

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 can 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.

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 applications, 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 Plan

Year 1														
Fall				Spring					Summer					
SWRK		3		SWRK 7001 - Social Work Practice Skills	SWRK		3		SWRK 7003 – SW Practice in Groups	SWRK		3		SWRK 7005 - Psychopathology
SWRK		3		SWRK 7002 - Individuals and Families	PU BH	3			HADM 71 05 – Health Policy and Organization of Health Services	SWRK		3		SWRK 7030 Social Welfare Policy and Services
SWRK		3		SWRK 7021- SW Practice Across the Lifespan	PU BH	3			PU BH 71 60 – Social and Behavioral Sciences Principles					
PU BH	3			PU BH 71 70 – Epidemiology in Public Health	PU BH	3			PU BH 71 20 – Environmental Health I					
	3	9				9	3					6		
Year 2														
Fall				Spring					Summer					
SWRK		3		SWRK 7022 – SW Practice with Organizations and Communities	SWRK	3	3	3	Elective	SWRK		3		SWRK 7028 – Advanced SW Practice with Individuals
SWRK		3		SWRK 7051 - Field Placement I	SWRK		3		SWRK 7052 - Field Placement II	SWRK	3	3	3	Elective
PU BH	3			PU BH 71 50 – Biostatistical Methods I	PU BH	3			PU BH 71 30 – Social Determinants of Health					
PU BH	3			PU BH 71 80 – Foundations of Public Health	PU BH	3			PU BH 7340 – Behavioral Intervention Development					
	6	6				9	6	3			3	6	3	
Year 3														
Fall				Spring					Summer					
SWRK		3		SWRK 7025- Scientific Methods	SWRK		3		SWRK 7034 – Advanced Community Practice	Total PH Hours : 42				
SWRK		3		Elective	PU BH	3	3	3	PU BH 71 32 Health Program Evaluation	Total SW Hours : 60				
SWRK		3		SWRK 7053 – Field Placement III	PU BH	3	3	3	PUBH 7985 – Practicum/Field Experience	Total Shared Hours: 12				
SWRK		3		SWRK 7055 – Integrative Field Seminar I	SWRK		3		SWRK 7056 - Integrative Field Seminar II					
PU BH	3			PU BH 701 4 -Public Health Communication	PU BH	3			PU BH 7992 – Masters Project Seminar					
	3	12				9	12	6						