Program Overview

Public health is working to protect the environment, identifying sources of illness in population groups, controlling disease outbreaks, evaluating the economic impacts of changing demographics, developing interventions to promote healthy behavior, and producing health policy legislation. Public health draws from a broad array of disciplines, such as the social and behavioral sciences, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, business, economics, statistics, epidemiology, law and biology, and each provide unique insights for the diverse set of activities involved in public health practice.

Two options are available for the undergraduate major in Public Health: Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS). Students in the BS program develop a specialty in the natural sciences and public health. After completion of the program students will have a broad background that will serve as the foundation for a variety of career paths, such as immediate entry into public health positions, background training for a professional school such as law school, or the pursuit of an advanced degree such as a master's or PhD in the social sciences.

Academic Advising

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a dual-advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

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| *For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:* | *For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:* |
| CLAS Academic Advisingclas\_advising@ucdenver.edu Find your CLAS Advisor [here](http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CLAS/clas-advising/academicAdvising/Pages/CLASAdvisors.aspx)North Classroom (NC) Building 1030303-556-2555 | Rachel Norton or Melanie Tranrachel.norton@ucdenver.edu or melanie.k.tran@ucdenver.edu Visit the department website [here](http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CLAS/Departments/hbsc/Programs/Bachelors/Pages/Bachelors.aspx)North Classroom (NC) 3029303-556-6796 |

General Graduation Requirements & Policies

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| *All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:*  | *Credits exceeding the following maximum hour restrictions will not be applied toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:* |
| 1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours passed
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all college and major requirements
5. Residency: complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours as a declared CLAS student at CU Denver
6. Terminal Residency: complete a minimum of 21 CLAS hours in the final 30 semester hours as a declared CLAS student at CU Denver
 | * 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
* 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
* 12 semester hours of Independent Study
* 9 semester hours of internship credit
* 8 semester hours of physical education credit
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Career Resources

The Public Health B.S. degree prepares students for diverse fields including law and medicine, as well as a spectrum of entry-level positions in business, public service and more. Public Health students develop skills to understand health as the outcome of processes that occur on many levels, ranging from the social and cultural to the cellular and intracellular, use multiple disciplines and research techniques to identify and explain the social, behavioral, and biological determinants of health, wellness, and disease in human communities, apply the core principles of health promotion/disease prevention to tackle specific health problems in the community, understand the basic elements of the health policy process, and explain health disparities across socioeconomic classes and among racial and ethnic groups using an interdisciplinary perspective. Related occupations for Public Health graduates include:

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| * Biostatistician
 | * Biomedical Lab Technician
 | * Director of Health Programs
 | * Environmental Health Analyst
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| * Epidemiologist
 | * Health Educator
 | * Health Services Administrator
 | * Nurse
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| * Nutritionist
 | * Physical Therapist
 | * Public Health Practitioner
 | * Research Scientist
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Some careers and occupations require additional training or education. Interested in learning more about career and occupational options for this major? Visit the CU Denver Career Center located in the Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 267 to speak with a career counselor. The Career Center also provides *Career Briefs*, overviews of careers related to specific CU Denver majors, which include related links and resources to the particular field and show potential jobs related to the major. Access Career Briefs [here](http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/careercenter/Students/Pages/Career-Briefs.aspx).

Program Requirements & Policies

**Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements**. Students completing the Public Health B.S. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Complete a minimum of 73 semester hours of required coursework with a grade of C (2.0) or better in each course.
2. Public Health B.A. students are required to complete a minimum of 44 hours of the degree requirements at CU Denver, including the core courses for the major (PBHL2020, 3001, 3030, 3070, 4040, and 4099).

