



# The University of Georgia®

University Council  
Athens, Georgia 30602

March 17, 2017

## UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2016-2017

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Ms. Gabrielle Roth  
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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Public Health for a new dual degree in Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) with an Area of Emphasis in Health Promotion and Behavior and Health Promotion and Behavior (Ph.D.) will be an agenda item for the March 24, 2017, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Alison F. Alexander, Chair  
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten  
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

Committee on Facilities, Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, Committee on Statutes, Bylaws, and Committees, Committee on Student Life, Curriculum Committee, Educational Affairs Committee, Executive Committee, Faculty Admissions Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, Faculty Post-Tenure Review Appeals Committee, Faculty/Staff Parking Appeals Committee, Human Resources Committee, Program Review and Assessment Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, University Libraries Committee, University Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Veteran/Disability Institution

**The University of Georgia**  
Dual Degree Program Proposal

Dual degree program proposals include more than one degree. Please provide the following information for each unit involved.

1.	Institution	University of Georgia
2.	Date	September 1, 2017
3.	School(s)/College(s)/Division(s)/Institution(s)	College of Public Health
4.	Department	Health Promotion and Behavior
5.	Degrees to be offered	MPH, PhD
6.	Majors to be offered	Health Promotion and Behavior
7.	Starting date	Fall 2017

8. Program abstract

The College of Public Health at the University of Georgia proposes a dual degree program between the Master of Public Health with a concentration in Health Promotion and Behavior and the PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior through the Department of Health Promotion and Behavior. This program will meet the educational requirements of a master's level public health practitioner and a public health researcher. This program will prepare graduates to address the leadership and practice-based needs of individuals and organizations at the local, state, national, and international levels, and at the same time, prepare researchers by fostering research and development through theory, research methods, and interdisciplinary teams. This will help our department identify gifted students at an early time point and give us a competitive edge in graduate student recruitment. Moreover, an MPH-PhD dual degree program will advance Strategic Direction II "Enhancing Graduate and Professional Programs" of the University of Georgia 2020 Strategic Plan by furthering the goal of "increase[ing] interdisciplinary/dual degree graduate degrees awarded from 2010 levels" (Building on Excellence, 2010, p.10).

9. Objectives of the program

The primary objective the MPH-PhD dual degree is to supplement the education of the PhD students with additional specializing and training in the practitioner side of Public Health. Because the MPH is considered a terminal degree in Public Health, many schools train students in mastery of general practitioner-driven skills, such as program implementation, evaluation, and community engagement. The PhD is focused on the development of theory-driven research, methods in intervention development and evaluation, and conceptualization of scientific ideas, and grant writing focusing on scientific merit. Often, we have quality students who would like to pursue a PhD, but lack the foundation of the MPH that drives the foundation of the public health research. On the other hand, there are talented students who have a foundation or understanding of public health and should enter directly into the PhD program. Because of the issues surrounding accreditation, and quite honestly credibility of public health professionals, the lack of an MPH can sometimes hinder job placement and moving forward in a career, regardless of an awarded PhD. This dual degree can also help students entering the PhD who have job experience, and/or another master's degree besides an MPH, but would benefit from the credibility of the MPH.

## 10. Justification and need for the program

- a. **Benefits:** The MPH program focuses on practical application of theories, program planning, and evaluation. The MPH is a terminal degree in public health and trains students in the use of practical application of translational research. The PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior focuses on developing theoretical framework to assess health behaviors in a way that can change the behaviors of a given community. To be able to complete the degrees in a dual program will help students merge the practical application of a Master of Public Health with the theoretical and conceptual methods and research emphasis of the PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior.
- b. **Student Demand:** The dual degree will also help us compete with other schools, such as Emory University, who have a dual MPH/PhD program. Other universities that offer this dual degree are: Northwestern University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Texas, just to name a few. Since we compete directly with these schools for students, the dual degree program will help increase the number of applicants and overall competitiveness of our graduate program. Dual degree programs attract students who are committed, academically motivated, and enthusiastic about pursuing their education. The dual degree can offer an incentive for both the students and our Graduate program. The students will be able to receive the MPH along with the PhD, and our program will be able to recruit top students who can get both degrees as they move through the program.
- c. **Give any additional reasons that make offering the dual degree program desirable (i.e., to meet specific public or private sector needs).** Due to the importance of accreditation of schools and programs in public health, many academic jobs strongly encourage an MPH. We have many students enter the PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior with a master's degree in similar fields, such as communication, social work, and journalism, but a good number do not have an MPH. Because 23% of our current PhD students do not have an MPH, this would give them the opportunity to obtain one simultaneously. The dual program would allow for our students to be as competitive as possible when pursuing jobs after graduation.

## 11. Describe the process by which the proposed program was developed.

After much discussion about the quality of the graduate program and recruitment strategies, the faculty decided that the best course of action would be to create a dual MPH/PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior. The faculty concluded that the MPH/PhD dual degree program would be highly marketable in recruiting outstanding students to UGA and would position UGA graduate students to be more competitive for jobs, particularly academic jobs, requiring an MPH.

