**45-Credit Program** (Online)

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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 and the academic department(s) related to each of the fields of study.

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Harvard Course Catalog		courses.harvard.edu		
Harvard Chan Student Hand	ook	hsph.me/student-handbook		
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# **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 (fall and spring) or 5 credits over the summer.

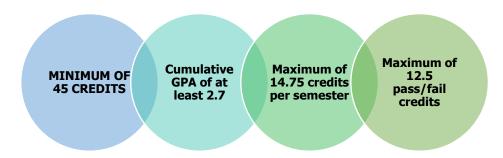


Figure 1: MPH-45 Part-Time Degree and Pass/Fail Requirements

## 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.

In planning the use of your pass/fail credits, please keep in mind that the required core courses ID 100 and MPH 101 can only be taken for a pass/fail grade. Furthermore, while most electives can be taken for either an ordinal or P/F grade, some electives may allow for a pass/fail option only.

## **Elective Courses**

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 to the MPH-GEN program manager, 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.

# **Field of Study and Program Changes**

Students in the MPH-GEN program are <u>not</u> 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 HSPH or outside credits into the MPH Generalist program.

# **On-Campus Coursework and Cross-Registration**

As students in a remote program, MPH Generalist students are not eligible for on-campus courses or cross-registration into other Harvard graduate schools. This means that students are not eligible for concentrations or specializations outside of the Generalist course options.

## **Part-Time Student Status**

The MPH-GEN program is a part-time degree program. Students can take no more than 14.75 credits per semester (fall and spring) and no more than 5 credits over the summer. There is no option to complete this program as a full-time student.

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 (financialaid@hsph.harvard.edu).

# **Enrolling in Summer Term**

Students in the MPH Generalist field of study are not required to take courses over the summer. Students who wish to take summer courses must submit a Summer Coursework Form in my.harvard prior to the start of Summer Term registration. Submission of the Summer Coursework Form allows the Registrar's Office to activate a student's record for enrollment in summer.

# **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 to a student's account after course enrollment. Course material fee estimates can be found under the listing for each course in my.harvard.

## **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: <a href="https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/student-billing/tuition-and-fees/">https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/student-billing/tuition-and-fees/</a>

Loan borrowing requires students to be enrolled in at least 10 credits per semester towards their degree to qualify for 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 but cannot do so in their first semester of the program. If planning to take a leave, students should contact the MPH-GEN program manager at <a href="mailto:mphgen@hsph.harvard.edu">mphgen@hsph.harvard.edu</a> to discuss their plans and options. The student will then need to complete a Leave of Absence Petition (<a href="https://hsph.me/registrar-forms">hsph.me/registrar-forms</a>) and submit this petition for approval.

## **International Students**

Because MPH Generalist students are learning remotely, Harvard University does not sponsor student visas for international students in the MPH Generalist program. As such, international students in the MPH Generalist program are not eligible for Optional Practical Training (OPT) or Curricular Practical Training (CPT) authorization.

# **Online Programs at Harvard University**

Harvard is authorized to offer distance education under the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), an agreement that allows institutions of higher education in Massachusetts to offer distance education to students residing in other states that participate in SARA. For information about SARA-related student complaint processes for distance education students, please see <a href="https://vpal.harvard.edu/nc-sara">https://vpal.harvard.edu/nc-sara</a>.

## **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). 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 <a href="https://hsr.ne/navigating-your-field-of-study">hsph.me/navigating-your-field-of-study</a>.

# **Degree Completion**

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 program manager 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 <a href="https://health.ne/mph-competencies">https://health.ne/mph-competencies</a>.

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.

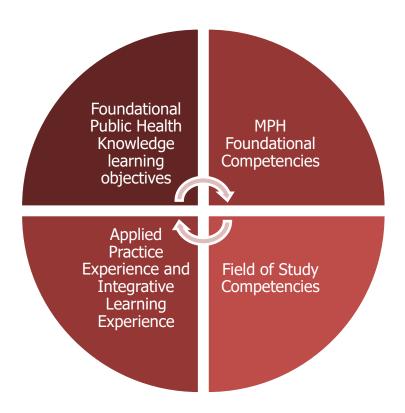


Figure 2: Harvard Chan's Competency and Application-Based MPH Curriculum

## MPH GENERALIST OVERVIEW



Figure 3: MPH Generalist Curriculum 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. In the first semester of the program, students will take the Biostatistics and Epidemiology Core and foundational MPH Core courses. In their second semester, students will begin their required MPH-GEN Field of Study coursework and prepare for their practicum project. Students complete their practicum project and their Integrative Learning Experience in their final spring semester. Additionally, in the second year of the program, students choose from a select list of online electives. Courses are delivered asynchronously with optional opportunities for synchronous engagement built into each class.

