MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.) MAJOR IN PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROMOTION (THESIS OPTION)

Program Overview
The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with a major in Public Health Education and Promotion prepares students for advanced careers in community and public health education settings in one of the fastest growing career sectors in the U.S. Graduates can pursue employment in public health departments, state and federal health agencies, nonprofit organizations, and other community health organizations working in areas including disease prevention, substance abuse prevention, adolescent health, and many other areas. Students are prepared to sit for the Certified Health Education Specialist exam offered by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.

Application Requirements
The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College's website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international/) for additional requirements.

- completed online application
- $55 nonrefundable application fee
  or
- $90 nonrefundable application fee for applications with international credentials
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcript from each institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 2.75 GPA in the last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)
- Statement of purpose (500 words, double-spaced, computer-generated) addressing the following:
  - Why public health education and promotion is an interest area for the applicant
  - How will the applicant use a graduate degree in Public Health Education and Promotion to reach career goals
  - Three letters of recommendation from persons best able to assess the student's ability to succeed in graduate school
- Resume

TOEFL or IELTS Scores
Applicants are required to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores that meet the minimum program requirements below unless they have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a country on our exempt countries list (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/international/language.html#waiver).

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and
  - minimum individual module scores of 6.0

This program does not offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Degree Requirements
The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with a major in Public Health Education and Promotion requires 36 semester credit hours, including a thesis.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PH 5310</td>
<td>History and Philosophy of Public Health Education and Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5315</td>
<td>Applied Behavioral Statistics in Public Health Education and Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5321</td>
<td>Advanced Health Behavior Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH 5346</td>
<td>Research Methods in Public Health Education and Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH 5350</td>
<td>Advanced Public Health Program Planning and Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Public Health Electives</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Choose 6 hours from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5305</td>
<td>Grant Proposal Writing in Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5312</td>
<td>Writing for Public Health Professionals</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5320</td>
<td>Foundations of Public Health</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5325</td>
<td>Ethical Principles in Public Health Education and Promotion</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5330A</td>
<td>Health Disparities</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5335</td>
<td>Public Health Education and Promotion Leadership</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5345</td>
<td>Public Health Issues in Human Sexuality Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5347</td>
<td>Independent Study in Public Health Education and Promotion</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5360</td>
<td>Internship in Public Health Education and Promotion</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH 5374</td>
<td>Global Public Health</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Prescribed Electives</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Choose 9 hours from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM 5318</td>
<td>Interpersonal Communication</td>
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<td>COMM 5319</td>
<td>Organizational Communication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM 5325</td>
<td>Seminar in Human Communication Theory</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 5333</td>
<td>Health Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS 5308</td>
<td>Physical Activity, Disease Prevention and Treatment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS 5344</td>
<td>The Science of Teaching in Health and Human Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>HA 5300</td>
<td>Healthcare Organization and Delivery</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HA 5321</td>
<td>Healthcare Law</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HA 5362</td>
<td>Healthcare Organizational Behavior/Theory</td>
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</table>
thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with
demonstrate the student's capability for research and independent
If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee
degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.
during the next regular semester.
examination, the student must retake the comprehensive examination
during their last semester in the program. If a student does not pass the
major. Students must satisfactorily pass the comprehensive examination
examination will cover content explored in the core PH courses in the
last semester in the program. Students may choose to complete a written
Comprehensive Examination Requirement
All students must complete a comprehensive examination during their
last semester in the program. Students may choose to complete a written
comprehensive examination or an oral comprehensive examination. The
examination will cover content explored in the core PH courses in the
major. Students must satisfactorily pass the comprehensive examination
during their last semester in the program. If a student does not pass the
examination, the student must retake the comprehensive examination
during the next regular semester.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the
degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

If a student elects to follow the thesis option for the degree, a committee
to direct the written thesis will be established. The thesis must
demonstrate the student's capability for research and independent
thought. Preparation of the thesis must be in conformity with
the Graduate College Guide to Preparing and Submitting a Thesis or
Dissertation.

Thesis Proposal (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/docs/
Thesis_Diss_Guide.pdf)
The student must submit an official Thesis Proposal Form (http://
www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/forms.html) and proposal to his or her
thesis committee. Thesis proposals vary by department and discipline.
Please see your department for proposal guidelines and requirements.
After signing the form and obtaining committee members' signatures,
the graduate advisor's signature if required by the program and the
department chair's signature, the student must submit the Thesis
Proposal Form with one copy of the proposal attached to the dean of The
Graduate College for approval before proceeding with research on the
thesis. If the thesis research involves human subjects, the student must
obtain exemption or approval from the Texas State Institutional Review
Board prior to submitting the proposal form to The Graduate College.
The IRB approval letter should be included with the proposal form. If
the thesis research involves vertebrate animals, the proposal form must
include the Texas State IACUC approval code. It is recommended that the
thesis proposal form be submitted to the dean of The Graduate College
by the end of the student's enrollment in 5399A. Failure to submit the
thesis proposal in a timely fashion may result in delayed graduation.

Thesis Committee
The thesis committee must be composed of a minimum of three
approved graduate faculty members.

