

# Public Health

---

**Description:** Public health focuses on vulnerable populations and uses a proactive, preventive, and group approach to address the health needs of communities (regions, countries, or even the world) that are experiencing health disparities. Public health methods coordinate the work of individuals, organizations, as well as private, government, and public entities. These public health methods are unique from those of other health professions that focus on individuals.

Responding to public health crises is always a concern for large urban centers such as Philadelphia. These public health crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the opioid crisis, affect other areas related to public health, such as the homicide rate and homelessness, and increase the need for public health professionals to focus on the specific needs of city residents.

The AA in Public Health is multi-disciplinary program designed for transfer, with an emphasis on communication (oral and written) and sociology in the context of health and health care. Students will develop a theoretical understanding of group dynamics, learn population-based approaches to health, and analyze the historical and structural factors that create health and health care disparities and impact health. The AA in Public Health also prepares students to advocate for issues they care about within their own communities.

## **Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Examine the philosophy of public health in order to implement its core functions of assessment, communication, program planning, and policy development.
- Recognize surveillance and other research methods used to identify diseases and health problems in affected populations, i.e., communities, regions, countries and or the world.
- Distinguish among the disciplines that comprise public health: epidemiology, biostatistics, policy development/health management, social and behavioral science, and environmental health.
- Analyze the structural and systemic factors (such as racism, classism, and sexism) that cause health care inequalities in affected communities in the United States.
- Advocate for resources and communicate with various stakeholders in public health about public health initiatives within communities, nationally, and globally.

**Program Entry Requirements:** Students are typically required to take the College's placement tests at their time of entry. Students identified as needing developmental course work must satisfactorily complete the appropriate English and mathematics courses as a part of the degree program.

**Program of Study and Graduation Requirements:** To qualify for the A.A. Degree in Public Health, students must complete a minimum of 62 credit hours as prescribed and attain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average and complete all course and credit requirements with no grade below a “C” in any course.

## Course Sequence

Course Number and Name	Prerequisites and Corequisites	Credits	Gen Ed Requirements
<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>			
PH 101 - Introduction to Public Health		3	
ENGL 101 - College Composition I		3	Writing/Research/Info Lit 1
FNMT 118 - Intermediate Algebra or MATH 150 - Introductory Data Analysis*	FNMT 017 or FNMT 019 completed or FNMT 118 (or higher) placement	3	Quantitative Reasoning
AH 101 - Introduction to the Health Care Professions		3	
SOC 101 - Introduction to Sociology		3	Cultural Analysis and Interpretation
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>			
ENGL 102 - The Research Paper	ENGL 101	3	Writing/Research/Info Lit 2
CIS 103 - Computer Applications & Concepts		3	Technological Competency
BIOL 109 - Anatomy and Physiology I		4	Scientific Reasoning
PH 102 - Community Health Education and Promotion	PH 101	3	
SOC 105 - Health and Society		3	
<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>			
MATH 251 - Statistics for Science	FNMT 118 with a grade of “C” or better or MATH 150 with a grade of “C” or better	3	
BIOL 110 - Anatomy and Physiology II	BIOL 109	4	

SOC 231 - Social Problems or SOC 233 - Race, Ethnicity and Social Inequalities	SOC 101 or ANTH 112	3	
ENGL 115 - Public Speaking	ENGL 101, which may be taken concurrently	3	Oral Communication/ Creative Expression
AH 204 - Medical Law and Ethics	ENGL 101	3	
<b>FOURTH SEMESTER</b>			
PH 222 - Health Care Policy and Administration	AH 204 with a grade of C or better	3	
AH 224 - Current Issues and Trends in Health Care	MATH 150 or MATH 251 with a grade of "C" or better	3	
AH 116 - Therapeutic Communication		3	
ENGL 118 - Intercultural Communication	ENGL 101, which may be taken concurrently	3	
PH 226 - Foundations in Public Health Research	PH 101, PH 102, SOC 231 or 233	3	

**Minimum Credits Needed to Graduate: 62**

\*Students should consult an advisor or program faculty before choosing their Quantitative Reasoning course.

**GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:** All general education requirements necessary for graduation are met through the courses in the program as indicated above. Students who wish to take courses that differ from the general education courses indicated above must complete a course substitution request form. To access the form, login to the [MyCCP portal](#), and in the **Student** tab, under **Electronic Forms**, click on the **Records and Registration Forms** link, then choose **Request for Course Substitution of Graduation Requirement** link. A [more detailed explanation](#) of the College's general education requirements is also available.

**For More Information, Contact:** The Division of Math, Science, and Health Careers, Room W1-1, 1700 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130, Telephone (215) 751-8430 or the College Information Center (215) 751-8010.

## I. Courses and Completion Sequence

The following courses and sequence of courses is designed for the optimal success and completion of the Public Health degree/certificate. Any alterations should be discussed with your academic advisor.

### Semester 1

<b>Course Number and Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Advisory Notes</b>	<b>Course Type</b>
PH 101 - Introduction to Public Health	3 credits	Prereq for PH 102 and PH 226	Major Course
ENGL 101 - College Composition I	3 credits	Prereq for ENGL 102, must earn a C or better, ENGL 115, ENGL 118, and AH 204	Writing/Research/Info Lit 1
FNMT 118 - Intermediate Algebra or MATH 150 - Introductory Data Analysis	3 credits	Prereq for MATH 251, must earn a C or better, and AH 224  Students should consult an advisor or program faculty before choosing their Quantitative Reasoning course.	Quantitative Reasoning
AH 101 - Introduction to the Health Care Professions	3 credits		First-Year Experience Course
SOC 101 - Introduction to Sociology	3 credits	Prereq for SOC 231	Cultural Analysis and Interpretation

### Semester 2

<b>Course Number and Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Advisory Notes</b>	<b>Course Type</b>
ENGL 102 - The Research Paper	3 credits		Writing/Research/Info Lit 2
CIS 103 - Computer Applications & Concepts	3 credits		Technological Competency
BIOL 109 - Anatomy and Physiology I	4 credits	Prereq for BIOL 110	Scientific Reasoning
PH 102 - Community Health	3 credits	Prereq for PH 226	Major Course
SOC 105 - Health and Society	3 credits		Major Course

## Semester 3

Course Number and Name	Credits	Advisory Notes	Course Type
MATH 251 - Statistics for Science	3	Prereq for AH 224	
BIOL 110 - Anatomy and Physiology II	4		
SOC 231 - Social Problems or SOC 233 - Race, Ethnicity and Social Inequalities	3	Prereq for PH 226	Advanced Sociology Course
ENGL 115 - Public Speaking	3	ENGL 101 may be taken concurrently with ENGL 115	Oral Communication/ Creative Expression
AH 204 - Medical Law and Ethics	3	Prereq for PH 222, with a grade of C or better	Major Course

## Semester 4

Course Number and Name	Credits	Advisory Notes	Course Type
PH 222 - Health Care Policy and Administration	3		Major Course
AH 224 - Current Issues and Trends in Health Care	3		Major Course
AH 116 - Therapeutic Communication	3		Communication Course
ENGL 118 - Intercultural Communication	3	ENGL 101 may be taken concurrently with ENGL 118	Communication Course
PH 226 - Foundations PH Research	3	PH 101, PH 102, SOC 231 or 233	Major Course

**GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:** All general education requirements necessary for graduation are met through the courses in the program as indicated above. Students who wish to take courses that differ from the general education courses indicated above must complete a course substitution request form. To access the form, login to the [MyCCP portal](#), and in the **Student** tab, under **Electronic Forms**, click on the **Records and Registration Forms** link, then choose **Request for Course Substitution of Graduation Requirement** link. A [more detailed explanation](#) of the College's general education requirements is also available.