THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY
Advising Manual
Academic Year 2013-2014

Couple and Family Therapy
Health Policy
Public Health

The information in this booklet is meant to be used as a guide. The transfer Institution reserves the right to make changes at any time.

Delaware County Community College
Transfer Office
Revised: 7/2013
Jefferson School of Population Health

The Jefferson School of Population Health (JSPH) is an integral part of Thomas Jefferson University. At JSPH, we prepare leaders with global vision to develop, implement, and evaluate health policies and systems that improve the health of populations and thereby enhance the quality of life.

We fulfill this mission by providing exemplary graduate academic programming, continuing education courses and conferences, and sustained research and consulting in areas of health policy, population health, healthcare quality and safety, and chronic care management.

What is Public Health?

Public Health is an interdisciplinary field of study and practice with two primary goals – to prevent illness, disease, and injury; and to promote and protect human health. Public Health achieves these goals while supporting human rights and respecting the dignity of the individual.

Where do public health professionals work? What kind of work do they do?

Public Health professionals work in state and local public health departments or health centers, non-governmental health organizations (NGOs), schools and universities, professional health agencies, health insurance companies, and businesses such as the pharmaceutical industry. They also engage in public health research and work internationally in global health environments.

MPH professionals track disease outbreaks, conduct community health assessments, plan public health education programs, develop public health policies to reduce adverse environmental exposures, advocate for government policy changes to increase public access to preventive health services, and direct campaigns to prevent infectious disease or reduce risk factors that encourage chronic conditions.

What kind of educational or work background is expected of public health students?

Jefferson’s MPH degree program is intended for recent college graduates with majors in natural or social sciences; students currently enrolled in a medical, nursing or law degree program who wish to earn an additional degree in public health; and practicing health professionals working in government, community health organizations, healthcare settings, health insurance companies, the pharmaceutical industry, and academic institutions.
Program Overview

- Jefferson’s MPH is a competency-based degree program accredited through the Council of Education for Public Health (CEPH).
- The public health clerkship is a semester-long community experience with a public health-related organization that can be completed locally, elsewhere in the United States, or abroad.
- The MPH degree program requires completion of 45 credits, including a clerkship (field experience) and capstone research project.
- The program stresses competencies in five key public health areas – behavioral and social sciences; biostatistics; environmental health sciences, epidemiology; and health policy and management.
- The curriculum also emphasizes certain skills, such as leadership, systems thinking, health communication and cultural humility and competency.
- Classes are offered across three 14-week sessions per year that begin in September and end by mid-late July.
- Full-time students can complete the program in 16 – 20 months. Part-time students can complete the program in 24-48 months.
- Students enrolled in a Jefferson joint degree program (MD/MPH; JD or MJ/MPH; MSN/MPH) can complete coursework in one year with the capstone research project completed in a subsequent year.
- To accommodate working adults, classes are offered after 5:00 p.m. during the week or on weekends at the Center City campus of Thomas Jefferson University.
- Students can begin the program in September or January.

Admissions Considerations

- Earned baccalaureate degree with approximate GPA of 3.0
- One of the following:
  - Competitive score on the GRE or other graduate entrance examination
  - Graduate degree or at least 9 credits of earned graduate coursework with grade of “B” or higher
  - Current enrollment in a graduate clinical program (e.g., MD, MSN)
  - GPA of 3.3 or higher and specified coursework with grade of “B” or higher from a Jefferson-affiliated college or university
- Competency in basic statistics (recommended)
- Previous professional or volunteer experience in a community health setting

Application Requirements

- Completion of online application form
- Payment of $25 application fee
- Official transcripts from all graduate and undergraduate institutions attended
- Submission of TOEFL courses, if applicable
- GRE or equivalent
- Two letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- Eligible candidates will be invited for an interview.
MPH Curriculum

Core Courses (35 credits)
- Introduction to Public Health
- Behavioral and Social Theories in Public Health
- Basic Public Health Statistics
- Fundamentals of Epidemiology
- U.S. Healthcare Organization and Delivery
- Health Services Research
- Fundamentals of Environmental Health
- Public Health Policy and Advocacy
- Program Planning and Evaluation
- Clerkship
- Capstone Seminar
- Capstone Project

Electives (10 credits)
- Advanced Public Health Statistics
- Qualitative Research Methods
- Advanced Epidemiology
- Epidemiology of Diabetes and Obesity
- Environmental and Occupational Toxicology
- Global Health
- History of Public Health
- Cultural Competency and Humility
- Health Communication
Health Policy

Master of Science in Health Policy (MS-HP)

Why is there a need for a degree in health policy?

In an era when the costs of health care continue to rise, access is absent for many Americans, and troubling issues around quality and safety have entered the public lexicon, never has the preparation of leaders to guide health policy been more urgent.

What do health policy professionals do?

Health policy professionals critically analyze the organization, financing and delivery of health care; rigorously apply analytic skills to plan, implement, and evaluate health policy; and produce research evidence to support policy development and change.

Where do health policy graduates work?

Graduates are prepared to assume policy analysis and advocacy roles in health care provider organizations, integrated health care delivery systems, government offices, academic institutions, health services research firms and community-based or advocacy organizations.

