

*bachelor of arts / bachelor of science*

# PUBLIC HEALTH

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Public Health is dedicated to disease prevention and protection of the public and the environment through diverse health careers. We train future leaders to improve the health of populations and address national and global health challenges.

Beginning your freshman year, you'll work directly with faculty on cutting-edge projects affecting real people. You'll gain valuable hands-on experience, while acquiring distinct public health skills to analyze health needs. We offer two program tracks (Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science) and 4 concentrations (community health, global health, epidemiology and environmental health). You will have the flexibility to create an education that fits your unique interests and career goals.

An education in public health serves as a strong foundation for future careers in health professions and medicine, law and many other fields. You'll develop a broad perspective on disease prevention and health promotion strategies, which are highly valued across a range of organizations.

## BEYOND THE BASICS

- Public Health is one of the fastest growing majors on campus. Students are flocking to public health due to the many career opportunities this major provides.
- Biology, psychology, intelligence studies, environmental science, sustainability studies, social work, data science and business or political science combine well with public health for a career advantage as a leader who solves emerging health issues.
- Study abroad and learn how public health works to keep the world well. Students have recently traveled to Mexico, Haiti, Vietnam, Puerto Rico and Ireland.
- The public health program at Mercyhurst is one of few undergraduate public health degree programs in the country, created to meet high demand.



## CARPE DIEM. SEIZE THE DAY.

## HANDS-ON LEARNING

All classes provide guaranteed opportunities for experiential learning, beginning freshman year. You will work closely with professors in applied research, learning analytic skills to evaluate data, simulate outbreak investigations or create education campaigns to help others, and participate in hands-on projects such as:

- Planning the Heroin Epidemic Town Hall Forum, American Red Cross Blood Drive and Walk the Hurst wellness campaign
- Educating children and adults at the UPMC Hamot Health Fair
- Studying the effects of fracking at oil wells in western Pennsylvania

A unique partnership with the EPA provides for real-world learning in environmental health. The Public Health program provides many opportunities for hands-on learning through our partnership with the Erie County Department of Health, health care providers and other businesses and organizations.

## THE RESULTS

Public health is cited by U.S. News & World Report as one of *11 Hot College Majors that Lead to Jobs*, explaining that "two factors give public health majors rosy prospects: the threat of global epidemics and the part of health reform that focuses on prevention. Students can focus on the scientific aspect of the discipline, the statistical angle or policy." The U.S. is projected to lack a quarter-million public health professionals by 2020.

Doors open to diverse careers such as health education, health policy, infection control, informatics, biostatistics, emergency preparedness and environmental health. Public health physicians, epidemiologists and health care administrators are also in demand.



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