Does your organization seek the assistance and contributions of bright, motivated Master of Public Health (MPH) students who are eager to contribute and bring fresh ideas and energy to your programs and projects? Our students have interpersonal, leadership, and teamwork skills that enable them to take initiative and make substantial contributions to your programs and projects!

Overview
The Public Health Program at Touro University California (TUC) is committed to the ongoing development of successful partnerships with public health practice agencies and organizations in order to support the education and public health training of its MPH students. The Public Health Field Study is required of all TUC MPH students and provides them with practical experience in a public health setting. The Field Study provides invaluable real-world, practical exposure, experience, and mentorship to our students. Students gain knowledge, skills, confidence, and relationships that enhance their academic training, professional development, and effectiveness. Read more at our website.

The TUC Public Health Program is well-represented by a student population with a diversity of experience through current enrollment in its MPH Degree Program, the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)/MPH and Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)/MPH Dual Degree programs, and the Joint Master of Science in Physician Assistants Studies/MPH Program. More information about these dual and joint degrees is available at our Dual & Joint Degrees webpage.

Organizations find that offering field study placements to TUC MPH students is well worth the investment of time and energy, and that the experience of providing mentorship to our students is greatly beneficial.

Course Description
The Public Health Fieldwork Study Course is required of all MPH students and is a structured and practical supervised professional experience in an approved public health setting allowing for the application and integration of the skills and knowledge acquired during their graduate didactic coursework.

As a working partnership between students and the public health practice organization, this course provides a public health fieldwork experience for MPH students which can be conducted either locally or abroad.

The practical skills and the knowledge gained in field work at public health practice agencies/organization are essential to students’ academic and professional growth, preparing them for a professional career in the field of public health.

The students’ work in the field study projects should be valued by the organization and contribute to meeting the organization's goals or mission.

Field study projects must address a community health issue and student participation should contribute to strategic resolutions.

Learning Objectives
Through the field study, students MPH students will be able to:

- Integrate public health theory, knowledge and skills in a practice setting;
- Complete a defined project(s) in an area of public health practice including core public health functions such as a needs assessment, program planning, program evaluation, policy development, educational campaign, applied research project;
- Exhibit proficiency in at least one of the following areas: program planning, needs assessment and data gathering, program implementation, applied research, program evaluation, policy analysis, or data analysis under the guidance of an experienced preceptor;
- Demonstrate competence in a public health practice setting; and
- Demonstrate leadership, teamwork, communication skills, and creativity in the development of a public health practice activity.
Public Health Competencies
The Public Health Field Study must address three to five (3-5) of the core public health competencies (Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health Science, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavioral Sciences); one (1) cross-cutting competency, and three (3) track competencies (community or global health). These competencies can be found online at http://cehs.tu.edu/publichealth/curriculum/competencies.html.

To qualify as an approved field study site, the agency/organization must:

- Provide public health related planning, research and/or services;
- Have one or more staff on site with a graduate credential in public health or equivalent professional experience and education who will serve as a designated preceptor;
- Offer opportunities for students to be exposed to a variety of organizational departments and individuals, functions and or tasks;
- Offer responsibilities to students that are relevant and appropriate to the their individual field study learning goals and professional development;
- Provide necessary access to data and program materials for students to conduct their projects;
- Have adequate organizational support and capability for students to successfully complete field study activities onsite;
- Provide direct and regular supervision for students throughout the placement;
- Provide a minimum of 10-12 weeks (equivalent to 400-420 hours) of public health field work experience for Independent MPH students and 6 weeks for dual and joint degree students.

Placement Dates:

*MPH joint degree students conduct the field study over 6-week blocks during fixed dates in the spring semesters.

To register as a new field study site, please visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TUCPHFieldStudySiteRegistration

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