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| **Courses** | **Credits** | **Notes** |
| **\* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information.** **\*** |
| **Required Courses** | **23** |  |
| PBHL 2001 Introduction to Public Health | 4 |  |
| PBHL 2020 Introduction to Environmental Health | 3 | **\****Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001* |
| PHBL 3001 Introduction to Epidemiology | 4 | **\****Prerequisite: MATH1110 with C or higher recommended* |
| PBHL 3030 Health Policy | 3 | **\****Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001 with C or higher* |
| PBHL 3070 Perspectives in Global Health | 3 | **\****Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001 with C or higher* |
| PBHL 4040 Social Determinants of Health | 3 | **\****Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001 with C or higher* |
| PBHL 4099 Capstone Experience in Public Health | 3 | **\****Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001, 2020, 3001, 3030 and 3070.* **\****Corequisite: PBHL 4040* |
| **Complete One of the following Quantitative Methods Courses:** | **3-4** |  |
| ANTH 4050 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology **or** MATH 2830 Introductory Statistics **or** PSYC 2090 Statistics and Research Methods **or** SOCY3121 Statistics | 3-4 | **\****Check individual courses for prerequisites* |
| **Electives**  | **6** | **\****See department for approved courses;* ***one must be******a*** *PBHL elective* |
| **Complete All of the following Ancillary Courses** | **41** |  |
| MATH1401 Calculus I | 4 | **\****Prerequisite: Placement*  |
| BIOL 2051 and 2071: General Biology I and Laboratory **and**BIOL 2061 and 2081: General Biology II and Laboratory | 8 |  |
| CHEM 2031 and 2038: General Chemistry I and Laboratory **and**CHEM 2061 and 2068: General Chemistry II and Laboratory | 9 |  |
| CHEM 3411 and 3421: Organic Chemistry I and Laboratory **and**CHEM 3421 and 3428: Organic Chemistry II and Laboratory | 10 | **\****Prerequisite: CHEM2061 or 2091* ***and*** *CHEM2068 or 2098* |
| PHYS 2010 and 2030: College Physics I and Laboratory **and**PHYS 2020 and 2040: College Physics II and Laboratory | 10 |  |
| **Total Program Hours:** | **73** |  |

Sample Academic Plan of Study

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit) and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

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| Year One | Milestones | Fall | CRS | Grade | √ | Spring | CRS | Grade | √ |
| * Meet your advisors
* Introduce yourself to faculty in your department
* Create an academic plan and check your Degree Audit with your advisors
* Visit campus resources
 | ENGL1020 – Core Composition I | 3 |  |  | ENGL2030 – Core Composition II | 3 |  |  |
| CU Core Behavioral Science | 3 |  |  | CU Core Humanities | 3 |  |  |
| CHEM2031 and CHEM2038 | 4 |  |  | CHEM2061 and CHEM2068 | 5 |  |  |
| PHYS2010 and PHYS2030 | 5 |  |  | PHYS2020 and PHYS2040 | 5 |  |  |
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| Year Two | Milestones | Fall | CRS | Grade | √ | Spring | CRS | Grade | √ |
| * Meet with your advisors to complete a 60-hour check
* Join a student club or organization
* Begin to research internships
* Visit the Career Center
* Explore additional major(s) or minors
 | CHEM3411 and CHEM3418 | 5 |  |  | CHEM3421 and CHEM3428 | 5 |  |  |
| BIOL2051 and BIOL2071 | 4 |  |  | BIOL2061 and BIOL2081 | 4 |  |  |
| PBHL2001 | 4 |  |  | PBHL2020 | 3 |  |  |
| MATH1401 | 4 |  |  | CLAS Communicative Skills – UD | 3 |  |  |
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| Year Three | Milestones | Fall | CRS | Grade | √ | Spring | CRS | Grade | √ |
| * Explore research opportunities in your major
* Apply for internships
* Begin to research professional or graduate programs
 | CU Core Arts | 3 |  |  | PBHL3030 | 3 |  |  |
| PBHL3001 | 4 |  |  | CU Core International Perspectives M | 3 |  |  |
| CLAS Foreign Language Semester I | 5 |  |  | CLAS Foreign Language Semester II | 5 |  |  |
| CU Core Cultural Diversity | 3 |  |  | Quantitative Methods Course | 3/4 |  |  |
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| Year Four | Milestones | Fall | CRS | Grade | √ | Spring | CRS | Grade | √ |
| * See advisors for a grad check the semester before you plan to graduate
* Explore independent studies in your major
* Submit professional or graduate program applications
* Apply for graduation
 | PBHL3070 | 3 |  |  | PBHL4099 | 3 |  |  |
| PBHL4040 | 3 |  |  | Approved PBHL Elective | 3 |  |  |
| General Elective | 3 |  |  | CLAS Humanities – UD | 3 |  |  |
| CLAS Behavioral Science - UD | 3 |  |  | Upper-Division General Elective | 3 |  |  |
| Approved UD PBHL Elective | 3 |  |  | Upper-Division General Elective | 3 |  |  |

M *Major Course Available* PE *Prerequisite Enforced* PR *Prerequisite Recommended*