

DrPH Degree Competencies

Core Knowledge

CK1. Apply lessons to current conditions and challenges from the history and development of human health, public health, and health systems.¹

Mastering Foundational Knowledge

Theories and Concepts

FT1. Define, distinguish, and develop interpretation based on underlying theoretical paradigms, research and analytical methods, and their application from multiple distinct disciplines in the biological, social, and managerial sciences.

FT2. Analyze the state of and determinants of population health outcomes and strategies for their improvement using a multi-disciplinary perspective including theories and conceptual frameworks from biology, social and behavioral sciences, economics, politics, and management.

Values

FV1. Apply ethical theories and viewpoints to assess public health issues, policies, and strategies.

FV2. Use ethical principles in public health research.

Methods

FM1. Define a feasible and relevant research question and formulate an appropriate study design to provide a valid answer to this question.

FM2. Collect evidence from either primary or secondary sources for research and policy and program development or evaluation.

FM3. Apply appropriate methods to analyze evidence gathered using rigorous quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods approaches grounded in relevant disciplines.

Enabling Positive Change²

Leadership

EL1. Engage in ongoing, mindful leadership reflection of one's personal strengths, motivations, and challenges and their impact on other individuals.

EL2. Create a climate that values and leverages team members, their strengths, and the diversity of their backgrounds.

EL3. Translate a vision and strategy into authentic and strategic action.

EL4. Inspire a shared mission, vision, and values among multiple external stakeholders to address public health challenges.

¹ This includes historical changes and current patterns of fertility, mortality, causes of death, and the burden of disease, and the development of health and medical interventions and institutions with a global perspective.

² The Enabling Positive Change Competencies are also presented in a table at the end of this document across four levels of application, from *Self* to *Teams* to *Organizations* to *Systems*.

Management

EM1. Apply fundamental management skills and analysis methods to public health challenges, e.g., financial management, organizational behavior frameworks, negotiation/conflict resolution techniques.

EM2. Engage and guide a team toward goal achievement using effective interpersonal styles and techniques.

EM3. Address organizational challenges and opportunities related to organizational structure, operations, strategic planning and decision-making processes, financial budgeting/control systems.

EM4. Implement collective action plans, with multi-party support, to achieve public health outcomes.

Communication

EC1. Effectively communicate orally and in writing, scientific and technical information to various audiences.

EC2. Lead a team to create high-impact public health messages for varied media and audiences.

EC3. Design effective public health communication campaigns and messaging strategies using theories of health communication and the social/behavioral sciences.

EC4. Persuade external audiences to collective action on public health issues utilizing scientific evidence, stakeholder input, public opinion data, and other relevant information.

Innovation

EI1. Apply design frameworks and creative capacities to identify novel solutions to health problems.

EI2. Encourage others to apply design frameworks and creative capacities, novel solutions.

EI3. Apply innovative concepts, novel solutions and calculated risks into strategic decision-making.

EI4. Create contextually appropriate, novel solutions to public health problems through synthesis of data and external collaboration.

Achieving Valued Results

Translation

RT1. Design a strategic plan for public health action (intervention, program and/or policy) applying theories and concepts, research methods, program knowledge and skill, and policy development.

RT2. Identify, coalesce and guide a team of public health professionals, administrators, and support personnel to develop and implement the strategic plan, and assess outcomes.

RT3. Identify stakeholders and persuade and negotiate with them on the design and implementation of a strategic plan.

RT3. Interpret and communicate methods and findings to the public, policymakers, and professionals.³

RT4. Lead the design and implementation of a comprehensive evaluation and assessment of a strategic plan (both formative and summative) including analysis, recommendations for improvement, and a process for implementation.

³ This includes among other communication strategies: technical reports, journal articles and public communications.

Enabling Positive Change Competencies Across Four Levels of Application

		Levels of Application			
		Self	Team	Organization	System
Enabling Positive Change	Leadership	<i>EL1.</i> Engage in ongoing, mindful leadership reflection of one's personal strengths, motivations, and challenges and their impact on other individuals.	<i>EL2.</i> Create a climate that values and leverages team members, their strengths, and the diversity of their backgrounds.	<i>EL3.</i> Translate a vision and strategy into authentic and strategic action.	<i>EL4.</i> Inspire a shared mission, vision, and values among multiple external stakeholders to address public health challenges.
	Management	<i>EM1.</i> Apply fundamental management skills and analysis methods to public health challenges, e.g., financial management, organizational behavior frameworks, negotiation/conflict resolution techniques.	<i>EM2.</i> Engage and guide a team toward goal achievement using effective interpersonal styles and techniques.	<i>EM3.</i> Address organizational challenges and opportunities related to organizational structure, operations, strategic planning and decision-making processes, financial budgeting/control systems.	<i>EM4.</i> Implement collective action plans, with multi-party support, to achieve public health outcomes.
	Communication	<i>EC1.</i> Effectively communicate orally and in writing, scientific and technical information to various audiences.	<i>EC2.</i> Lead a team to create high-impact public health messages for varied media and audiences.	<i>EC3.</i> Design effective public health communication campaigns and messaging strategies using theories of health communication and the social/behavioral sciences.	<i>EC4.</i> Persuade external audiences to collective action on public health issues utilizing scientific evidence, stakeholder input, public opinion data, and other relevant information.
	Innovation	<i>EI1.</i> Apply design frameworks and creative capacities to identify novel solutions to health problems.	<i>EI2.</i> Encourage others to apply design frameworks and creative capacities, novel solutions.	<i>EI3.</i> Apply innovative concepts, novel solutions and calculated risks into strategic decision-making.	<i>EI4.</i> Create contextually appropriate, novel solutions to public health problems through synthesis of data and external collaboration.