Group work is incorporated into the majority of MPH-GEN field of study and elective courses. The ability to work collaboratively in groups is essential for success in these courses. While course lectures in the MPH-GEN program are delivered asynchronously, students in the program are expected to find time to meet synchronously with group members when working together on projects.

#### **COMPETENCIES**

- Design an appropriate response for action and recovery for a public health threat.
- Formulate and evaluate population and community-based solutions to respond to community and stakeholder needs.
- Apply ethical theories, principles, and/or frameworks to make a recommendation for a public health ethics dilemma.
- Investigate relationships between health inequities and environmental or climate exposure.
- Prepare communications that utilize storytelling frameworks to illustrate a public health challenge and persuade others for public health action.

# 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 104 are offered in an online, asynchronous format only, with optional synchronous opportunities for engagement with the course material. MPH 105 is offered synchronously online, with lectures recorded for those who cannot attend in real time. ID 201 lectures are taught asynchronously online, and the course has an online lab component.

Table 1: MPH Public Health Core

MPH PUBI	MPH PUBLIC HEALTH CORE					
Course Number	Title	Semester	Credits	Notes		
given access	<b>ID 100</b> 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.					
ID 100	Foundations for Public Health	Summer into Fall 1	1.0 (Pass/Fa il 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.		
For more in	formation about MPH 10	<b>1 - MPH 105</b> , see add	ditional info			
MPH 101	Qualitative Methods for Public Health: A Brief Introduction	Fall 2	0.25 (Pass/Fa il Only)	Asynchronous, self-paced, online course. Takes approx. 8-10 hours total. <i>Must be</i> 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.  MPH-GEN students will enroll in a specific section of this course.		
MPH 103	Leadership and Communication	Fall 2 or Winter Session	1.25	Asynchronous online course with set deadlines for completion of each module.  MPH-GEN students will enroll in a specific section of this course.		
MPH 104	Social, Behavioral, and Structural Determina nts of Health	Fall 1, Summer, or Winter Session	1.25	Asynchronous online course with set deadlines for completion of each module.  MPH-GEN students will enroll in a specific section of this course.		
MPH 105	Public Health Policy and Politics	Fall 2 only	1.25	Synchronous online course that meets weekly. Sessions are recorded for those who cannot attend live.		

Table 2: Biostatistics and Epidemiology Core

BIOSTATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY CORE					
Course Number	Title	Semester	Credits	Notes	
Integrated	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.	

## PLANNING YOUR PROGRAM

Students in the MPH-GEN program must complete a minimum of 45 credits. Students enroll on average in 10-12.5 credits per semester during the academic year. 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 the Integrative Learning Experience, 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 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 advisor is also a valuable resource 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.

Table 3: Two-Year Curriculum Plan

YEAR 1 CUR	YEAR 1 CURRICULUM			
Course Number	Course Title	Term	Credits	Notes to Students
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 <b>Sunday, August 21, 2022.</b>
ID 201	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	Leadership and Communication	Fall 2	1.25	
MPH 105	Public Health Policy and Politics	Fall 2	1.25	
				Total Fall Credits: 11.25

YEAR 1 CURRIC	YEAR 1 CURRICULUM				
Course Number	Course Title	Term	Credits	Notes to Students	
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.  Half of the cohort will take ID 562 in Spring 2023 with the other half taking it in Spring 2024.	
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 2 CURI	YEAR 2 CURRICULUM				
Course Number	Course Title	Term	Credits	Notes to Students	
Summer 202	3				
MPH 104	Social, Behavioral and Structural Determinants of Health	Summer	1.25		
	Total Summer Credits: 1.25				
Fall 2023					
MPH 102	Health Systems	Fall 1	1.25		
ID 280	Environmental Justice, Climate Change, and Public Health	Fall 1	1.25	MPH-GEN Field of Study Course	
ID 254	Political Epidemiology: Oppression and Resistance as Determinants of Health	Fall 2	2.5	MPH-GEN Field of Study course	
Electives		Fall, Fall 1, Fall 2	5-6.25		
				Total Fall Credits: 10-11.25	