Thesis Enrollment and Credit
The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is
required. For a student's initial thesis course enrollment, the student will
need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student
will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the
thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate
College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and
assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the
thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving
supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis
work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect
the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the
responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making
adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process.
Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision
is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial
enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B
course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by
definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the
topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer
than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum
number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in
additional thesis credits at the committee chair's discretion. In the rare
case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to
work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in
both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR
(credit), W (withdraw), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being

| PH 5305 | Grant Proposal Writing in Public Health |
| PH 5312 | Writing for Public Health Professionals |
| PH 5320 | Foundations of Public Health |
| PH 5325 | Ethical Principles in Public Health Education and Promotion |
| PH 5330A | Health Disparities |
| PH 5335 | Public Health Education and Promotion Leadership |
| PH 5345 | Public Health Issues in Human Sexuality Education |
| PH 5347 | Independent Study in Public Health Education and Promotion |
| PH 5360 | Internship in Public Health Education and Promotion |
| PH 5374 | Global Public Health |
| PSY 5335 | Foundations of Health Psychology |
| REC 5310 | Philosophical Foundations of Recreation & Leisure Services |
| REC 5340 | Social Psychology of Recreation and Leisure |
| REC 5350 | Legal and Ethical Issues in Recreation and Leisure Services |
| SOCI 5350 | Seminar on the Sociology of Gender |
| SOCI 5353 | Seminar in the Community |
| SOCI 5357 | Gender and Aging in Society |
| SOCI 5359 | Seminar in Drugs and Society |
| SOCI 5361 | Aging and Dementia: Racial and Ethnic Minorities |
| SOCI 5362 | Rural Aging and Dementia |
| SOCI 5363 | Seminar in Medical Sociology |
| SOCI 5388F | Seminar in Poverty |
| SOCI 5388G | Seminar in Food and Society |

**Thesis**

| PH 5399A | Thesis 3 |
| Choose a minimum of 3 hours from the following: | 3 |
| PH 5199B | Thesis |
| PH 5299B | Thesis |
| PH 5399B | Thesis |
| PH 5999B | Thesis |

**Total Hours** 36
Courses Offered

Public Health (PH)

PH 5199B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

1 Credit Hour. 1 Lecture Contact Hour. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PH 5299B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

2 Credit Hours. 2 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

This course provides the fundamentals of writing grant proposals in the social sciences. Instruction covers how to package a successful proposal from start to finish, including defining program objectives, selecting approaches and a plan, and preparing a program evaluation and budget.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5310. History and Philosophy of Public Health Education and Promotion.
This course is an intensive study of historical and philosophical contributions to public health education and promotion program development. Current political issues, public health issues, and influential cultural changes are examined. Focus is placed on developing a professional philosophy of practice in public health education and promotion practice.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5312. Writing for Public Health Professionals.
This course provides a systematic approach to improve technical and professional writing skills. Specifically, theory-based methods for establishing a productive writing habit, generating and editing text, and self-identifying and self-correcting writing problems are presented. Writing for and application of public health research are emphasized.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course focuses on the study of introductory and intermediate statistics and procedures commonly used in public health education and promotion. Emphasis will be placed on application of statistical models, analysis software, and interpretation of findings.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
This course is an in-depth study of past and current public health programs. The course focuses on the examination of public health programs, policies, and systems that have impacted health status in different populations. A collection of current case-studies will be examined.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5321. Advanced Health Behavior Theory.
This course focuses on the presentation and critical analysis of the role of theory in health behavior, the description of different theories being utilized in health research and interventions, and the application of these theories to interventions and research.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5325. Ethical Principles in Public Health Education and Promotion.
This course provides an in-depth analysis of ethical standards, principles, and behaviors related to the field of public health education and promotion. Students will explore how to apply, monitor, and model ethical standards in the profession.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5330A. Health Disparities.
This course explores social determinants of health and health disparities in the U.S. and globally. Students explore past and existing public health initiatives to address health disparities in various U.S. communities.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5335. Public Health Education and Promotion Leadership.
This course covers structured experiences for developing administrative leadership for public health education and promotion programs. Included are leadership philosophy, staffing, programming, budgeting, public relations, facilities, and evaluations.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5341. Public Health Issues in Human Sexuality Education.
This course provides for in depth study of sexuality education as a lifelong process of acquiring information and forming healthy attitudes, beliefs, and values regarding sexuality. Students analyze information and educational resources for implementing and advocating for sexuality instruction through health courses, sexuality education courses, and programs.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

This course focuses on research models used in public health education and promotion. Students learn how to design research studies using accepted research methods in the social sciences. In addition, students write the introduction, literature review, and methods sections commonly accepted in public health research.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5347. Independent Study in Public Health Education and Promotion.
This course allows for independent study of one or more problems in public health education and promotion that hold special interest for a student or offers opportunity for professional improvement and growth. Open on an individual basis by special arrangement with the Program Coordinator. Repeatable once with a different emphasis. Prerequisites: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PH 5350. Advanced Public Health Program Planning and Evaluation.
Students examine social ecological influences on population health in the context of public health program development. Students explore the use of epidemiological data to assist in developing health education and health promotion programs. Concepts include needs assessment, strategy selection, coalition development, implementation plans, and evaluation approaches.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5360. Internship in Public Health Education and Promotion.
This 240-hour internship provides students with professionally related experience. Students may work with diverse target audiences in public health settings. Internship is approved and supervised by Program Coordinator or assigned faculty. Prerequisites: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 20 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

This advanced course focuses on principles of international health with global populations. Emphasis is placed on assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating prevention strategies. Students explore roles of health educators collaborating with providers of health services to diverse populations. Prerequisites: Instructor approval.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PH 5399A. Thesis.
This course represents a student's initial thesis enrollment. No thesis credit is awarded until the student has completed the thesis in PH 5399B. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PH 5399B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

PH 5599B. Thesis.
This course represents a student’s continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.
5 Credit Hours. 5 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.
Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit
PH 5999B. Thesis.
This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollments. The student continues to enroll in this course until the thesis is submitted for binding. Graded on a credit (CR), progress (PR), no-credit (F) basis.

9 Credit Hours. 9 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit