



Master of Public Health

Program Director: Dr. Claire Watson • cwatson@sbu.edu • (716) 375-2163

Preparation for promoting good health

The Master of Public Health program offered by St. Bonaventure's School of Health Professions prepares students for careers as leaders in the public health sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic underscores the importance of disease prevention and the promotion of good health. The Master of Public Health degree equips you with the knowledge to focus on the science of creating and sustaining good health in local communities through education, research and the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

An aging population has created unprecedented demand for dedicated professionals committed to preventing disease and promoting global health. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 15 percent growth in health care jobs over the decade ending in 2029 and the creation of some 2.4 million new jobs.

Graduates of our program are prepared for immediate employment in a number of public health fields, such as community health, health education, health/safety administration, public policy, biostatistics, epidemiology and environmental health.

A unique focus on rural health

Our program takes advantage of the unique characteristics associated with St. Bonaventure's rural campus setting, its Franciscan heritage, and its mission to serve the needs of all citizens, particularly those on the margins of society.

As a small, private, Catholic institution in Western New York's Southern Tier, we focus our program on the specific health concerns of those living in rural environments. These lessons are highly adaptable and will serve our graduates well wherever they choose to work, throughout the country or globally.

Program structure & delivery

Courses are delivered through classroom-based and online instruction. Two 1-credit courses each semester are intensive weekend sessions, each covering one topic, which students attend either on-campus or synchronously online. Students also complete an external public health internship coordinate by the School of Health Professions.

Admission requirements

Applicants to the Master of Public Health program must submit the following:

1. Transcripts from all colleges/universities previously attended
2. Evidence of having earned a Bachelor of Science degree and a minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.0
3. Record of having completed these prerequisite courses: biology, statistics, sociology and psychology
4. A current resume
5. Two letters of recommendation
6. Proof of immunizations

Curriculum & courses

The Master of Public Health is a 42-hour program completed in five consecutive terms, with a new cohort beginning each fall. Courses include:

- MPH 510. Foundations of Public Health in the U.S.
- MPH 511. Biostatistics in Public Health
- MPH 512. Research Methods
- MPH 513. Infectious Disease
- MPH 515. Epidemiology: Principles & Applications
- MPH 516. International Public Health
- MPH 517. Health Promotion for Individuals with IDD
- MPH 518. Nutrition & Food Systems
- MPH 520. Environmental & Occupational Health
- MPH 521. Policy and Ethics in Health Care
- MPH 522. Health Economics
- MPH 530. Rural Public Health

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- MPH 531. Health Promotion: Design & Management
- MPH 532. Social & Behavioral Determinants of Health
- MPH 533. Programming Evaluation
- MPH 540. Public Health Marketing & Communication
- MPH 541. Public Health Leadership
- MPH 542. Interprofessional Education
- MPH 550. Capstone: Introduction
- MPH 551. Capstone to Commencement in PH