

San Francisco State University

Department of Public Health

Bachelor of Science in Public Health

Department of Public Health website:
<https://publichealth.sfsu.edu/>



Maia Feinman-Welcher, Coordinator of Public Health Academic Programs

Department Staff

Maia Feinman-Welcher, Coordinator

Undergraduate Program (BS) and Graduate Program (MPH)

mfeinmanwelcher@sfsu.edu

Georjean Morado, Director

Community Engagement & Applied Practice (BS and MPH)

gmorado1@sfsu.edu

Juliana van Olphen, Department Chair & Professor

Department of Public Health

jvo@sfsu.edu

Career Outlook

There are many rewarding careers to choose from when you pursue a BS degree in community health education (public health), such as:

- Community Health Worker
- Disaster Preparedness Coordinator
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Contact Tracer
- Health Educator
- Health Promotion Specialist
- Program Coordinator
- Community Planners
- Research Assistant
- Related Graduate Programs examples: nursing, medicine, social work, public policy, public administration, city planning, education, and of course public health!

Public Health Department - Degree Options

You can obtain the following undergraduate degree options in our department:

- **Bachelor of Science in Public Health**

58 units

- **Minor in Public Health***

18 units

* *NOTE: students cannot major and minor in Health Education; this is an option if they choose to major in another department*

- **Minor in Feminist Health Justice** (WGS minor including PH courses)

15 units

Curriculum & Pathway: Major

About the [Bachelor of Science in Public Health](#):

- We designed and scaffolded our curriculum over four semesters.
Please note: *this does not include the required foundation courses.*
- While most students attend full-time with at least 12-15 units per semester, it is possible to complete the requirements at part-time status (*and extend completion beyond four semesters*).
- We have “sequenced” courses each semester, meaning completion of courses are prerequisites for courses the following semester.
- Sequenced courses required for the major must be passed with a grade “C” or above.

Unit Requirements

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree is 58 units:

Foundation courses 13 units (prior to beginning upper div)

Required Courses 36 units

Electives 9 units



Total for the major: 58 units

Foundation Courses

The following foundation courses, or their equivalent, are required for the major:

COURSES REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE MAJOR: 13 units

1. BIOL 100 Human Biology 3 units
BIOL 101 Human Biology Laboratory 1 unit
2. PH 100* Public Health Biology 3 units
(*also accepted: BIOL 210)
3. MATH 124* Quantitative Reasoning 3 units
(*also accepted: AU/ETHS 116, AU/ETHS 117, ISED 160, PSY 171, or equivalent)
4. PH 205 Introduction to Public Health 3 units

Pathway: Semester 1

The recommended course registration for your first semester in the major:

PH 400* **Determinants of Health (*GWAR)** **3 units**

** prerequisite: 60+ units / Junior class standing*

PH 410 **Public Health Systems** **3 units**

PH 425** **Public Health Research** **3 units**

***prerequisite: MATH 124 or equivalent*

NOTE: PH 400 GWAR and PH 425 must be taken concurrently

University GE Area: Upper-Division B Course **3 units**

PH Major Elective #1 **3 units**

Before or during Semester 1:

PH 205 **Introduction to Public Health** **3 units**

PH 100 **Public Health Biology** **3 units**

Pathway: Semester 2

The recommended course registration for your second semester in the major:

PH 420	Epidemiology <i>* prerequisite: PH 425</i>	3 units
PH 455**	Community Organizing & Community Building for Health <i>** This is also a GE course, satisfying: UD-C, AERM, ES, GP, and SJ requirements</i>	3 units
PH 520*	Structural Oppression & Social Foundations of Health <i>* prerequisite: PH 400 GVAR</i>	3 units
PH Major Elective #2		3 units
University GE Area: Upper-Division C Course		3 units

Pathway: Semester 3

The recommended course registration for your third semester in the major:

PH 431*	Program Planning <i>* prerequisite: PH 400 GWAR & PH 425</i>	3 units
PH 450	Public Health Policy	3 units
PH 600	Health Communications, Media & Technology	3 units
PH Major Elective #3		3 units
University GE Area: Upper-Division D Course		3 units

Pathway: Semester 4

The recommended course registration for your fourth semester in the major:

PH 480	Fieldwork and Reflective Seminar	9 units
	<i>* prerequisite: PH 431</i>	
University Elective		3 units
University Elective		3 units

PH 480: Fieldwork & Reflective Seminar

- 9 unit course in total
- Capstone course for the Public Health major
- Prerequisite: PH 431 Program Planning
- 3 unit seminar meets on campus, 6 unit fieldwork internship in an approved placement in the field of public health
- Students are placed by instructor; they are given site options during first week of class. They do not secure their own placements
- Due to demand on their schedule, it is recommended they take PH 480 + one other 3 unit elective course
- Internship hours = 10-15 hours per week; 150 hours required in total
- Course is offered Spring & Fall semesters, Summer R4 10-week session

Requirements Review

REQUIREMENTS *for starting major*

(strongly recommended; only MATH 124 is required before PH 425):

- Completion of 60 units or more
- BIOL 100 & BIOL 101
- MATH 124 or equivalent
- PH 100
- PH 205

Curriculum & Pathway: Minor in PH

About the [Minor in Public Health](#):

- 18 units total
- **Required courses (6 units):**
 - PH 221** Health, Politics & Social Justice
 - PH 210** Personal & Social Determinants of Health
- **Elective courses (12 units):**

Course options from various courses in Public Health
- University policy: *There is no limit to what you can double count between a major and a minor*

Curriculum & Pathway: Minor in Feminist Health Justice

About the [Minor in Feminist Health Justice](#):

- Replaced Minor in Women's Health Issues
(no longer available to declare, but students who are declared can finish their degree requirements)
- 15 units total
- **PH 210** Personal & Social Determinants of Health
PH 414 Women's Health
PH 450 Public Health Policy and
PH 520 Structural Oppression and Social Foundations of Health
are options for required courses for the minor