

Dual MSW/MPH Degree

Program Description

The purpose of the MSW/MPH dual-degree program is to prepare and train students in practicing in health settings that require in depth knowledge in both social work and public health. The dual degree allows the social work student to combine practice skills across social work settings with the population health perspective gained in the MPH program to address needs at the community level. By combining the programs, students are able to develop a special expertise in population health and its applications to social work practice. An additional benefit of the MSW/MPH program is that it offers the student the ability to complete the MSW and MPH in considerably less time than required to complete each degree separately.

This interdisciplinary education supports the training of highly professionals who are competent in both public health and social work. Both degree programs share a strong commitment to social justice and elimination of health disparities. By combining the two degrees, students will get a biopsychosocial and epidemiological perspective on critical issues of health at local, regional, national, and international levels. The two programs also share a focus on community based and coordinated care.

The MPH, a 42 credit program, usually takes 2 years to complete. The MSW, a 60 credit hour program, usually takes 2-3 years to complete. The timeframe is shorter for the dual degree because the two programs share 12 credits of required coursework, and up to 18 credits of MPH core courses and 6 credits of MSW courses may be taken online. Students may choose to devote the entire first year of study either to the MSW degree or to the MPH degree. During the subsequent 2-3 years, they complete remaining course work, writing, and experiential training for both degrees.

Admission criteria and process

Candidates for the program must meet the entrance requirements and procedures for admission to both the Master of Social Work and the Master of Public Health degree programs. Both programs must be informed by the student at the time of application to the second program that he/she intends to pursue the dual MSW/MPH program.

Program completion requirements

A student must satisfy the curriculum requirements for each degree before either degree is awarded. The joint curriculum (see Table 1 below) will allow twelve credit hours to be shared between the two degrees.

Award of degree

A student enrolled in the dual degree program may receive the MSW degree or the MPH degree when he or she has satisfied the requirements for either degree.

Admission

A potential student must make separate application, and be independently accepted, to both the MSW and MPH programs. Application to both programs at the same time is encouraged. This dual program is designed for students who wish to complete both degrees simultaneously. Students are admitted into each program separately; completion of one degree is not contingent upon completion of both.

Table 1: Dual MSW/MPH Program Proposal

Year 1													
Fall				Spring					Summer				
SWRK		3		SWRK 7001 - Social Work Practice Skills	SWRK		3		SWRK 7003 - SW Practice with Groups	SWRK		3	SWRK 7005 - Psychopathology
SWRK		3		SWRK 7002 - Individuals and Families	PUBH	3			HADM 7105 - Health Policy and Organization of Health Services	SWRK		3	Elective
SWRK	3	3	3	SWRK 7030 - Social Welfare Policy and Services	PUBH	3			PUBH 7160 - Social and Behavioral Sciences Principles				
PUBH	3			PUBH 7170 - Epidemiology in Public Health	PUBH	3			PUBH 7120 - Environmental Health I				
	6	9	3			9	3					6	
Year 2													
Fall				Spring					Summer				
SWRK		3		SWRK 7021 - SW Practice Across the Lifespan	SWRK	3	3	3	SWRK 7022 - SW Practice with Organizations and Communities	SWRK		3	SWRK 7025 - Scientific Methods
SWRK		3		SWRK 7051 - Field Placement I	SWRK		3		SWRK 7052 - Field Placement II	SWRK		3	Elective
PUBH	3			PUBH 7150 - Biostatistical Methods I	PUBH	3			PUBH 7130 - Social Determinants of Health				
PUBH	3			PUBH 7180 - Foundations of Public Health	PUBH	3			PUBH 7340 - Behavioral Intervention Development				
	6	6				9	6	3				6	
Year 3													
Fall				Spring					Summer				
SWRK		3		SWRK 7016 - Wrap Around Models/7019 - Integrative Behavioral Health	SWRK		3		SWRK 7017/20 - Advanced SW Community Practice w. Children/w. Adults				Total PH Hours: 42
SWRK		3		SWRK 7004 - CBT & Behavioral/7018 - CBT & Trauma Treat.	PUBH	3	3	3	PUBH 7132 - Health Program Evaluation				Total SW Hours: 60
SWRK		3		SWRK 7053 - Field Placement III	PUBH	3	3	3	PUBH 7985 - Practicum/Field Experience				Total Shared Hours: 12
SWRK		3		SWRK 7055 - Integrative Field Seminar	SWRK		3		SWRK 7056 - Integrative Field Seminar				
PUBH	3			PUBH 7014 - Public Health Communication	PUBH	3			PUBH 7992 - Master's Project Seminar				
	3	12				9	12	6					