



## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH NEW TRANSFER STUDENT GUIDE

### *Welcome to Public Health!*

We want to welcome you to the only undergraduate major offered by UC San Diego in partnership with UC San Diego Health! This unique interdisciplinary program will prepare you for a variety of health-related graduate programs and careers. We want to encourage you to get familiar with the resources and information listed on our website over the next several months, and we look forward to working with you next year!

- Dina Rodgers & Elisa Crossman, BSPH Undergraduate Advisors



### *Steps to Success in Public Health*

To ensure that you are prepared for our undergraduate program, be proactive! We suggest that you:

- Now:** Consider whether summer coursework is right for you; register in summer classes
- By July 1:** Watch your UC San Diego e-mail for information about Orientation and Advising  
Submit your transcripts to UC San Diego Admissions
- By July 15:** Send any remaining AP/IB scores and high school transcripts to Admissions
- July-Sept:** Complete BSPH Orientation (available online by July 9)  
Review 1st quarter course recommendations on the BSPH website  
Attend a virtual group advising session to create your academic plan  
Consider taking Summer Session courses  
Enroll in Fall 2025 courses  
Complete college Orientation  
Welcome Week (September 22-26)  
Classes Begin (September 25)

# WHY PUBLIC HEALTH?

## *What is Public Health?*

Public Health promotes and protects the health of people and communities, and aims to improve the quality of life by preventing illnesses and injuries and promoting healthy behaviors. Public Health achievements include the elimination/reduction of numerous diseases, increased life expectancy, and enhanced quality of life worldwide.

## *Public Health is a growing field!*

- Public Health jobs saw well above average growth in the last ten years; thanks to the current global pandemic, Public Health expert jobs are only expected to grow even more in the near future.

## *As part of the UC San Diego Bachelor of Science in Public Health, you'll:*

- Address some of the most pressing issues of the 21st century
- Engage in human rights issues
- Learn critical thinking and evaluation skills
- Get an interdisciplinary education anchored by Public Health-specific coursework
- Take courses taught by faculty who are experts in their field
- Enjoy class sizes much smaller than most other majors on campus
- Take advantage of opportunities for experiential learning in research and community projects
- Receive mentorship from faculty members
- Prepare for employment or graduate education in health-related fields



*Public Health students volunteer in Ensenada for the Flying Samaritans*

## *Here you'll have the opportunity to:*

- Learn in small classes from our award-winning faculty
- Perform research with world-renowned faculty at UC San Diego and UC San Diego Health
- Participate in hands-on opportunities in Public Health
- Work at internship sites throughout San Diego, Sacramento, or Washington, D.C., learning about health promotion, healthcare administration, and public policy
- Assist Public Health faculty in the classroom
- Travel abroad to learn about Public Health topics in other countries

# Major in PUBLIC HEALTH

We offer your choice of seven majors within the field of Public Health.

Choose a concentration that matches your interest.

If you are not sure of your area of interest or want to keep your options open, you may want to choose our general ***Bachelor of Science in Public Health***, which prepares students to develop and apply knowledge from multiple disciplines for the promotion and protection of the health of the human population in a context of human rights and cultural understanding. You may also choose from concentrations in:

## ***Biostatistics***

Biostatistics involves statistical processes and methods applied to the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data relating to human biology, health, and medicine. The Concentration in Biostatistics provides students the opportunity to receive foundational training in statistical methods and data analysis related to public health issues.

## ***Climate and Environmental Sciences***

Climate and Environmental Sciences involves the examination of different factors in our environment and their relation to the health and well-being of individuals and populations. This concentration allows students the opportunity to gain further understanding into the presence of environmental and climate risk factors, as well as strategies for assessing, treating, and preventing health conditions related to these factors.

## ***Community Health Sciences***

The aim of Community Health is to understand the foundational components of a shared geographical area and role of community structures in promoting healthy lifestyles. Students completing the Concentration in Community Health Sciences will build upon their knowledge in public health to focus on how best to reach vulnerable community members and better allocate resources to underserved populations. This concentration allows students the opportunity to gain foundational learning in determinants of health within a community, as well as practices and strategies to identify and address areas where conditions in a community setting can be changed or improved.

