HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH, POLICY & ADMINISTRATION PhD

The Health Services Research, Policy & Administration (HSRPA) PhD program prepares students for careers as researchers and teachers in the public health field. Students engage in a multidisciplinary examination of the social, political, and economic forces that affect the organization, financing, and delivery of health care. Students must complete 72 to 89 credits, depending on the area of emphasis.

CORE REQUIREMENTS
34 CREDITS
PubH 6250* Foundations of Public Health (2 cr)
PubH 6735 Principles of Public Health Policy (3 cr)
PubH 6742 Ethics in Public Health: Research & Policy (1 cr)
PubH 6832 Economics of the Health Care System (3 cr)
PubH 6855 Medical Sociology (3 cr)
PubH 7401 Fund of Biostatistical Inference (4 cr) and PubH 7402 Biostatistical Modeling & Methods (4 cr)
PubH 8341 Advanced Epidemiological Methods (3 cr)
PubH 8801 Health Services Policy Analysis (1 cr)
PubH 8810 Research Studies in Health Care (3 cr)
PubH 8811 Research Methods in Health Care (3 cr)
PubH 8830 Writing for Research (2 cr)
PubH 8831 Writing for Research (2 cr)

*Required for students who do not have an MPH, a bachelor’s degree in Public Health or a Minor in Public Health.

THESIS CREDITS
PubH 8888 Thesis Credits (24 cr)

AREAS OF EMPHASIS
Students work closely with their advisor on area of emphasis to develop a program tailored to their needs and interests.

CLINICAL OUTCOMES RESEARCH
Focuses on clinical care, costs and outcomes. Research may be conducted using observational (quasi-experimental) studies, randomized clinical trials or analyses of secondary data sets, including administrative data to expand understanding of how to measure outcomes of health care. Minimum 89 credits required.

HEALTH DECISION SCIENCE
Develops students to use and understand a variety of quantitative methods to evaluate decision making under uncertainty: decision analysis, meta-analysis, predictive modeling, disease simulation modeling, cognitive psychology, shared decision making, quality-of-life assessment, utility elicitation, health outcomes assessment, cost-effectiveness analysis, health economics, pharmaco-economics, technology assessment, evidence-based medicine, medical informatics, and discrete event simulation. Minimum 81 credits required.

HEALTH ECONOMICS
Trains health economists through a broad menu of health economics courses, in addition to the multidisciplinary core courses. Minimum 81 credits required.

HEALTH POLICY AND ANALYSIS
Prepares students for careers in research, teaching, and public service in academic, governmental and public policy settings. Includes multidisciplinary training in the social sciences, application of quantitative research methods, rigorous writing and communication skill-based training. Students receive the core doctoral-level training in health services research with an emphasis on US health policy and applied policy analysis. Minimum 72 credits required.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY SOCIAL SCIENCES
Teaches a broad introduction to analytic perspectives from economics, sociology and political science. Minimum 78 credits required.

SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS
Concentrates on fundamental issues of medical sociology, social stratification, the social construction of health and illness, population dynamics, and demographic forces. A supporting program in this field prepares students for research focused on how social structures, organizations and relationships shape the experience of health and illness. Minimum 76 credits required.