## 12. Curriculum

The proposed MPH-PhD dual degree program will not require a change in the curriculum or credit hours currently required for the MPH and PhD degrees. The following documents are attached and contain detailed curriculum information:

- a. MPH Program of Study (See Appendix A)
- b. PhD Program of Study (See Appendix B)

c. Tentative MPH-PhD Dual Degree Programs of Study (See Appendix C)

13. Administration

The administration of the dual degree would require minimal additional resources than are currently used for the MPH or the PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior. Once admitted to the program, the major professor of the student for the PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior would advise for both the MPH and the PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior. Because all of our graduate faculty already advise for both the MPH and PhD, there would be no issues with training or additional resources.

The Dean of the College of Public Health is responsible for all programs. The authoritative decision maker for the dual degree program in the College of Public Health will be the MPH Graduate Coordinator, in conjunction with the Department Head of the Health Promotion and Behavior Department. Admission to the MPH program will be coordinated by the MPH Graduate Coordinator in Health Promotion and Behavior. The Graduate Coordinator of Health Promotion and Behavior will be the contact for the program. Again, this will not take additional work or resources since the Health Promotion and Behavior Graduate Coordinator currently oversees both programs in the Department. Internship arrangements for the MPH will be the responsibility of the MPH Graduate Coordinator and the Internship Coordinator, as it currently is administered.

To be eligible for the MPH-PhD dual degree program, applicants must apply to the dual degree program. Further, they must meet all of the requirements for admission to each program. Individually, the MPH is awarded after completing a 44-credit-hour program of study (see Appendix A), and the PhD is awarded after completing at least a 40-credit-hour program of study (see Appendix B), including successful completion and defense of a dissertation. In the proposed MPH-PhD dual degree program of study, 12 credit hours may be used to satisfy the requirements for both programs of study, thus making the dual degree program at least 72 credit hours.

During the first 5 semesters of the program (including summers), students will complete the initial requirements, also known as foundation/core course requirements, in both the MPH and PhD in Health Promotion and Behavior, the majority of the concentration requirements in both programs. During the 6<sup>th</sup> semester of the program, students will engage in a field experience that meets the internship requirements of the MPH (e.g., Centers for Disease Control, county health departments, community health centers, etc.) and complete a culminating capstone requirement in Public Health. For the last two years of the program, students will complete the work needed to complete the requirements for the PhD.

14. Assessment

Indicate the measures that will be taken to assess the effectiveness of the program and the learning outcomes of students enrolled.

Members of the Graduate Faculty of Health Promotion will formulate goals and establish criteria for assessing the quality and progress of the dual degree program. Baseline indices for program growth will include the number and quality of student applicants. Suggested criteria to determine the formative and summative effectiveness of the program, as well as the success of students earning the dual degree, could include, but are not limited to:

- a. Longitudinal review of graduates, assessing annually the employment status and positions held by dual degree students.
- b. Participation in formal exit interviews that include the use of standardized measures to assess students' experiences with and perceptions of the program
- c. Annual review of GPAs of dual degree students, closely monitoring the culminating capstone requirement in Public Health
- d. Periodic survey of professionals in Public Health, assessing both the quality of the dual degree program and the competency of program graduates

15. Fiscal and enrollment impact and estimated budget

No additional fiscal impact, as a result of creating a dual degree program, is anticipated in the early years of the program; thus, no additional faculty or staff resources will be necessary for the administration at the outset. All academic courses identified in the program of study for the proposed dual degree program are currently being offered. We anticipate a gradual increase in student enrollment, which should be supported by students' tuition/fees.

## MPH - HPB Advisement

Start Date: August 2016

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_@uqa.edu

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 706-542-\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_@uqa.edu

Type	Course #		Hours	Semester	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer
Core	BIOS 7010 or BIOS 7010E	Introductory Biostatistics I	3	Fall	X					
Core	EHSC 7010	Fundamentals of Environmental Health Science	3	Fall	X					
Core	EPID 7010 or EPID 7010E	Introduction to Epidemiology I	3	Spring or Fall 2nd year		X				
Core	HPAM 7010 or HPAM 7010E	Introduction to Health Policy and Management	3	Spring or Fall 2nd year				X		
Core	HPRB 7010 or HPRB 7010E	Social and Behavioral Foundations in Public Health	3	Fall 1st year	X					
HPB	HPRB 7920	Health Behavior	3	Fall 1st year	X					
HPB	HPRB 7270	Resource Development and Program Implementation in Health Promotion	3	Spring 1st year		X				
HPB	HPRB 7370	Social Marketing of Health: Theory and Process	3	Spring 1st year		X				
HPB	HPRB 7990	Diversity and Social Justice in Public Health	3	Spring 1st year		X				
HPB	HPRB 7470	Program Evaluation in Health Promotion and Health Education	3	Fall 2nd year				X		
Elective	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE						X		
Elective	ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE						X		
Elective										
Elective										
Internship	PBHL 7560	Internship in Public Health	6	Spring 2nd year					X	
Capstone	PBHL 7800	Capstone Project in Public Health	3	Spring 2nd year					X	
Assistantship	HPRB 7005	Graduate Student Seminar	3	Fa, Sp, Su						

Note: This is not an official program of study. Changes may occur.

