B.S. in Public Health

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Program Information

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The Bachelor of Science in public health, offered through the School of Health Professions, provides an opportunity to explore the history and principles of public health, community health, public health leadership, health promotion, multicultural populations, marketing, health informatics, and health policy.

We prepare students to succeed in a public health environment (e.g. community health, health education, health/safety administration) and/or pursue advanced studies in public health, public policy, health administration, biostatistics and epidemiology.

The emphasis is on addressing the health concerns affecting people locally, nationally and worldwide. Our Western New York location provides students with a special opportunity to understand the unique issues and opportunities associated with rural public health.

Program Structure & Delivery

A variety of instructional techniques are utilized to help students build critical social skills during class discussions while also completing online activities that enhance their ability to teach others in digital environments.

Public health majors complete a 150-hour internship, working directly with a public health professional in their chosen area of expertise.

Because public health professionals must constantly and consistently exercise sound judgment and reasoning, our program has a strong ethical component grounded in our Franciscan heritage. We prepare students to be thinking, moral citizens of a global community, inspiring in them a lifelong commitment to service and citizenship.

Student Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the public health program, graduates will be equipped to:

- Describe the origin and evolution of public health, and analyze public health's role in promoting population health worldwide.
- Explain how economic and social issues inform theories and practices related to public health, interpret research, and determine how to implement findings into public health interventions.
- apply knowledge and skills appropriately in program planning and evaluation, and demonstrate effective communication skills.
- employ analytical and critical thinking skills to create solutions for public health problems.
- apply the Franciscan values of dignity and worth for every individual.

High Demand & Satisfaction

Public health offers a broad array of career possibilities that suit many types of people with all sorts of skills. The COVID-19 pandemic underscores the value of professionals committed to helping others and improving society.

Public health careers offer job security, opportunities for growth, and versatility. In addition to being highly impactful, they are very rewarding. Public health professionals are motivated by their mission to improve the welfare of all, with 95% saying the work they do is important and that they are motivated to give their best effort every day.