

Public Health

The Field of Public Health

Today there is an increasing emphasis upon wellness and the resolution of health problems by all levels of government, the military, and industry.

Public Health is the science of protecting and improving the health of communities through education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, and research for disease and injury prevention. Public health professionals analyze the effect on health of genetics, personal choice, and the environment in order to develop programs that protect the health of your family and community. Overall, public health is concerned with protecting the health of entire populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country.

People are concerned about their health. A concerned nation is in need of educated, trained, and sensitive individuals to meet the physical, psychological, and social needs of our country and developing nations throughout the world.

The Department of Public Health

The Department of Public Health offers curricula leading to a bachelor's degree. The program has a major and a minor in health science, with options in community health,

environmental/occupational health and safety, and health administration.

These options prepare students for employment in environmental health, community health, public health, hospitals, and voluntary health agencies, as well as many allied health professions. The department supervises field work and internships in local agencies and businesses to provide students with practical experience.

Careers in Public Health

Public Health has an exciting and growing field of study that is geared toward serving others. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has projected employment in the field of public health to grow faster than the average of all occupations through 2014. Job growth is estimated to be driven by the rising costs of healthcare, increased awareness of preventable diseases, the need for early detection of diseases, and increasing recognition of the need for qualified health educators.

Public health is a field that offers an abundance of job opportunities to suit a variety of interests and skills. Whether you are more interested in crunching numbers, conducting research, or working with people, there is a place for you in the field of public health.

Public health is ideal for those that gain satisfaction knowing that they are working to improve the lives of others.

The various programs are designed to prepare the student for health-related careers in a number of different settings, both public and proprietary. For example, demand for registered environmental health specialists continues to be strong, while industrial hygienists also find a favorable job market. The need for health care and public health administrators remains unmet. Health educators find positions in health maintenance organizations, public health departments, hospitals, voluntary health agencies, and similar institutions.

Future Education

All department undergrad options prepare students for advanced degrees such as: M.S., M.P.H, Ph.D., Dr.PH, Ed.D.

General Preparation

Aside from those personal qualities normally expected of any professional, a student considering a health-related profession needs a desire to serve people in order to enjoy a satisfying career. Further, the technical nature of the health fields requires that a student be competent in mathematics and the general sciences.

**California State
University, Fresno**

**Department of
Public Health**

559.278.4014

**B.S. in
Health Science**

Options:

- **Community Health**
- **Environmental/
Occupational Health
and Safety**
- **Health
Administration**

**Minor in
Public Health**

FRESNO STATE

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Public Health

High School Preparation

Students should meet California State University's admission requirements in terms of college preparatory course requirements, grade point average, and test scores. Coursework in biology, chemistry, and physics is strongly recommended.

College Program

Students should consult the university's *General Catalog* for specific major and university requirements. Community college transfers should consult their catalogs to ensure that courses taken are CSU transferable (baccalaureate level). In addition, the department has prepared a four-year degree program to facilitate the progress of entering freshmen.

General Education

Students should complete as many of the Fresno State General Education requirements as possible during the freshman and sophomore years, whether they are attending Fresno State or a community college. Community colleges can certify up to 39 of the units required in Fresno State's General Education pattern.

Course Requirements

As changes may occur, students should consult the current *General Catalog*, as well as that for their year, and a Fresno State adviser prior to registering for courses.

Lower Division

Freshman-Sophomore level courses
(may be taken at a community college)

Required of all options:
Public Health Statistics
(Fresno State PH 92)

Community Health Option

Life Science or Human Ecology
(BIOL 10)
Introductory General Chemistry (CHEM 3A)
Introductory Organic and Biochemistry
(CHEM 3B)
Human Anatomy and Physiology (PHYAN 33)

Environmental/Occupational Health and

Safety Option

Introductory Biology (BIOSCI 1A and 1B)
Chemistry 1A and 1B or equivalent
Microbiology (MICRO 20)

Health Administration Option

Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 40)
Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 50)
Essentials of Accounting (ACCT 3)
Computers for the Health Professions (PH 182)
or Computer Concepts (IS 52 and 52L)

Upper Division

Junior-Senior level courses
(to be taken at Fresno State)

Health Science Core

Community Health (PH 100)
Epidemiology of Disease (PH 109)
Environment and Human Health (PH 161)
Public Health Administration (PH 163)
Public Health Statistics (PH 92)

Community Health Option

Contemporary Health Issues (PH 90)
Drugs, Society, and Health (PH 110)
Health Behavior (PH 114)
Human Sexuality (PH 91)
Principles of Health Education (PH 131)
Health Education Methods (PH 133)
Introduction to Human Disease (PH 135)

Environmental/Occupational Health and Safety Option Option

Risk Assessment and Analysis (PH 105)
Principles of Toxicology (PH 160)
Environment and Human Health (PH 161)
Environmental Internship (PH 175)
Applied Ergonomics (PH 141)
Occupational Safety and Environmental Health
Management (PH 145)

Health Administration Option

Contemporary Health Issues (PH 90)
Health Law and Legislation (PH 151)
Health Care Resources (PH 152T)
Health Care Administration (PH 154)
Public Health Administration
(PH 163)

For additional
information, write

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Department of
Public Health

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Visit or call

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[www.csufresno.edu/
publichealth](http://www.csufresno.edu/publichealth)

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PLEASE NOTE: This document is for general informational purposes only. The information is subject to change; consult the appropriate department or an academic adviser. Entering freshmen must follow the revised General Education program effective fall 1999 and thereafter. The university catalog and schedule of courses are available online at www.fresnostate.edu/ClassSchedule and www.fresnostate.edu/catalog.

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