## ***Epidemiology***

Epidemiology is the study and evaluation of trends, patterns, and causes related to infectious and chronic disease in populations. Students completing the Concentration in Epidemiology acquire advanced epidemiological coursework beyond the UD epidemiology core course and from a variety of disciplines, such as anthropology, biology, global health, and psychology.

## ***Health Policy and Management***

Health Policy and Management is a multidisciplinary field of public health that is concerned with both policy and legislation related to health, as well as the delivery, quality, and costs of health care for individuals and populations. Health Policy and Management is a main pillar of public health study, and a growing field of study among younger public health professionals. In recent years, the Masters of Health Administration has grown rapidly as a popular public health graduate degree for students particularly passionate about the business and administration components of health.

## ***Medicine Sciences***

The Concentration in Medicine Sciences seeks to provide Pre-Health and Pre-Med students with well-rounded foundational training in both public health and health sciences fields of study. This concentration will allow students the opportunity to utilize some of their Pre-Health and/or Pre-Med courses as part of their academic experience in public health.

***Individual course requirements can be found on our website.***

Students must complete all entry requirements to declare a major in Public Health.

# PUBLIC HEALTH

## *Transfer Success*

### *Are you prepared?*

Transfer students need to be prepared, to stay on track for graduation. We recommend the following courses be completed prior to Fall 2025. Check our website for details: <https://go.ucsd.edu/3t6upz7>

#### **Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) or BSPH w/ Concentration in Community Health**

*REQUIRED Courses to Complete Prior to Transfer:*

- Biology:
  - Option 1: BILD 1-3
  - Option 2: Two Biology classes from our list (will complete BILD 3 after transfer)
- 1 Quantitative Methods (Statistics) class

#### **BSPH with Concentration in Biostatistics**

*REQUIRED Courses to Complete Prior to Transfer:*

- Biology: BILD 1-3
- Quantitative Methods: MATH 11, MATH 18, MATH 20A-C

*Additional Strongly Recommended Courses Prior to Transfer:*

- 1 Computer Programming class from our list
- 2 Social & Behavioral Science Electives

#### **BSPH with Concentration in Climate and Environmental Sciences**

*REQUIRED Courses to Complete Prior to Transfer:*

- Biology: BILD 1-3
- Chemistry: CHEM 6A-C
- Quantitative Methods: MATH 11, MATH 10A/10B or 20A/20B

#### **BSPH with Concentration in Epidemiology**

*REQUIRED Courses to Complete Prior to Transfer:*

- Biology: BILD 1-3
- 1 Quantitative Methods (Statistics) class

#### **BSPH with Concentration in Health Policy and Management Sciences**

*REQUIRED Courses to Complete Prior to Transfer:*

- Biology:
  - Option 1: BILD 1-3
  - Option 2: Two Biology classes from our list (will complete BILD 3 after transfer)
- 1 Quantitative Methods (Statistics) class

#### **BSPH with Concentration in Medicine Sciences**

*REQUIRED Courses to Complete Prior to Transfer:*

- Biology: BILD 1-3
- Chemistry: CHEM 6A-C, CHEM 7L
- Quantitative Methods: 1 Statistics class, MATH 10A/10B or 20A/20B

*Additional Strongly Recommended Courses Prior to Transfer:*

- 3+ Natural Science:
  - BILD 20, BILD 22, BILD 26, Anatomy w/ Lab, Microbiology w/ Lab
    - For Tracks: Pre-Dental, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Optometry, Pre-PA, Pre-Nursing, Pre-PT/OT, Pre-Nutrition
  - CHEM 40A, CHEM 40B, CHEM 43A or CHEM 41A, CHEM 41B, CHEM 41C, CHEM 43A
    - For Tracks: Pre-Med, Pre-Dental, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Optometry, Pre-PA, Pre-Nursing, Pre-Nutrition
  - PHYS 1A + PHYS 1AL, PHYS 1B + PHYS 1BL, PHYS 1C + PHYS 1CL
    - For Tracks: Pre-Med, Pre-Dental, Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-PA, Pre-PT/OT

*Please see our website for additional information regarding recommended pre-health preparation.*