YEAR 2 CURRICULUM				
Course Number	Course Title	Term Credits		Notes to Students
Spring 2024	Spring 2024			
ID 275	Integrative Learning Experience	Spring	2.5	Ordinal grade only
ID 946 B	Applied Practice Experience	Shring 1		A/B course with grade issued in Spring 1 2024.
ID 562	Narrative Leadership	I Spring 2		For students who did not already take this course in Spring 2023.
Electives	Electives Spring, Spring 1 6.25-7.5			
	Total Spring Credits: 10-13.75			
45 CREDITS TOTAL				

# MPH GENERALIST ELECTIVES

MPH Generalist students must take a total of 12.5 credits of elective courses during their degree program. The courses listed below are ones that the program has currently approved as electives. MPH-GEN students interested in taking online HSPH courses that are not on the list of approved electives below must receive approval from the MPH-GEN program manager prior to enrollment. Students are encouraged to discuss their elective options with the MPH-GEN program manager and their faculty advisor.

Table 4: MPH Generalist Electives

Course	Course Title	Term	Credits	Priority
Number				
HPM 260	Health Economics with Applications to Global Health Policy	Summer	2.5	EPI/GEN
EPI 527	Design and Conduct of Trials in Preventive Medicine	Fall	2.5	EPI
EPI 528	Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis	Fall	2.5	EPI
EPI 529	Applications of Epidemiology	Fall, Spring	1.25*	EPI
HPM 559	Qualitative Research	Fall	2.5	EPI/GEN
ID 224	Survey Research Methods for Public Health	Fall	2.5	EPI/GEN
ID 276	Introduction to Nutrition Science	Fall, Spring	2.5	GEN
ID 514	Organizational Behavior	Fall 1	2.5	GEN
ID 255	Public Health Leadership: Personal Mastery	Fall 2	1.25*	GEN
BST 215	Linear and Longitudinal Regression	Spring	2.5	EPI
HPM 506	Practical Scientific Methods for Improving Health and Healthcare	Spring	2.5	EPI/GEN
RDS 202	Decision Science for Public Health	Spring	2.5	EPI/GEN
ID 273	Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Healthcare	Spring 1	2.5	GEN
ID 218	Financial Transactions and Analysis	Spring 1	2.5	GEN
EPI 530	Introduction to Infectious Disease Modeling	Spring 2	1.25	EPI
ID TBC	Investigating Outbreaks	Spring 2	1.25	EPI/GEN

\*May only be taken for a Pass/Fail grade

# **Priority Enrollment Waves**

The above electives are open to students in both the MPH Generalist and MPH in Epidemiology programs. The "Priority" column indicates which student population has priority to enroll in the elective course. For courses where MPH-GEN students have priority, MPH-GEN students will be able to enroll first, followed by MPH-EPI students. For courses with joint EPI/GEN priority, both MPH-GEN and MPH-EPI students will be able to enroll at the same time. Priority enrollment waves are used in my.harvard to manage elective enrollment. Students in on-campus degree programs will be allowed to enroll in the above electives if space remains after all MPH-GEN and MPH-EPI students have had a chance to enroll.

# Petitioning to Enroll in Elective Courses before the Second Year

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 to the MPH-GEN program manager, 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 elective courses is given to students in their second year of the program.

## APPLIED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE AND INTEGRATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Each field of study in the MPH program requires an Applied Practice Experience (APE) and an Integrative Learning Experience (ILE), which are completed as part of a practicum course and ILE course. Together, MPH Generalist students will earn 5 credits through coursework associated with their APE and ILE: ID 946 A, ID 946 B, and ID 275.

## 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.

# **Selecting a Practicum Project**

Because MPH Generalist students are learning remotely, Harvard University does not sponsor student visas for international students in the MPH Generalist program. As such, international students in the MPH Generalist program are not eligible for Curricular Practical Training (CPT) authorization for practicum work that is physically based in the U.S. When selecting a practicum project, students should keep in mind that they cannot complete a practicum project in a country in which they are not legally authorized to work.

## **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.



Table 5: Applied Practice Experience Timeline

## **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.

Practicum Resources				
Field Education and Practice Website	https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/public-health-practice-resources/			
MPH Field Practice Email	mph-practice@hsph.harvard.edu			
Prior Practicum Projects	hsph.me/mph-prior-practice			
CareerConnect	https://hsph-harvard-csm.symplicity.com/students			

## INTEGRATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) is the culminating experience for your MPH Generalist degree. The purpose of the ILE is for you to demonstrate the ability to integrate and synthesize specific MPH foundational and MPH Generalist field of study competencies that you have gained in your coursework and other parts of the MPH program. MPH Generalist students complete the Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) in the final spring semester of the program through the course ID 275: MPH Generalist Integrative Learning Experience.

ID 275 may be taken for an ordinal grade only.