GRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT ORIENTATION FALL 2024

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LIBERTY UNIVERSITY



PRAYER & DEVOTIONAL

Embarking on a new journey is a momentous and often transformative experience.— but God has unique and special plans for EACH of us.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

As you prepare for the days and months ahead

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3: 5-6

You will be learning and growing with your professors and instructors but always remember where your TRUE instruction comes from

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you." Psalm 32:8



WELCOME GRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENTS

Current Programs:

- Master of Science in Public Health in Epidemiology (Omnichannel)
- Master of Public Health
 - Epidemiology (Residential)
 - Community Health Promotion (Both Campuses)
 - Nutrition (Both Campuses)
 - Global Health (Both Campuses)
 - Public Health Policy (Omnichannel)
 - Environmental Health (Online)

ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

Dr. Heidi DiFrancesca – Dean

Dr. Brendan Haynie – Associate Dean

Dr. Benjamin Forrest – Administrative Chair, Online Programs

Megan Bishop – Faculty Support Coordinator

Jane Bailey – Department Administrative Assistant

Samantha Leigh – Director of Practicum

Erin Chocklett– Gate Coordinator II

Cassidy Harris – Gate Coordinator I

PUBLIC HEALTH FACULTY



GET TO KNOW YOUR STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Clubs are open to all Graduate Public Health Students based on varying criteria.

Graduate Student Assistants

- Miebaka Roberts
- Katelyn McCleary
- Chinonso Eziechi
- Raymond Suonyir
- Bright Agbotui
- Lauren Coco

Liberty University Public Health Student Association

- President/Point of Contact Katelyn McCleary
- Vice President Nicole Durham

Delta Omega, Epsilon Mu

- President Miebaka Roberts
- Vice President Professor Giordana Morales

Eta Sigma Gamma

- President Lauren Coco
- Vice President Clara Brola

Department Mission

"EMBRACING A CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW TO REACH THE UNDERSERVED THROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING AND PRACTICE SO OTHERS MAY EXPERIENCE THE EMBRACE OF GOD."

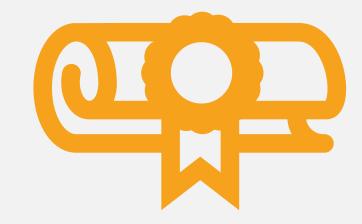
Department Vision

"WE ENVISION A CADRE OF FULLY PREPARED CHRISTIAN HEALTH PROFESSIONALS DEDICATED TO OVERCOMING HEALTH DISPARITIES AND IMPROVING THE WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE FROM EVERY, TONGUE, TRIBE AND NATION, ESPECIALLY THE POOR AND DISADVANTAGED, THROUGHOUT THE WORLD."



ACCREDITATION

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
 - Liberty was last re-accredited in 2016 for 10 years
 - MPH program was adopted without recommendation in 2011
 - MSPH program was adopted without recommendation in 2024
- Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)
 - Oct 6, 2017- Dec 31, 2024
 - Self-study ongoing 2023-2024, Site visit scheduled November 7-8th 2024



CEPH: Accredited Public Health Programs

Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)

- The Council on Education for Public Health is an independent agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit public health programs.
- CEPH accreditation is considered the quality benchmark in evaluating public health academic programs.
- Ensures that public health graduate degrees offered by the department provide the highest caliber of education possible, preparing competent public health professionals to enter the field.

Choosing Electives: Align your Degree & Goals

-- Choose electives wisely: Electives can and should be used strategically and chosen with an adviser.

Some employers---U.S. Public Health Service, require that MPH-level jobs be filled by graduates of CEPHaccredited schools or programs. Others- hire based on a preference for graduates of CEPH-accredited programs.

Graduates of CEPH-accredited MPH programs are eligible to sit for the Certified in Public Health exam administered by the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) without needing five years of public health work experience after earning their bachelor's degree.

BENEFITS OF CEPH

ACCREDITATION

Additional benefits for MSPH students obtaining a CEPH-accredited degree are increased marketability in government and research positions that would require CEPH certification.

RESIDENTIAL ADVISING PER CONCENTRATION

<u>Degree Completion Plans</u> provide the curriculum requirements.

Please meet with <u>your Faculty Advisor</u> before registering for classes and a Minimum of ONCE per semester.

They are there to help you with course selection, career advising, and general guidance.

3 residential courses are needed to remain fulltime

- 3-Required for all international students on a student visa
- 3- Required by most financial aid packages

Please note residential students must take residential courses. You must apply for an exemption for an online class. If an online or Professional Advisor suggests taking an online course, please clear that with your Program Director first.

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<u>Advisors</u>

- Epidemiology: Dr. Anderson Community Health Promotion: Dr. Graf (Environmental: Dr Castillo) T TD T
- Global Health: Dr Clottey Nutrition: Dr. Kebles Public Health Policy: Dr Giles MSPH: Dr Attin



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For all degrees: Applied Practical Experience and Interprofessional Experience will be required for your Electronic Portfolio which you will complete in PHGT 513.

