

UConn Graduate Programs in Public Health Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) Project (Plan B) Application Form

Date _____ Student Name _____ Empl.ID _____

Major Advisor _____ Secondary Advisor _____

External reader _____

Degree sought MPH MD/MPH DMD/MPH JD/MPH
 MSW/MPH MSN/MPH PharmD/MPH

The mission of the UConn Master of Public Health (MPH) program is to offer an exemplary academic environment that prepares interprofessional learners to achieve high standards of public health practice. UConn MPH students are expected, through their coursework, experiential and culminating activities to demonstrate mastery of skills, practices and perspectives that contribute to our program’s vision of making Connecticut residents among the healthiest, most productive and satisfied of Americans. Individuals preparing to complete a Thesis (Plan A) as their final graduation requirement must (a) document their knowledge of public health’s core disciplines and (b) the implications of such work for the interprofessional practice of public health.

Please complete the Curriculum Checklist to document completion of program requirements.

FA	SP	Year	Approved substitute	Program director initial
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5401 Interprofessional Public Health Practice	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5403 Health Administration	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5404 Environmental Health	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5405 Social Foundations of Public Health	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5406 Law and Public Health	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5407 Practicum in Public Health	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5408 Epidemiology & Biostatistics I	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5409 Epidemiology & Biostatistics II	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5321 Public Health Research Methods	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Elective #1: PUBH _____ Course title: _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Elective #2: PUBH _____ Course title: _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Elective #3: PUBH _____ Course title: _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Elective #4: PUBH _____ Course title: _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Elective #5: PUBH _____ Course title: _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ Elective #6: PUBH _____ Course title: _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____ PUBH 5499 Capstone	_____	_____

Special circumstances/considerations (e.g., advanced standing) _____

For each of the program's core competencies listed below, provide a brief example of what you have done or will do to mastered these expectations.

Core competencies		Example of how a competency was/will be mastered (Mastery can be demonstrated by performance in coursework, course assignments, experientials and other extramural activities. Your unique responses to these questions will distinguish your qualifications from classmates.)	
1.	Use vital statistics and other key data sources to characterize the health status, social conditions and health risk factors evident in communities, with particular attention given to health inequalities.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
2.	Apply basic methods and terminology to calculate and report disease rates and risks in populations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
3.	Employ principles of research design, probability and measurement to draw appropriate inferences from data.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
4.	Utilize appropriate information technologies to collect, analyze and disseminate data.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
5.	Assess the strengths and limitations of various research designs in collecting, analyzing and interpreting information from public health studies.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
6.	Identify main components of the organization, financing and delivery of health care and public health services in the U.S. and in other countries.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
7.	Promote evidence-based public health practices that affect the health of communities.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
8.	Identify genetic, behavioral and circumstantial factors affecting individual and group susceptibility to adverse environmental hazards.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
9.	Describe mechanisms of toxicity that explain direct and indirect effects of environments on human health.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
10.	Contrast basic social and behavioral science theories about the causes and control of public health concerns.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
11.	Examine root causes of injustice, inefficiency and ineffectiveness of U.S. health care.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
12.	Design and implement public health interventions according to sound ethical and legal standards.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	

Interprofessional public health practice represents the effort to address an important, persistent public health problem through system-level approaches to health promotion/disease prevention through the understanding and appreciation of how individuals from distinct professional backgrounds/orientation can work together to deliver high quality, sustainable and comprehensive services.. System-level approaches, in turn, are activities built around core disciplines of public health that include assessing community health status, monitoring the distribution/determinants of disease and disability, proposing, implementing and evaluating health promoting/disease preventing programs, designing and disseminating tools and strategies that promote effective community health activities, and supporting community-focused advocacy and policy development.

For each of the program’s competencies specific to interprofessional public health practice, provide a brief example of what you have done or will do to mastered these expectations.

Interprofessional practice competencies		Example of how a competency was/will be mastered (Mastery can be demonstrated by performance in coursework, course assignments, experientials and other extramural activities. Your unique responses to these questions will distinguish your qualifications from classmates.)	
13.	Illustrate the role public health plays in informing scientific, ethical, economic, social and political discussions about health.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
14.	Use written and oral formats to deliver efficient and effective messages that assess risk, promote health and manage disease in communities.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
15.	Acknowledge one’s role and those of other professions in addressing the needs of communities served.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
16.	Establish and lead teams to develop and advocate for effective policy and program change.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	
17.	Respect and protect the rights and differences of persons and the communities in which they live.	<input type="checkbox"/> Have done <input type="checkbox"/> Will do	

The ILE project undertaken as an Integrative Learning Experience should demonstrate a student’s mastery of public health science as a practice discipline. The work you complete is expected to contribute to the delivery of evidence-based solutions to population health issues. As such, you are expected to produce findings relevant and important to our field.

