

## FIELD OF STUDY: HEALTH AND SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

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### CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The **Health and Social Behavior (HSB) field of study** is devoted to understanding health disparities and promoting health. The curriculum for the health and social behavior field of study consists of the required MPH public health core curriculum as well as required field of study-specific courses. All students must take a survey course in society and health, four other specific SBS courses that apply these principles to understanding and intervening on the health of populations, and complete additional required coursework in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Students must also complete an approved Applied Practice Experience and Integrative Learning Experience (previously Practice and Culminating Experience). Students have some credits available for elective courses, which may be taken at the Harvard Chan School or by cross-registering.

### COMPETENCIES

- Evaluate behavioral and social theories and conceptual paradigms in the design of basic and applied inquiries in social and behavioral sciences
- Formulate social and behavioral change interventions based on these theories that are appropriate and responsive to the social and cultural context
- Critically appraise principles of research, evaluation, and public health monitoring/surveillance methodology, including quantitative and qualitative methods, to address research hypotheses using a range of research designs
- Describe and apply rigorous, theory-based approaches to research translation for practice, policy, and public health settings
- Recognize the principles of social inclusion, diversity, social justice, and ethics in research and interventions

### MPH-65 in Health and Social Behavior



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### CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Course Number	Title	Credits	Semester
<b>MPH PUBLIC HEALTH CORE CURRICULUM (13.75 credits)</b>			
To learn more about the MPH public health core curriculum, see pp. 6-7.			
<b>Year 1: Fall (13.75 credits)</b>			
ID 201	Core Principles of Biostatistics and Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	7.5	Fall
MPH 100a-e	MPH Core Short Course Sequence	6.25	Fall
<b>FIELD OF STUDY REQUIREMENTS (32.5 credits)</b>			
All courses <b>must</b> be taken for an ordinal grade unless otherwise noted.			
<b>Year 1: Fall (5.0 credits)</b>			
SBS 201	Society and Health	2.5	Fall 1
SBS 281	Principles of Social and Behavioral Research	2.5	Fall 2
<b>Year 1: Spring (7.5 credits)</b>			
SBS 203	Program Planning	2.5	Spring 1
SBS 204	Program Implementation and Evaluation	2.5	Spring 2
SBS 508	Successes and Challenges in Health Behavior Change	2.5	Spring 2
<b>Practicum (Summer or Spring/Summer)</b>			
<b>Year 2: Fall (2.5 credits)</b>			
SBS 965F	Practice and Culminating Experience for HSB	2.5	Fall
<b>Additional HSB Requirements (17.5 credits)</b>			
<i>Can be completed during Year 1 or Year 2 of program.</i>			
<b>SBS Coursework:</b> Complete 17.5 credits offered by the Dept. of Social and Behavioral Sciences.			
Varies	Students must complete an additional 17.5 credits of SBS coursework beyond the field of study requirements. To view the full list of SBS course offerings, visit <a href="https://hsph.me/sbs-courses-by-topic">hsph.me/sbs-courses-by-topic</a>  Note: 15.0 of the required 17.5 credits <b>must</b> be taken for an ordinal grade. <b>An independent study (e.g., SBS 300) does not count towards this requirement.</b>	17.5	Fall &/or Spring
<b>ELECTIVES (18.75 credits)</b>			
To view a sample list of cross-registration electives, visit <a href="https://hsph.me/mps-suggested-cross-reg-electives">hsph.me/mps-suggested-cross-reg-electives</a>			

**TOTAL 65 CREDITS**

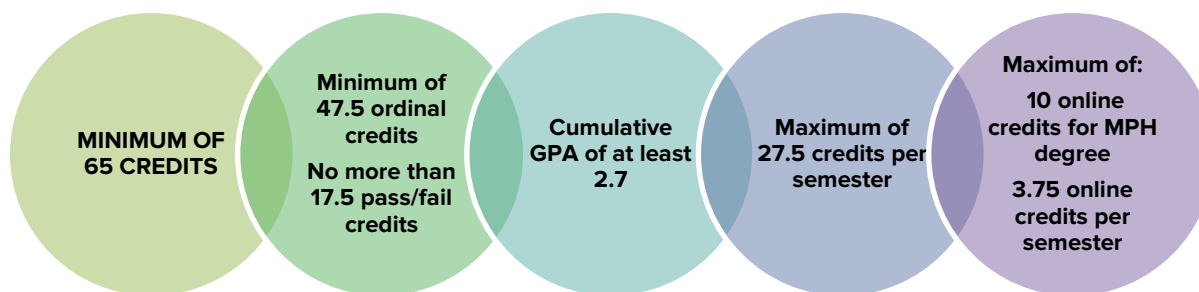
## Notes for Students

All full-time MPH students are expected to participate in a Winter Session activity that furthers their educational goals and is approved by the MPH-OEP Office. To learn more, visit [hsph.me/mpw-winter-session](https://hsph.me/mpw-winter-session).

## Maternal and Child Health Interdisciplinary Concentration

Students who received any funding through the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) training grant **must** meet with Bethany Kotlar, [bkotlar@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:bkotlar@hsph.harvard.edu), at the beginning of the fall semester to ensure they meet the training grant requirements. Students interested in the *MCH interdisciplinary concentration*, who did not receive any funding, are also welcome to reach out to Bethany about participating in the concentration and its requirements.

## Important Program Reminders



## Sample Curriculum for MPH-65 in HSB

### Year one (Semesters 1 and 2)

FALL FIRST YEAR			WINTER	SPRING FIRST YEAR			SUMMER
ID 201	Core Principles of Biostatistics and Epidemiology for Public Health Practice	7.5cr		SBS 203	Program Planning	2.5cr	Practicum
MPH 100a-e	MPH Core Short Course Sequence	6.25cr		SBS 204	Program Implementation and Evaluation	2.5cr	
SBS 201	Society and Health	2.5cr		SBS 508	Successes and Challenges in Health Behavior Change	2.5cr	
SBS 281	Principles of Social and Behavioral Research	2.5cr		Varies	Additional SBS Coursework Requirement	10.0cr	
Varies	Additional SBS Coursework Requirement	2.5cr					
Electives						5.0cr	
TOTAL CREDITS	21.25 credits			22.5 credits (includes Winter Session)			

### Year two (Semester 3)

FALL SECOND YEAR		
Varies	Additional SBS Coursework Requirement	5.0cr
SBS 965F	Practice and Culminating Experience for HSB	2.5cr
Electives		13.75cr
TOTAL CREDITS	21.25 credits	

**END OF PROGRAM  
= 65 credits**