Interprofessional work is the collaborative efforts of professions outside public health disciplines.



Extracurricular activities are a must, not an *extra*

Été Co-curricular Activities

LUPHSA Campus programs (ex. Live Healthy Liberty, Health Fairs) Remedy Conference Public Health Series

Professional memberships (ex. APHA, VAPHA, CCIH) Presentations and attendance at professional meetings Research Week Public Health Conference

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IS A PART OF ALL PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATE PROGRAMMING

COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS!!



Graduate Student Handbook: <u>Please read it!</u> MPH Handbook MSPH Handbook



Email – *must* use your Liberty email address Questions? PHhelper@liberty.edu



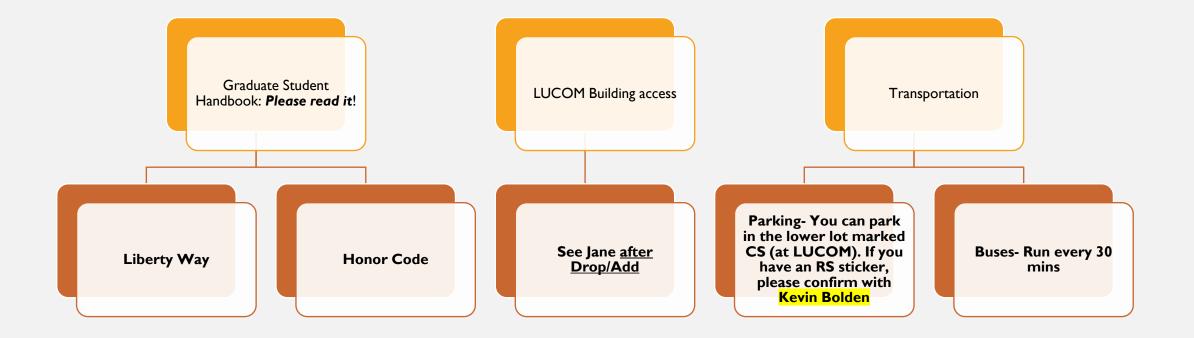
Telephone Department Phone– 434-582-2333 Dr. Graf, Director – 434-592-5985

Dr. Attin, Chair – 434-592-6908



Review your Syllabus and Ask for Office hours for Faculty Review Emails Daily for announcements from Faculty





CHAMPION SAFE (APP)



The Office of Security & Public Safety invites all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to download Liberty's new **Champion Safe** app.

Champion Safe is the primary safety app of Liberty University and includes multiple features to help keep our community safe, such as:

- Crisis Alerts
- Mobile Blue Light
- In-app Tip Reporting
- Location Service Features
- Emergency Plans and Contacts
- Emergency Notifications and Timely Warnings Put your safety into the palm of your hand and download Champion Safe today on the App Store and Google Play.

Office of Security & Public Safety

GET INVOLVED (RESIDENTIAL AND ONLINE STUDENTS)

- Clubs
 Service Opportunities
- Health Fairs
- Public Health Series
- Poverty Simulation
- Public Health Conference
- Department Events

Join LUPHSA!

First meeting on August 27th 6:30-7:30pm at Demoss 1286!



Fall Semester Meetings6:30-7:30pm on...August 27thSeptember 17thOctober 29thNovember 19th

Liberty University Public Health Student Association

Eta Sigma Gamma

Opportunities

- Professional development
- Trainings/certifications
- Collaboration with other students
- Community service
- Committee opportunities : food insecurity, continuing education,



marriage and family

Contact:

Lauren Coco (President) : lecoco@liberty.edu Clara Brola (Vice-President): ckrancourt@liberty.edu Darlene Martin (Faculty Sponsor): dmmartin@liberty.edu

Open to:

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- MPH students who have completed at least 2 semesters in the undergraduate or graduate program (including ALL MSPH and MPH students)
- Cost for the year (member): \$75
 - Provisional member: \$25, only for members who do not have 2 semesters completed.

Want to get involved? Scan the QR code to be sent an invite to our first intro Teams meeting on September 3rd to learn more!





DELTA OMEGA

DELTA OMEGA SOCIETY, EPSILON MU CHAPTER OF THE LIBERTY UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

The purpose of Delta Omega is to promote the excellence of Liberty University Graduate students in the field of Public health who exhibit the commitment of the society by the,"...dedication of an individual to increasing the quality of the field[of public health], as well as to the protection and advancement of the health of all people."

Students qualify for nomination after a full year of academic classes and after meeting all core commitments, excellence in academic achievement, service beyond self, and development of the individual and profession, spiritual & character statements, and devotedness to the practice of the public health profession. Students will be able to self-nominate.

Applications release Once each term- for 30 days in the Fall and for two weeks in the Spring. Watch for Applications after you have been in the program for two terms/1 year!

