



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.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas_advising@ucdenver.edu

Find your CLAS Advisor [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 1030

303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

Ryan O'Connell or Melanie Tran

ryan.oconnell@ucdenver.edu or melanie.k.tran@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 3029

303-315-7151

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply 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 CU Denver Core, college, and major requirements
5. Residency: complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

Credits exceeding the following maximum hour restrictions will not be applied toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:

- 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

CAREER RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning 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](#).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Public Health B.S. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. The Bachelor of Science in Public Health consists of 73 hours in required classes.
2. Minimum grade of C- in all PBHL courses taken at CU Denver and minimum grade of C- in all transfer courses for them to count toward the major.
3. Public Health BS students are required to complete a minimum of 44 hours of the degree requirements at CU Denver, including the core courses for the major (PBHL 2020, 3001, 3030, 3070, 4040, and 4099)



Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29	CLAS Graduation Requirements
PBHL Major Requirements	73	
PBHL Required Courses		
PBHL 2001 Introduction to Public Health	4	
PBHL 2020 Introduction to Environmental Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001</i>
PBHL 3001 Introduction to Epidemiology	4	<i>*Prerequisite: MATH1110 with C or higher recommended</i>
PBHL 3030 Health Policy	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001 with C or higher</i>
PBHL 3070 Perspectives in Global Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001 with C or higher</i>
PBHL 4040 Social Determinants of Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL2000 or 2001 with C or higher</i>
PBHL 4099 Capstone Experience in Public Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 and all or all but one of PBHL 2020, PBHL 3001, PBHL 3030, PBHL 3070, PBHL 4040 with a C or better. Students must enroll in remaining course with PBHL 4099.</i>
Complete One of the following Quantitative Methods Courses:		
ANTH 4050 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology or MATH 2830 Introductory Statistics or PSYC 2090 Statistics and Research Methods or BIOL 3763 Biostatistics	3-4	<i>*Check individual courses for prerequisites</i>
PBHL Major Electives	6	<i>*See department for approved courses; one must be a PBHL elective</i>
Complete All of the following Ancillary Courses		
MATH1401 Calculus I	4	<i>*Prerequisite: Placement</i>
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 3418: Organic Chemistry I and Laboratory and CHEM 3421 and 3428: Organic Chemistry II and Laboratory	10	<i>*Prerequisite: CHEM2061 or 2091 and CHEM2068 or 2098</i>
PHYS 2010 and 2030: College Physics I and Laboratory and PHYS 2020 and 2040: College Physics II and Laboratory	10	<i>Students may substitute PHYS 2311 and 2321: General Physics I & Laboratory and PHYS 2331 and 2341: General Physics II & Laboratory</i>
Estimated General Electives	0	<i>General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.</i>
Total Minimum Program Hours:	120	<i>45 semester hours must be upper-division</i>

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.

Year One	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3	ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
	CU Denver Core Behavioral Science / First-Year Seminar	3	CU Denver Core Humanities	3
	CHEM 2031 and CHEM 2038	4	CHEM 2061 and CHEM 2068	5
	PHYS 2010 and PHYS 2030	5	PHYS 2020 and PHYS 2040	5
	Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours	16
Year Two	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	CHEM 3411 and CHEM 3418	5	CHEM 3421 and CHEM 3428	5
	BIOL 2051 and BIOL 2071	4	BIOL 2061 and BIOL 2081	4
	PBHL 2001	4	PBHL 2020	3
	MATH 1401	4	CLAS Communicative Skills (Upper-Division)	3
	Total Credit Hours	17	Total Credit Hours	15
Year Three	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	CU Denver Core Arts	3	PBHL 3030	3
	PBHL 3001	4	CU Denver Core International Perspectives ^M	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester I	5	CLAS Foreign Language Semester II	5
	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3	Quantitative Methods Course	3-4
	Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours	14-15
Year Four	Fall	CRS	Spring	CRS
	PBHL 3070	3	PBHL 4099	3
	PBHL 4040	3	Approved Upper-Division PBHL Elective	3
	General Elective	3	CLAS Humanities (Upper-Division)	3
	CLAS Behavioral Science (Upper-Division)	3	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Approved Upper-Division PBHL Elective	3	Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours	15

^M Major Course Available ^{PE} Prerequisite Enforced ^{PR} Prerequisite Recommended