

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Public health is working to protect the environment, identifying sources of illness in population groups, controlling disease outbreaks, evaluating the economic impacts of changing demographics, developing interventions to promote healthy behavior, and producing health policy legislation. Public health draws from a broad array of disciplines, such as the social and behavioral sciences, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy, business, economics, statistics, epidemiology, law and biology, and each provide unique insights for the diverse set of activities involved in public health practice.

Two options are available for the undergraduate major in Public Health: Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS). Students in the BA program develop a specialty in the social sciences and public health. After completion of the program students will have a broad background that will serve as the foundation for a variety of career paths, such as immediate entry into public health positions, background training for a professional school such as law school, or the pursuit of an advanced degree such as a master's or PhD in the social sciences.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) supports students to graduation using a shared advising system. CLAS students have two academic advisors with whom they should meet regularly to discuss academic and degree progress: a CLAS Academic Advisor and a major/faculty advisor.

For questions related to CU Denver Core Curriculum, CLAS, general graduation requirements, university/college academic policies, or campus resources contact:

CLAS Academic Advising

clas_advising@ucdenver.edu

Find your CLAS Advisor [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) Building 1030

303-315-7100

For questions related to major requirements, major course prerequisites, or evaluation of transfer coursework in your major contact:

PBHL Advising

PBHLAdvisors@ucdenver.edu

Visit the department website [here](#)

North Classroom (NC) 3029

303-315-7151

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

All CU Denver CLAS students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements to be eligible to apply for graduation:

1. Complete a minimum of 120 semester hours
2. Achieve a minimum 2.0 CU cumulative grade point average (GPA)
3. Complete a minimum of 45 upper-division (3000- to 4000-level) semester hours
4. Complete all CU Denver Core, CLAS, and major requirements
5. Complete a minimum of 30 CLAS hours at CU Denver

*The following are **maximum** semester hours that can apply toward the minimum 120 hours required for graduation:*

- 56 semester hours in major department/prefix courses
- 16 semester hours Pass/Fail
- 12 semester hours of Independent Study/Directed Research
- 12 semester hours of internship credit
- 8 semester hours of physical education credit

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the major/faculty advisor in the department to confirm major requirements. In addition to completing all CU Denver Core and CLAS requirements, students completing the Public Health B.A. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a total of 43 credit hours, including a minimum of 29 PBHL credit hours and a minimum of 14 credit hours in ancillary (supporting science) coursework.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 16 upper-division (3000-level and above) credit hours in the major.
3. Students must achieve a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all courses applied to major requirements.
4. Students must complete all major courses, including ancillary courses, taken at CU Denver and all transfer courses applying to major requirements with a minimum grade of C-(1.7). Students cannot complete major or ancillary course requirements as pass/fail.
5. Students must complete a minimum of 26 PBHL credit hours with CU Denver faculty. Students must complete PBHL 3020, 3001, 3030, 3070, 4040 and 4099 with CU Denver faculty.

LYNX CONNECT RESOURCES

Are you interested in learning about internship, study abroad, career, and research opportunities for this major? Visit the CU Denver Lynx Connect, located in Tivoli Student Union (TV) Suite 339, and browse the Lynx Connect [website](#) for more information.

Degree Requirements	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34 - 40	CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements
CLAS Graduation Requirements	15 - 29	CLAS Graduation Requirements
PBHL Major Requirements	43	<i>16 semester hours must be upper-division</i>
PBHL Required Courses		
PBHL 2001 Introduction to Public Health	4	<i>Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Social Science</i>
PBHL 3020 Introduction to Environmental Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: C- or higher in PBHL2000 or 2001</i>
PHBL 3001 Introduction to Epidemiology	4	<i>*Prerequisite: C or higher in MATH1110 is recommended</i>
PBHL 3030 Health Policy	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 with C or higher</i>
PBHL 3070 Perspectives in Global Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 with C or higher</i>
PBHL 4040 Social Determinants of Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 with C or higher</i>
PBHL 4099 Capstone Experience in Public Health	3	<i>*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 and all or all but one of PBHL 2020, PBHL 3001, PBHL 3030, PBHL 3070, PBHL 4040 with a C or better. Students must enroll in remaining course with PBHL 4099.</i>
Complete One of the following Quantitative Methods Courses:		
ANTH 4050 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology or BIOL 3763 Biostatistics or MATH 2830 Introductory Statistics or MATH 4830 Applied Statistics or PSYC 2090 Statistics and Research Methods	3 - 4	<i>*Check individual courses for prerequisites.</i>
PBHL Major Electives	9	<i>*See department for approved courses; two must be PBHL electives</i>
Biological Science Ancillary Courses		
Complete two of the following Ancillary Courses: BIOL 1550 Basic Biology: Ecology and the Diversity of Life BIOL 1560 Basic Biology: From Cells to Organisms ANTH 1303 Introduction to Biological Anthropology OR Complete all of the following: BIOL 2051 & 2071 General Biology I with lab and BIOL 2061 & 2081 General Biology II with lab	8	<i>Courses can fulfill CU Denver Core Natural/Physical Sciences (if associated labs are completed)</i>
Estimated General Electives	8 - 28	<i>General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.</i>
Total Minimum Program Hours:	120	<i>45 semester hours must be upper-division</i>

SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double-majors.

Year One	Fall	CRS	Year One	Spring	CRS
	ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3		ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
	CU Denver Core Mathematics – MATH 2830 <i>recommended</i>	3		CU Denver Core Humanities	3
	PBHL 2001 ^C	4		PBHL 3020 ^{PE}	3
	CU Denver Core Arts / First-Year Seminar	3		CU Denver Core Behavioral Science	3
	Total Credit Hours	13		Total Credit Hours	15
Year Two	Fall	CRS	Year Two	Spring	CRS
	Approved PBHL Elective	3		PBHL 3001 ^{PR}	4
	CLAS Communicative Skills	3		CU Denver Core Science without lab	3
	Biol Science Ancillary Course with lab	4		CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
	General Elective	3		CLAS Behavioral Science	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3		Upper-Division General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours	16		
Year Three	Fall	CRS	Year Three	Spring	CRS
	PHBL 3030 ^{PE}	3		PBHL 3070 ^{PE}	3
	CU Denver Core International Perspectives ^M	3		Approved Upper-Division PBHL Elective	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester I	5		CLAS Foreign Language Semester II	5
	Quantitative Methods Course	4		CLAS Humanities	3
	Total Credit Hours	15		Total Credit Hours	14
Year Four	Fall	CRS	Year Four	Spring	CRS
	PBHL 4040 ^{PE}	3		PBHL 4099 ^{PE}	3
	Approved Upper-Division PBHL Elective	3		Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Biol Science Ancillary Course with lab	4		Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3		Upper-Division General Elective	3
	Upper-Division General Elective	3		General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	16	Total Credit Hours	15		

^M Major Course Available ^C CU Denver Core Course ^{PE} Prerequisite Enforced ^{PR} Prerequisite Recommended