

PUBLIC HEALTH, UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Do you want to make a difference in the health and well-being of communities? If yes, the undergraduate Certificate in Public Health is for you!

This certificate offers impactful training for individuals working in many fields, including health care, nursing, social welfare, education, criminal justice, sociology, government, environmental sciences, and community advocacy.

With a Public Health Certificate:

- You will **learn** public health approaches that you can apply to your work with communities, the environment, and in support of social justice.
- You will **connect** with like-minded peers and enjoy one-on-one attention from instructors in smaller classes.
- You will **develop skills** for diagnosing and solving pressing public health issues.

Public health improves the health of people and the communities where they grow, live, work, play, and age. Instead of treating individual patients, public health practitioners prevent disease before it starts. We work in and with communities to foster health and well-being for everyone.

The undergraduate certificate in Public Health at UWM is designed for you if you're interested in applying public health concepts, methods, approaches, and skills in your current or future career.

How the Certificate Works:

Students in the Public Health certificate program take courses from top faculty and instructors in the UWM Zilber College of Public Health—the only Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accredited school of public health in Wisconsin. Our faculty and instructors are experts in their fields and enjoy sharing their knowledge and passion about public health with our students.

This 18-credit certificate includes:

- Three required courses in public health, global health, and epidemiology.
- Three elective courses that allow specialization in environmental health, public health research methods, health disparities, or creating and evaluating public health programs. Or mix and match!
- Some courses that also count for General Education Requirements.

Want to give public health a try? Enroll in PH 101 Introduction to Public Health - it's one of the three required courses for the Certificate and satisfies GER-SS.

Who is Eligible?

- All UWM students seeking a bachelor's degree with a current overall GPA of 2.0.
- Students who previously received a bachelor's degree from UWM or other accredited college or university.
- Non-degree students who meet University admission requirements.

Interested in this certificate? Email bs-ph@uwm.edu or contact Zilber College of Public Health undergraduate advising (<https://uwm.edu/publichealth/students/undergraduate-advising/>).

Requirements

Students must declare their intent to pursue this certificate. The Zilber College academic advisors provide vital information and guidance to help students make informed decisions about their elective courses. Students are encouraged to meet with a Public Health advisor at least once each semester. To schedule an advising appointment, contact Zilber College of Public Health undergraduate advising (<https://uwm.edu/publichealth/students/undergraduate-advising/>).

The curriculum consists of three required core courses (9 credits) and three elective courses (9 credits) for 18 credits total.¹

Code	Title	Credits
Core courses (9 credits)		
PH 101	Introduction to Public Health	3
PH 304	Foundations of Epidemiology ¹	3
Select one of the following:		
PH 142	Exploring Global Environmental Health	3
NURS 301	Introduction to Global Health ²	
Electives		
Select three (3) courses ³		
PH 201	Public Health from Cells to Society I	
PH 202	Public Health from Cells to Society II	
PH 210	Climate Change, the Environment and Human Health	
PH 302	Health and Disease: Concepts and Contexts	
PH 306	Adolescent Health & Development	
PH 319	Introduction to Health Disparities	
PH 327	Foundations for Action in Public Health	
PH 346	Environmental Health and Disease	
PH 355	Public Health Research Methods I	
PH 375	Topics in Public Health:	
PH 408	Comparative Health Systems: A Social Determinants Approach	
PH 410	True Lies: Consuming and Communicating Quantitative Information	
PH 427	Strategies for Action in Public Health	
PH 428	Program Implementation & Evaluation for a Healthy Society	
PH 455	Public Health Research Methods II	
PH 478	Public Health Research Using Social Media	
PH 699	Independent Study ⁴	
Other Study Abroad public health courses approved by Zilber School academic advisor		
Other public health courses approved by Zilber School academic advisor		

Total Credits 18

¹ Prereq=KIN 270(C), SOCIOL 261(C), or comparable QLB statistics course(C).

² Equivalent to NURS 110.

³ Some courses have additional prerequisite(s) – please discuss with your Public Health Advisor.

⁴ A maximum of 3 credits in PH 699: Independent Study may be applied to the Public Health Certificate.

Continuation and Exit Requirements

To obtain the certificate, the student must complete, with a minimum grade point average of 2.500, at least 18 credits in approved Public Health Certificate courses, of which 12 must be earned in residence at UWM. A maximum of 3 credits of PH 699: Independent Study may count toward Certificate requirements. Certificate courses may not be taken on a credit/no credit basis.

Transfer Credit

Credits earned at other accredited institutions within the last three years that are shown to be equivalent to courses in the Certificate program may be accepted in partial fulfillment of the program requirements, subject to review by the Zilber College academic advisor and/or Undergraduate Program Director.

Students currently enrolled at UWM who have fulfilled some of the program's requirements prior to the approval of this program may count those courses toward completion of the Certificate requirements.

Awarding the Certificate

Students currently involved in baccalaureate studies who successfully complete the requirements of the program will be awarded the Certificate at the time of graduation. Non-degree students or those who already have a bachelor's degree will receive the Certificate upon completion of the program requirements. Awarding of the certificate program will be noted on the student's official transcript.

Admission

The Public Health Certificate is available to all UWM students seeking a bachelor's degree who have a current overall GPA of 2.0, to students who previously received a bachelor's degree from UWM or any other accredited college or university, and to those who do not plan to pursue a college or university degree (non-degree students) but want to gain skills and knowledge in public health. Non-degree students are not eligible for financial aid and must meet University admission requirements.