



Become part of the answer. Solve problems related to health equity and access to services by earning your Master of Public Health degree online from St. Ambrose University. Public health professionals work in multidisciplinary teams to identify root causes of health problems and to develop solutions to protect the health of populations, ranging from local neighborhoods to entire regions of the world.

Mission Statement

St. Ambrose University's Master of Public Health seeks to improve public health, promote individual well-being, and eliminate health inequities across communities in the region and around the world. Students will develop knowledge, skills and professional values to identify and pursue individualized goals in research and practice via collaborating with community partners to promote social justice and improve health access for all populations.

Graduates of the MPH program will:

- > Use evidence-based decision making to propose novel solutions and policies for public health challenges.
- > Utilize quantitative and qualitative data to address public health problems.
- > Articulate public health policy and programs focused on increasing

access for vulnerable and marginalized populations.

- > Apply principles of cultural competence, ethical reasoning and human rights when interacting in organizational and community settings.
- > Advocate for ethical and professional strategies in the management of public health programs and organizations.
- > Demonstrate communication and collaboration in inter-professional community partnerships.

Admissions Process

A complete application requires submission of the following:

- > Official transcript showing completion of a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Prospective students currently enrolled are asked to provide a list of remaining courses and timeline for earning an undergraduate degree.
- > A one-page statement addressing how your personal or academic background and experiences will bring a unique perspective to the program and contribute to a diverse and inclusive student community.
- > Three letters of reference from either academic (i.e. a professor) or professional (i.e. a supervisor) sources.
- > Evidence of a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- > GRE scores. A GRE waiver can be provided on a case-by-case basis, and will be provided to applicants who hold a U.S. graduate degree.

Curriculum

Based on projected needs in the Midwestern region, the public health program will emphasize health equity, prioritizing increasing access to health services for underserved populations. Specifically, St. Ambrose students will build their skills in epidemiology, research and application of evidenced-based interventions to solve global/national/regional/state/community public health issues. The St. Ambrose University Master of Public Health program will be offered as a full-time 18-month online program as well as part-time 33-month graduate online program comprised of approximately 43 semester credit hours. A new class of up to 30 students will be accepted each year through a competitive application process and will begin studies in the fall. Students will be eligible to enroll after successfully completing specific undergraduate prerequisite classes and earning a bachelor's degree. Students will complete didactic online classes in subjects including epidemiology, biostatistics, qualitative research, behavioral/social/environmental health, ethics and social justice, health systems, policy and evidenced based practice/application. The full-time option will require students to take those classes and gain approximately 200 hours of applied practice experience, under the supervision of public health and other specialists in selected practice areas. Additionally, a dual degree program where a student can obtain both an MPH and MSW in three years is available. This highlights priorities related to strengthening the links between health and community/social systems and services.

Accreditation

The St. Ambrose University Master of Public Health program has been developed following the criteria established by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) and will submit an Initial Application Statement (IAS) to CEPH upon the arrival of the first student cohort in Fall 2018. The St. Ambrose MPH program anticipates graduating its first class in May 2020, and will be eligible to apply for full accreditation site visit in Fall 2020. Submitting the IAS when students are enrolled demonstrates the University's strong focus on establishing a Master of Public Health program in accordance with the CEPH accreditation standards at the onset.

Who: The multiple opportunities a MPH offers creates exciting career pathways for students at St. Ambrose University and beyond.

This degree enriches the university's mission of social justice, and reinforces the College of Health and Human Service's focus on inter-professional service. This heritage and emphasis makes the St. Ambrose MPH unique among regional public health programs. The components of the MPH program will build upon a variety of undergraduate degrees and student experiences. Additionally, we are able to offer a dual degree with the Master of Social Work (MSW/MPH) beginning Fall 2018. The MPH program can be

completed in 18 months of full-time study. Examples of relevant disciplines may include Biology, Behavioral Neuroscience, Chemistry, Communication, Economics, Engineering, Exercise Science, Forensic Psychology, International Studies, Nursing, Political Sciences, Psychology, Business Sales, Health Care Sales, Sociology, and Women and Gender Studies.

Why: Graduating from a MPH program prepares students with a variety of options for their career future, with the market demand for MPH graduates high and public health is a rapidly growing field, projected to increase over 21% in this decade (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012). Additionally, the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health projects a shortage of 250,000 public health workers by 2020. Graduates of public health programs are employed in public health agencies, volunteer and private agencies, governmental agencies, hospitals/other health care settings, and with global health organizations. Public health professions serve as researchers, practitioners or instructors charged with assuring public health in local, state, national and international populations. MPH graduates also find careers in health administration, public health consultation, and health communication.

For Further Information

Melissa Sharer, PhD, Director and Assistant Professor . . . 563/333-5768
mph@sau.edu

St. Ambrose University Center for Health Sciences Education
1320 W. Lombard Street, Davenport, IA 52804

09.17