Your ILE project, representing the culmination of your plan of study and is an official document of the University. Approval by the graduate school requires:

1. A signed Plan of Study for the Master’s Degree (see: <http://grad.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1635/2016/05/planofstudymasters.pdf>).
2. A signed Plan B Non-Thesis (Project) Approval Form (See: http://grad.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1635/2014/08/reportonfinalexam_masters.pdf).

An ILE project typically will focus on

- A case study offering detailed examination of a unique or important manifestation of a health issue or intervention in order to describe relevant background, process, outcome and lessons to be learned.
- A program evaluation that assesses whether an intervention is efficacious and effective in achieving a desired outcome.
- An educational resource intended to enhance public health practices by communities.
- A data management protocol to improve access, efficiency and impact of data collection and analysis.
- A policy analysis bringing together available data from various sources for critical assessment of strengths and weaknesses of policy options for decision makers.

Use the following framework (with suggested page lengths) to prepare your project as an Integrative Learning Experience.

A suitable proposal provides sufficient detail for a reader to understand (a) what you intend to do, (b) the justification for that effort, (c) the timeline and deliverables associated with the project and (d) an expectation for how this work will contribute to the interprofessional practice of public health.

1. Provide a tentative title of this project. (70 characters)
2. Summarize the public health issue you will address. (0.5 page)
3. Provide background about the significance of concern regarding public health practice. (1-2 pages)
4. Describe theory and prior research guiding your approach to this topic. (1-2 pages)
5. Identify the at-risk group (and why they were selected) for this project (0.5 pages)
6. Summarize the activities your will undertake in pursuing this topic. (1-2 pages)
7. State your expectation about the usefulness of this work by other public health practitioners (0.5 page)
8. Indicate how your project informs interprofessional public health practice. (0.5 page)

Attach your proposal to this document for review by your advisory committee and Program Director.

Approvals

	Print name	Signature	Date
Major Advisor	_____	_____	_____
Secondary Advisor	_____	_____	_____
External reader	_____	_____	_____
Program Director	_____	_____	_____

IRB review of this proposal

- is recommended
 has been requested (Date) _____
 is **NOT** recommended
 has been received (Date) _____

Your ILE finished Project will be evaluated by your advisory committee according to the following rubric. The finished product must be considered a project of 'satisfactory quality' to meet our MPH program requirement. **It is your responsibility to make adequate progress and produce quality work. Your ILE project should not exceed 10,000 words** (approximately 30 pages), exclusive of footnotes/endnotes/references/bibliography. Manuscripts exceeding that length may be considered non-responsive and referred back for revision. With prior approval, an advisory committee may permit a manuscript of greater length). The necessary components of an ILE Project (non-thesis) should include:

1. A cover page with title, author, credentials, date and degree sought.
2. Acknowledgements (if appropriate)
3. Formal abstract (150 words) that summarizes your project's background, procedures, results and conclusion of your work
4. Table of contents, tables and figures that designate appropriate pages.
5. Introduction (1-2 page) that describes your selected topic and its significance to public health practice.
6. Background (5-8 pages) of most pertinent theory and findings on the subject that provide a rationale for undertaking this project.
7. Procedures for completing the project (3-5 pages).
8. Results (5-8 pages) that present findings directly relevant to what was accomplished.
9. Discussion (5 pages) assessing how this work is relevant (i.e., its strengths and limitations) to the interprofessional practice of public health.
10. Conclusion (2-3 pages) that summarizes what was done and recommended 'next steps'.

This project.....	Possible points	Points assigned		
		Major Advisor	Secondary Advisor	External Reader
Reflects knowledge of core public health disciplines.	10			
Addresses a relevant and timely public health problem	10			
Demonstrates appropriate use of practice methodologies, models and/or theories.	20			
Acknowledges relevance of the work to interprofessional public health practice.	10			
Appropriately presents text, tables, figures and related materials.	10			
Presents findings generalizable to other settings.	20			
Exemplifies professional conduct by students interacting with mentors, advisors and the public.	10			
Embodies self-reliance/direction of student through timely completion of activities.	10			
Total	100			

Approval: On the basis of our assessment, the advisory committee judges this project to be

- ___ highest quality (receiving 100 possible points)
 ___ high quality (receiving 90-99 possible points)
 ___ satisfactory quality (receiving 80-89 possible points)

	Print name	Signature	Date
Major Advisor	_____	_____	_____
Secondary Advisor	_____	_____	_____
External reader	_____	_____	_____

*Footnotes/endnotes should not exceed 20% of the document and **NOT** include material that would normally be appropriate for the main text (i.e.. discursive content within footnotes is **not permit**)