GET CONNECTED WITH US...

Connect With Us!

Facebook: Liberty University Department of Public and Community Health

Twitter: @Liberty_PCH

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Instagram: @liberty_pch

LinkedIn: Liberty University Department of Public and Community Health

Spotify: LU Department of Public & Community Health

PodBean: LU Department of Public and Community Health

LUPHSA Instagram: @luphsa1971

GATE SYSTEM- APPLIES TO ALL PROGRAMS

GATE I: ADMISSION TO GRADUATE SCHOOL, COMPLETION OF HLTH 501, AND COMPLETION OF PHGT 510 Once students have been accepted for admission and enroll in HLTH 501, they have entered Gate 1.

Students are <u>required</u> to complete HLTH 501 as the first course in preparation to complete the program.

Students will also enroll in and complete the first Gate course, PHGT 510 Public Health Orientation Course.

Students complete Gate1 once they pass PHGT 510 and HLTH 501 with a grade of C or better.

You will be contacted by the Gate Coordinator to be added to the Graduate Public Health Portal after passing HLTH 501.

GATE 2: COMPLETION OF A SEMESTER AND PHGT 512

Gate 2 is completed after the student has fulfilled Gate 1, taken 12 credit hours, and finalized the PHGT 512 Public Health Essay Course. Upon entering Gate 2, students will enroll in PHGT 512 Public Health Essay Course. Each student is asked to write a paper explaining what public health is and how it fits into their career goals (1000 words minimum).

GATE 3: COMPLETION OF PHGT 513

- Students enter Gate 3 upon successfully completing Gate 2 (PHGT 512) by enrolling in PHGT 513, Public Health Portfolio.
 - Establishes a reservoir of key assessments from core classes
 - A student resume/CV
 - Documentation of applied practical experiences and interprofessional experiences
 - Background Check (must be integrated with InPlace)
 - Without a successfully completed portfolio, students will not be allowed to register for MPH-HLTH 698 (practicum) or MSPH-PUBH 689 (applied practical experience)

GATE 4: COMPLETION OF PHGT 514 PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICUM AND COMPETENCY EXAM

- PHGT 513: Public Health Portfolio includes the Competency Exam study guide to help students prepare for the exam, which will be completed in PHGT 514.
- PHGT 514 includes the Competency Exam, resources for the MPH Practicum class 698, or MSPH Applied Practical Experience PUBH 689, and the application process for the Practicum.
- A passing score of 70% is a requirement to register for Practicum. The exam may be taken a **maximum** of 3 times.



GATE 5: COMPLETION OF MPH PRACTICUM

OR

MSPH APPLIED PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

Students must complete all core and concentration courses and PHGT514 (competency exam) before enrolling in the MPH-practicum or MSPH-applied practical experience.

Students are responsible for locating an appropriate practicum to match their degree concentration.

MPH students-120 hours (minimum) over 16 weeks (full semester). MSPH students- 60 hours (minimum) over 16 weeks (full semester).

Must be a predefined project that assists an organization in addressing an unmet need while supporting growth in public health practice skills within the student's concentration

Complete all required documents in InPlace (submit a completed MPH-Practicum or MSPH- Applied Practice Agreement)

Contact the Director of Practicum at <u>PHpracticum@liberty.edu</u> for help with preceptor site approval and registration for MPH-HLTH 698 or MSPH-PUBH 689

GATE 6: APPLY FOR GRADUATION

- MPH students Apply for graduation upon enrollment in HLTH 698 (Practicum) to ensure degree conferral at the end of the course.
- MSPH students apply for graduation while completing both PUBH 689 (Applied Practice Experience) and PUBH 690 (Thesis).
- Refer to the University Registrar's webpage for details.
- You may contact Commencement directly for any questions specific to graduation.

<u>Note</u>: Students may walk in the graduation ceremony with up to 6 outstanding credits. Additionally, there will be an opportunity to apply for department awards if you meet the necessary requirements.



GRACE

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DEPARTMENT EVENTS: LOOKING AHEAD

Fall

- Poverty Simulation October 7, 2024, Montview 3600, 3:00 PM
- Public Health Series September 16, and October 21, 2024, CNS 128 – 10:30 AM
- Wellness Expo, September 17, Montview Alumni Ballroom 10:30am-4pm
- Public Health Panel September 23, 2024, JF Library 001A-B, 10:30 AM
- Nutrition fair November 19, 2024, 9:00 AM – 2:00

Spring

- Public Health Expo February 7, 2025, Montview 3600, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Public Health Conference March 28, 2025, LMCC



NEED ADDITIONAL HELP?

- For additional help from our department, please email us at <u>PHhelper@liberty.edu</u>
- For information on the Gates please email <u>PHgates@liberty.edu</u>
- For information on the Practicum please email <u>PHpracticum@liberty.edu</u>