

Master of Science (M.S.) / HPM

The M.S. degree program provides a strong foundation for professional activity in Health Services Research. Students who are planning to pursue a career in research, planning and evaluation, auditing, or consulting, whether in the private sector or in government-related markets, will find this program an excellent basis for their growth and development. The program features a well-balanced combination of courses providing solid background in health care issues, policy, skills, and experience. Typical employers are: state and federal government, the military, public and private health organizations, and other human service institutions.

In this two-year program, the student is provided with the educational experience necessary to be a capable administrator well versed in technical and organizational skills, and an advocate for social change in the health care system.

Prerequisites include an introductory course in accounting (or equivalent practical experience) and an introductory course in microeconomics.

Specific Requirements for M.S. in Health Policy and Management:

At least 48 credits are required for the MS degree in Health Policy and Management. These credits are distributed as follows:

Public Health Core: 12 Credits

- Pubhlth 540 Introduction to Biostatistics
- Pubhlth 601 Principles of Community Health Ed
- Pubhlth 620 Introduction to the U.S. Health Care System
- Pubhlth 630 Principles of Epidemiology

Health Policy and Management Core: 9 Credits

- Pubhlth 621 Health Care Organization and Administration
- Pubhlth 628 Financial Management of Health Institutions
- Pubhlth 690F Current Topics in Health Politics and Policy

Research Fundamentals Required: 9 Credits

- Pubhlth 622 Program Evaluation for Health and Human Services Organization
- Pubhlth 624 Research Methods in Public Health
- Pubhlth 640 Intermediate Biostatistics
- Pubhlth 704 Health Program Planning

Concentration in Health Policy and Management: 9 Credits

These courses are negotiated individually by students with their respective faculty advisors. Only one of these courses may be an independent study for a total of no more than 3 credits.

M.S. Thesis: 9 Credits

At the end of two semesters of coursework, with permission of the faculty advisor, students submit a proposal for an M.S. thesis. Students, with their advisor's assistance, will seek a faculty member who agrees to serve as a committee chair for the preparation and defense of the thesis. The committee chair will guide the student in the research and