

UNIT REPORT

Public Health - 01.Reviewer's Report - Academic Data

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Public Health

Public Health Certificate

Mission:

The University of Florida has a threefold mission: teaching, research and service. The College of Public Health and Health Professions embraces the three key elements of the University's mission as they apply to population and individual health: We shape tomorrow's public health and health professionals through dynamic and responsive educational programs, transformational research, groundbreaking discoveries, and equitable health-related service. Our collaborations within the College and beyond advance the breadth of knowledge, the quality of science, and the attainment of professional distinction. The public health certificate is coordinated through the Master of Public Health program whose mission is to train professionals to apply public health skills and evidence-informed approaches to positively contribute to health, health equity, and quality of life of people and populations at the local, national, and global levels. The public health certificate program contributes to the missions of both the University and College. Our faculty teach students critical concepts, essential skills, and new developments in the field. All students learn public health research methods and are encouraged to engage in a variety of volunteer service activities sponsored by public health programs.

Program Type and Level: Certificate – Graduate**Start:** 07/01/2022**End:** 06/30/2023**Program:** Public Health**Program CIP:** 51.2099**Site Information:** Online & Residential**If Other Site:** :**Responsible Roles:**

PG 1 3.0 GPA

Goal:

Our target is to achieve a level of 90% or more students with a 3.0 or greater GPA at the completion of the certificate program.

Program: Public Health**Evaluation Method:**

To determine if this goal is met, we identified all students who completed the certificate program in summer 2022, fall 2022, and spring 2023. We then pulled the cumulative GPA for each of the students examining them individually and as an aggregate. If at least 90% of the students have a GPA of 3.0 or higher, this goal is seen as being met.

Results:

From summer 2022 to spring 2023, we had 13 students complete the Graduate Certificate in Public Health. The breakdown by semester is as follows:

- Summer 2022: 5 students (all online)
- Fall 2022: 6 students (1 campus; 5 online)
- Spring 2023: 2 students (all online)

The 13 students' GPAs ranged from 3.2 to 4.0. The overall average GPA was 3.7. Breakdown by semester is provided in the table below.

| | Summer 2022 (n=5) | Fall 2022 (n=6) | Spring 2023 (n=2) |
|---------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Range | 3.46 to 4.00 | 3.50 to 4.00 | 3.20 to 3.73 |
| Average | 3.874 | 3.76 | 3.465 |

The program goal was met, as all students cumulative certificate GPA was equal to or exceeded 3.0. Our certificate students are performing well.

SLO 1 Knowledge

Outcome: Students will describe and explain the public health essential services.**SLO Area (select one):** Knowledge (Grad)**Assessment Methods Checklist:** Faculty developed examination(s)/test(s)
Qualifying/Comprehensive Examination**Assessment Method Narrative:**

SLO Not Assessed This Year:**Threshold of Acceptability:** 90**How many students did you assess for this outcome?:** 13**How many students met the outcome?:** 13**What percentage of students met the outcome?:** 100**Does this meet your threshold of acceptability?:** Yes**Results:****Direct Assessment**

Upon successful completion of the five courses that comprise the Public Health Certificate, students complete a comprehensive final exam designed to assure that they can describe the 10 Essential Services of Public Health and explain how the service is exemplified in practice. The exam is administered open book and is graded by the program director. There are ten essential Public Health Services. Each student is assigned a random set of five services and asked to address four questions for each service. Three questions relate specifically to the SLO:

1. How is this service delivered in your local community (town, city, county)?
2. Briefly describe (one sentence each) five specific public health skills that are required to provide this service.
3. What are the challenges frequently encountered in delivering this service?

The three questions (for each of the five services) are assessed using the following guidelines:

1. How is this service delivered in your local community (town, city, county)?
 - o 5 points = description is sufficient for assessment and the example is relevant to the denoted service.
 - o 0 points = the example is not relevant to the denoted service.
2. Briefly describe (one sentence each) five specific public health skills that are required to provide this service.
 - o 0.5 points for listing a skill appropriate to the service (2.5 points total)
 - o 0.5 points for brief explanation of the skill (2.5 points total)
3. Briefly describe one or two challenges that are frequently encountered in delivering this service. How can those challenges be overcome?
 - o 5 points for identifying at least one challenge or barrier that is commonly encountered in delivering the service.
 - o 5 points for providing a plausible way to overcome the challenge.

To pass the exam, students must:

- a. receive a score of 3 or higher on a scale of 1 (incorrect)-5 (perfect) for each of these questions per service;
 - o thus students must earn at least 12 points per service (60 points total)
- b. receive a cumulative exam score of 70/100 or higher.