STUDENT:

START DATE:

PHONE:

		2016-2017			2017-2018			2018-2019			2019-2020		
		F	Sp	Su	F	Sp	Su	F	Sp	Su	F	Sp	Su
<b>Health Promotion Doctoral Requirements: 15 credit hours</b>													
HPRB 8510	Reaserch Methods in Health Promotion and Behavior I	3											
HPRB 8520	Research Methods in Health Promotion and Behavior II		3										
HPRB 8420	Theory and Research in Health Promotion		3										
HPRB 8430	Intervention and Evaluation of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention		3										
HPRB 8800	Grant Writing for Health Promotion Research				3								
HPRB 9630	Critique of the Literature in Health Promotion and Behavior				3								
<b>Cognate Area Requirements: 12-15 credit hours</b>													
	ELECTIVE												
	ELECTIVE												
	ELECTIVE												
	ELECTIVE												
	ELECTIVE												
<b>Advanced Research &amp; Research Seminar (min.13 credits)</b>													
HPRB 8990	Research Seminar In Health Promotion and Behavior							2					
HPRB 8990	Research Seminar In Health Promotion and Behavior									2			
	Research												
	Research												
	Research												
	Research												
<b>Doctoral Dissertation (HPRB 9000/HPRB 9300): 3 to 30 credits</b>													
HPRB 9000	Doctoral Research												
HPRB 9300	Doctoral Dissertation												
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

STUDENT:														Also satisfy PhD requirements	Title	Hours		
START DATE:		2017-2018			2018-2019			2019-2020			2020-2021							
PHONE:		F	Sp	Su	F	Sp	Su	F	Sp	Su	F	Sp	Su					
<b>Master-level MPH Core classes: (15 Credits)</b>																		
HPRB 7010	Social and Behavioral Foundations in Public Health	3																
BIOS 7010	Introductory Biostatistics I	3																
EHSC 7010	Fundamentals of Environmental Health Science	3																
EPID 7010	Introduction to Epidemiology I		3															
HPAM 7010	Introduction to Health Policy and Management			3														
<b>Health Promotion Departmental MPH Requirements: (15 credit hours)</b>																		
HPRB 7920	Health Behavior	3																
HPRB 7270	Resource Development and Program Implementation in Health Promotion		3															
HPRB 7370	Social Marketing of Health: Theory and Process		3															
HPRB 7990	Diversity and Social Justice in Public Health		3															
HPRB 7470	Program Evaluation in Health Promotion and Health Education				3													
<b>Health Promotion MPH Elective Requirements: (5 credit hours)</b>																		
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE			3														
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE					3												
<b>Health Promotion MPH Capstone and Internship (9 hours)</b>																		
PBHL 7800	Capstone Project in Public Health								3									
PBHL 7560	Internship in Public Health								6									
<b>Health Promotion Core Doctoral Requirements: 18 credit hours</b>																		
HPRB 8510	Research Methods in Health Promotion and Behavior I				3													
HPRB 8520	Research Methods in Health Promotion and Behavior II					3												
HPRB 8420	Theory and Research in Health Behavior					3												
HPRB 8430	Intervention and Evaluation in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention					3												
HPRB 8900	Grant Writing for Health Promotion Research							3										
HPRB 9630	Critique of the Literature In Health Promotion and Behavior							3										
<b>Cognate Area Requirements: 12 credit hours</b>																		
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE															MPH ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	3
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE															MPH ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE	3
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE															PBHL 7800	Capstone Project in Public Health	3
ELECTIVE	ELECTIVE															HPRB 7990	Diversity and Justice	3
<b>Advanced Research &amp; Research Seminar (min.13 credits)</b>																		
HPRB 8990	Research Seminar In Health Promotion and Behavior								2									
HPRB 8990	Research Seminar In Health Promotion and Behavior																	
RESEARCH ELECTIVE	RESEARCH ELECTIVE				3													
RESEARCH ELECTIVE	RESEARCH ELECTIVE				3													
RESEARCH ELECTIVE	RESEARCH ELECTIVE							3										
<b>Doctoral Dissertation (HPRB 9000/HPRB 9300): 3 to 30 credits</b>																		
HPRB 9000	Doctoral Research								3	3								
HPRB 9300	Doctoral Dissertation										3	3						
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>			

Highlighted classes may be used to satisfy the PhD requirements



## Approvals on File

**Proposal:** Dual Degree in Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) with an Area of Emphasis in Health Promotion and Behavior and Health Promotion and Behavior (Ph.D.)

**Department:** Health Promotion and Behavior

**College:** College of Public Health

**Proposed Effective Term:** Fall 2017

Department:

- Health Promotion and Behavior Department Head, Dr. Nathan Hansen, 02/1/2017

School/College:

- College of Public Health Dean, Dr. Phillip Williams, 02/01/2017

Graduate School:

- Graduate School Dean, Dr. Suzanne Barbour, 03/01/2017