About our program

The Department of Health Policy, Management and Behavior offers two degree options in two tracks for those who wish to pursue planning and leadership roles in public health: MPH and DrPH in either Health Policy and Management or Social Behavior and Community Health.

Through each of these options, students gain strong analytical skills, knowledge of the health care and public health system, and public health experiences to prepare them to analyze, develop, implement, and evaluate health policy and health-related programs. This educational experience is enhanced through study with senior-level health practitioners and researchers who are directly involved in the formulation and implementation of health policy and management strategies.

About our Concentrations

The Health Policy & Management concentration prepares students to manage public health and healthcare programs. Our graduates are able to utilize communication as a tool for developing participation and motivation among organizational members, as well as performing such core leadership tasks as directing, mentoring, facilitating and brokering, as well as develop mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating programs for their effectiveness and quality.

The Social Behavior & Community Health concentration focuses on understanding the influence of individual, group and cultural factors on the health of populations as well as on the ways in which these factors influence the development and organization of public health programs and service delivery in communities. Students learn to distinguish the relative effectiveness of different public health interventions, utilizing appropriate principles and methods from social and behavioral sciences that address behavior of individuals, groups and communities. They learn how to design a strategy for developing and/or improving a community-based public health program to reduce the prevalence of a particular risk behavior. They learn to develop a data management plan for assessing the need for a program, relate the relevance of evaluation or research findings for implementing a program, and develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate community intervention programs for their effectiveness and quality.