

PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

Students in the Public and Community Health Program (<https://www.bethel.edu/undergrad/academics/community-health/>) develop the ability to understand, analyze, problem-solve, and communicate effectively in a complex, rapidly changing world. Students learn how to promote health and wellness through improved health literacy, attitudes, skills, and behaviors. As a result of their preparation, they are able to positively influence health behaviors and disease prevention in order to improve the health status of individuals, families, communities, states, and the nation. The interdisciplinary liberal arts perspective of this community health curriculum prepares students to act as informed and engaged community members and leaders. Courses emphasize prevention and management of injury and disease, emotional health and overall wellbeing, health promotion skill-building, epidemiology, and theories of health behavior. The Public and Community Health program prepares students for careers in county and state public health departments, private health agencies, hospitals, health clinics, nonprofit agencies, and with community organizations. Graduates may also be able to pursue additional training/education in various allied health professions, including accelerated bachelor of science nursing (BSN) programs. Completion of the community health major establishes eligibility to sit for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) examination.

Programs in Public and Community Health

Major:

B.A. in Public and Community Health (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/academic-programs/college-of-health-sciences/undergraduate-programs/public-and-community-health/public-and-community-health-ba/>)

Minor:

Minor in Public and Community Health (<https://catalog.bethel.edu/academic-programs/college-of-health-sciences/undergraduate-programs/public-and-community-health/public-and-community-health-minor/>)

CHL 110 • Introduction to Healthcare 2 Credits

An introduction to various health professions and the healthcare system in the United States. Emphasis on understanding the healthcare system, current issues in healthcare, and healthcare career paths. Development of healthcare literacy and navigating healthcare culture. Students examine education, training and licensure and/or certification requirements for potential careers.

Offered: Fall, Spring.

CHL 212L • Public and Community Health in the 21st Century 4 Credits

Analyze the impact of historical health events on public and community health practice in contemporary America. Evaluate how roles and responsibilities have evolved into the current public and community health system. Examine the community and public health policy process at organizational and governmental levels.

Prerequisites: GES 130 and GES 160 (may be taken concurrently) or GES 149 (may be taken concurrently).

Offered: Spring.

CHL 314 • Foundations, Administration, and Evaluation of Health Education 4 Credits

Introduces the health education and health promotion professions, including historical, philosophical, and theoretical foundations of health education. Explores theories of behavior change, the responsibilities of health educators, and investigates career opportunities. Examines the theoretical and practical basis for planning, implementing, administering, and evaluating health education programs.

Prerequisites: CHL 212L. Offered: Spring.

Public and Community Health 2

CHL 318 • Epidemiology 4 Credits

Introduces the history, philosophy and methodology of epidemiology to identify, prevent, and control disease and health-related conditions in populations. Students collect, interpret, and communicate epidemiologic data and study results.

Prerequisites: CHL 212L. Offered: Fall, even # years.

CHL 345 • Disease Prevention and Epidemiology 4 Credits

Analysis of chronic and chronic infectious diseases, and injuries from personal, societal, and global perspectives. Focuses on the prevention, identification, and control of diseases and injuries. Examines the relationship of health promotion and lifestyle to disease and injury.

Prerequisites: CHL 212L. Offered: Fall.

CHL 493 • Public and Community Health Internship I 2 Credits

Applies academic knowledge and professional skills to achieve personal and professional goals in a 90-hour, practical, off-campus experience. The faculty instructor must approve the site during the semester before the internship. An on-line seminar meets regularly with the Bethel faculty instructor and student peers to process internship experiences and assignments.

Prerequisites: CHL 314; Major in public and community health; Consent of instructor. Offered: Fall, Spring.

Special Notes: Course is graded on an S/U basis.

CHL 494 • Public and Community Health Internship II 4 Credits

Applies academic knowledge and professional skills to achieve personal and professional goals in a 180-hour, practical, off-campus experience. The faculty instructor must approve the site during the semester before the internship. An on-line seminar meets regularly with the Bethel faculty instructor and student peers to process internship experiences and assignments.

Prerequisites: CHL 314; CHL 493. Offered: Fall, Spring. Special Notes: This course is graded on an S/U basis.