Program Audiences

The MS-HP is intended for

- Students with undergraduate degrees in public policy, economics, political science, or a healthcare field
- Practicing healthcare and related administrative professionals working within all variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, healthcare plans or management companies, academic organizations, pharmaceutical companies, community organizations, public/government entities
- Students in degree programs (e.g. MD, BSN/MSN, PhD, JD, PharmD) seeking a joint masters degree in health policy

Program Overview

- The MS-HP degree program requires completion of 39 credits, including a capstone project.
- Courses required for the degree span the domains of health policy, research design and analytic methods, information systems and leadership skills.
- The capstone project or fieldwork experience enables students to apply concepts, methods and theories to actual problems in real settings.
- Classes are offered across three 14-week sessions per year that begin in September and end by mid-July.
- Full-time students can complete the program in 16 months. Part-time students can complete the program in 24 months.
To accommodate working adults, classes are offered after 5:00 p.m. during the week or on weekends at the Center City campus of Thomas Jefferson University.

Students can begin the program in September or January.

Program Skills
Through coursework and field experiences, the MS-HP degree program emphasizes:

- Advanced analytic skills that support problem identification, solution modeling and outcomes prediction
- Systems approaches that consider the spectrum of stakeholder positions and market forces and lead to development of actionable policy solutions
- Essential health policy leadership and management capabilities, including communication, decision analysis, planning, and negotiation

Admissions Considerations and Prerequisites

- Earned baccalaureate degree with approximate GPA of 3.0
- One of the following:
  - Competitive score on the GRE or other graduate entrance examination
  - Graduate degree or at least 9 credits of earned graduate coursework with a grade of “B” or higher
  - Current enrollment in a graduate clinical program (e.g., MD, MSN)
  - GPA of 3.3 or higher and specified coursework with grade of “B” or higher from a Jefferson-affiliated college or university
- Competency in basic statistics demonstrated by
  - At least 3 credits of undergraduate or graduate coursework with grade of “B” or higher or
  - Passing score on JSPH statistics challenge examination
- Basic knowledge of the U.S. economy and U.S. government demonstrated by
  - At least 3 credits of undergraduate or graduate coursework in macroeconomics and political science with a grade of “B” or higher or
  - Passing score on JSPH macroeconomics and/or U.S. government challenge examinations or
  - Satisfactory completion of JSPH online modules on macroeconomics and U.S. government

Application Requirements

- Completion of online application form
- Payment of $25 application fee
- Official transcripts from all graduate and undergraduate institutions attended
- Submission of TOEFL courses, if applicable
- GRE or equivalent
- Two letters of recommendation
- Personal essay

Eligible candidates will be invited for an interview.
MS-HP Curriculum

Core Courses (36 credits)
- U.S. Healthcare Organization and Delivery
- Population Health Management
- Health Law and Regulatory Issues
- Health Policy: Analysis and Advocacy
- Health Informatics
- Health Services Research
- Advanced Statistical Methods for Data Analysis
- Healthcare Quality and Safety Measurement and Outcomes Analysis
- Economic Analysis in Healthcare
- Managerial Accounting in Health Care
- Capstone Seminar
- Capstone Project

- Elective (3 credits)

Make a world of difference.
For more information, contact Jefferson School of Population Health at 215-503-5305 or check the MS-HP program website at http://www.jefferson.edu/population_health/health_policy/
Couple and Family Therapy

As families deal with the challenges of stress, changing family lifecycles, communicating across generations, and the realities of blended families; they seek help from marriage and family therapists. Whether treating emotional disorders, substance abuse, sexual abuse, juvenile offenders, or couples in crisis, Jefferson-trained therapists aim to help people understand, respect, and improve the quality of their relationships. In a culture that focuses increasingly on healthy living and family life, opportunities for marriage and family therapists are expected to grow.

Jefferson’s Couple and Family Therapy master’s degree program:
- is a partnership between Thomas Jefferson University and the Council for Relationships (CFR), one of the oldest and most respected couple and family training programs in the country.
- Provides unsurpassed clinical care, education, research, and training.
- Is offered full-time and can be completed in two years.
- Graduates will have credentials for licensure in PA, NJ, DE and NY.
- Is also the Division of Couple and Family Studies, Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Jefferson Medical College.

Jefferson’s Couple and Family Therapy students:
- Study with faculty members who are CFR therapists and certified by the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT).
- Are exposed to a variety of educational programs at CFR.
- Benefit from the variety of clinical locations available from the 14 CFR locations and multitude of sites throughout the Jefferson Health System.

Requirements
- Bachelor’s degree in any field
- GREs (preferred) or MATs
- 3 credits each of Introductory Psychology, Abnormal Psychology and Statistics
- Undergraduate GPA of at least a 3.0
- Work-related experience will be considered

What do Couple and Family Therapists earn?
The average salary for Jefferson’s Couple and Family Therapy class of 2011 graduates was $39,083 (salary range $33,000 - $45,000). 90% of the couple and therapy students who responded to our survey had jobs following their graduation.