In the 2022-23, 13 out of 13 students scored at least a 12/20 on every exam question; and 25 out of 25 students passed the exam (earning a 70% or higher). Out of the 13 students who completed this exam, 1 was a campus student and 12 were online students.

- 5 in Summer 2022 (0 campus, 5 online)
- 6 in Fall 2022 (1 campus, 5 online)
- 2 in Spring 2023 (0 campus, 2 online)

Indirect Assessment

Students answered a fourth question (for each of the five services) to indirectly assess the outcome:

4. Do you feel competent to deliver this service?

13 out of 13 students successfully answered this question.

Some students stated that they did NOT feel competent to deliver an identified service, despite successfully answering the applied portion of the exam. This also happened with last year's report. Recently, the Master of Public Health program (led by an MPH Curriculum Task Force) completed a full review of the MPH and public health graduate certificate curriculum to examine competency alignment with the core courses. The task force determined that the curriculum is in need of revision. The revisions are currently in progress and will be submitted, when ready, to the College Curriculum Committee and then UF's Academic Approval system. We hope to implement the new curriculum in the 2024-25 academic year.

Programmatic Use of Results

Improvement Types Checklist: Revised one or more existing Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs).

Modified one or more SLO assessment methods.

Modified the program curriculum or curriculum sequence.

Other changes (please describe in your narrative)

Use of Results for Improvement Narrative - Required:

The MPH Program Director and Associate Director reviewed the results with input from the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs. After identifying major limitations during last year's annual review of the certificate program, some changes were warranted.

The courses, exam, and SLO focus on the 10 Essential Public Health Services; however, the education of public health students has shifted to a competency-focus. A designated Task Force has already developed a new curriculum to implement for the public health certificate program (reflecting this practice-based focus), and we are preparing to submit these major revisions to the

college-level curriculum committee. The SLO has also been revised and will be submitted for change approval at the same time as the curriculum. We have revised the SLO to state, "Students will describe how public health competencies are applied in public health settings."

Last, the exam has also been revised removing the focus on the 10 Essential Public Health Services and instead turning to focus on the graduate-level public health competencies and foundational knowledge areas as outlined by the Council for Education in Public Health (CEPH).

Program Results Not Reported This Year:

Program Results Reporting Complete: true

Public Health Graduate Certificate AAP Detail

Providing Department: Public Health

Assessment Cycle:

Analysis and Interpretation: Data is collected every semester (December, April, and August), and is interpreted annually each summer.

Program Modifications: Drafted annually in August/September upon completion of analysis and interpretation.

Dissemination: Disseminated, discussed, and revised annually in September or October with the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs.

| SLO | Year | 17-18 | 18-19 | 19-20 | 20-21 | 21-22 | 22-23 | 23-24 |
|--|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Content Knowledge | | | | | | | |
| SLO 1: Describe and explain the public health essential services | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

SLO Assessment Rubric:

Rubrics were provided in the SLO results section.

Assessment Oversight:

| Name | Department Affiliation | Email Address & Phone Number | |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| Telisha Martin | College of Public Health and Health Professions, Dean's Office | martints@php.ufl.edu 352-273-6444 | Determines student readiness to take the cumulative exam (i.e., check for successful completion of courses) and provides exam instructions |
| Julia Varnes | College of Public Health and Health Professions, Dean's Office | jrvarnes@ufl.edu 352-294-5382 | Grades the cumulative exam; annually evaluates assessment methods. |

Methods and Procedures - Undergraduate and All Certificate Programs:

| SLO | Assessment Method | Measurement Procedure |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| SLO 1: Describe and explain the public health essential services | Final Cumulative Exam | <p>Upon successful completion of the five courses that comprise the Public Health Certificate, the program director administers a final cumulative examination that is composed of essay questions designed to assess the student's ability to explain how the services are applied, including the skills necessary to provide the services, and common barriers seen in the provision of services.</p> <p>The exam is graded by the program director.</p> <p>Students also self-assess their ability to provide each of the services.</p> |

Curriculum Map - Undergraduate Degree Programs:

Research :

There is no research for students in the public health graduate certificate program. However, students are expected to review, discuss, and apply evidence-based approaches as part of their coursework.

SLO Measures - Graduate and Professional Programs:

Direct Assessment

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Indirect Assessment

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4. Do you feel competent to deliver this service?

Assessment Timeline - Graduate and Professional Programs:

| Assessment SLOs | Assessment 1 | Assessment 2 | Assessment 3 | Enter more as needed |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Knowledge | | | | |
| SLO: Describe and explain the public health essential services. | August 2022 | December 2022 | April 2023 | |
| | | | | |