

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 BS program develop a specialty in the natural 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.S. Degree are required to complete the following minimum program requirements:

1. Students must complete a total of 73 credit hours, including a minimum of 26 PBHL credit hours and a minimum of 47 credit hours in ancillary (supporting math and 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.
6. Intro Experimental Physics labs I and II (PHYS 2321 and PHYS 2341) are specifically designed for students in non-Physics majors and can be paired with either College Physics (PHYS 2010 and PHYS 2020) or General Physics (PHYS 2311 and PHYS 2331) lectures. Students pursuing a second major in Physics should complete General Physics lectures (PHYS 2311 and PHYS 2331) and Applied Physics Labs (PHYS 2351 and PHYS 2361).

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	73	16 semester hours must be upper-division
PBHL Required Courses		
PBHL 2001 Introduction to Public Health	4	Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Social Science
PBHL 3020 Introduction to Environmental Health	3	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in PBHL 2000 or 2001
PHBL 3001 Introduction to Epidemiology	4	*Prerequisite: C or higher in MATH 1110 is recommended
PBHL 3030 Health Policy	3	*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 with C or higher
PBHL 3070 Perspectives in Global Health	3	*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 with C or higher
PBHL 4040 Social Determinants of Health	3	*Prerequisite: PBHL 2000 or 2001 with C or higher
PBHL 4099 Capstone Experience in Public Health	3	*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.
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	*Check individual courses for prerequisites
PBHL Major Electives	6	*See department for approved courses; one must be a PBHL elective
Complete All of the following Ancillary Courses		
MATH1401 Calculus I	4	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in MATH 1109, 1070, or 1110 and MATH 1120; or C- or higher in MATH 1130; or C- or higher in MATH 1401; or entry into the MA01 Student Group OR ALEKS PPL score 76-100. Course can fulfill CU Denver Core Mathematics
BIOL 2051 & 2071: General Biology I and Laboratory	4	*Prerequisite: High School chemistry or CHEM 1000 recommended
BIOL 2061 & 2081: General Biology II and Laboratory	4	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in BIOL 2051 or 2095 and BIOL 2071 or 2096
CHEM 2031 & 2038: General Chemistry I and Laboratory	4	*Prerequisite: MATH 1110 and High School chemistry or CHEM 1000 recommended
CHEM 2061 & 2068: General Chemistry II and Laboratory	5	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in CHEM 2031 or 2081 and 2038 or 2088
CHEM 3411 & 3418: Organic Chemistry I and Laboratory	5	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in CHEM 2061 or 2091 and 2068 or 2098
CHEM 3421 & 3428: Organic Chemistry II and Laboratory	5	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in CHEM 3411 or 3481
PHYS 2010 & 2321 College Physics I & Intro Experimental Phys Lab I and PHYS 2020 & 2341 College Physics II & Intro Experimental Phys Lab II or PHYS 2311 & 2321 General Physics I & Intro Experimental Phys Lab I and PHYS 2331 & 2341 General Physics II & Intro Experimental Phys Lab II	10	*Prerequisite: C- or higher in PHYS 2010 or 2311 (for 2020) *Prerequisite: MATH 1401 for PHYS 2311 *Prerequisite: C- or higher in PHYS 2311 and MATH 2411 (for 2331) *Prerequisite: C- or higher in PHYS 2030, 2321, or 2351 with (for 2341)
Estimated General Electives	0	General Elective credits will vary based on Core & CLAS Requirements. Consult with CLAS Advisor.
Total Minimum Program Hours:	120	45 semester hours must be upper-division

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) 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 Behavioral Science / First-Year Seminar	3		CU Denver Core Humanities	3
	CHEM 2031 and CHEM 2038 ^C	4		CHEM 2061 and CHEM 2068 ^{PE C}	5
	PHYS 2010 and PHYS 2321 ^C	5		PHYS 2020 and PHYS 2341 ^C	5
	Total Credit Hours	15		Total Credit Hours	16
Year Two	Fall	CRS	Year Two	Spring	CRS
	CHEM 3411 ^{PE} and CHEM 3418 ^{PE}	5		CHEM 3421 ^{PE} and CHEM 3428 ^{PE}	5
	BIOL 2051 and BIOL 2071 ^C	4		BIOL 2061 and BIOL 2081 ^C	4
	PBHL 2001 ^C	4		PBHL 3020 ^{PE}	3
	MATH 1401 ^{PE}	4		CLAS Communicative Skills (Upper-Division)	3
	Total Credit Hours	17		Total Credit Hours	15
Year Three	Fall	CRS	Year Three	Spring	CRS
	CU Denver Core Arts	3		PBHL 3030 ^{PE}	3
	PBHL 3001 ^{PR}	4		CU Denver Core International Perspectives ^M	3
	CLAS Foreign Language Semester I	5		CLAS Foreign Language Semester II	5
	CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3		Quantitative Methods Course	3-4
	Total Credit Hours	15		Total Credit Hours	14-15
Year Four	Fall	CRS	Year Four	Spring	CRS
	PBHL 3070 ^{PE}	3		PBHL 4099 ^{PE}	3
	PBHL 4040 ^{PE}	3		Approved Upper-Division PBHL Elective	3
	Approved Upper-Division PBHL Elective	3		CLAS Humanities (Upper-Division)	3
	CLAS Behavioral Science (Upper-Division)	3		Upper-Division General Elective	3
	General Elective	3		Upper-Division General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	15	Total Credit Hours	15		

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