PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

- Master of Public Health (MPH)
  - Community Health
  - Global Health

- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Dual Degree

- Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Dual Degree

- Joint Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MSPAS)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree

EDUCATING CARING PROFESSIONALS TO SERVE, TO LEAD, TO TEACH
Vision

Social justice as a framework for reducing health disparities in local and global communities.

Mission Statement

*It is the Touro University California Public Health Program’s mission to promote the health and well-being of local and global communities through education, service, and research with a focus on underserved populations. This mission is achieved by employing a multidimensional program of study that combines a broad public health base with specific training in two specialty tracks: Community Health and Global Health.*

**PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM**

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Change Your Community...
Change Your World!

According to the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (of which TUC is a member), 250,000 additional public health professionals are needed by the year 2020, while more than 100,000 are currently eligible for retirement. Additionally, public health threats, such as chronic and globally spread infectious diseases, have grown exponentially in the last few decades, resulting in a rising demand for public health professionals. In response to the critical need for well-trained public health professionals, the Public Health Program at Touro University California offers the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree. Faculty train students academically and professionally, providing them with the expertise to become leaders in managing the current and emerging public health challenges of populations locally and abroad.

The MPH degree is a widely recognized graduate and professional degree that leads to career advancement in the field of public health. Public health graduates fill crucial roles as advisors, policy and research analysts, and public health specialists in a variety of settings.

Accreditation

The MPH Program received full accreditation in October 2009 from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). CEPH accreditation is not only a marker of program quality, but certain professional positions and fellowships are only open to those with degrees from CEPH-accredited programs. The next accreditation review by CEPH is scheduled for October 2014. TUC is fully accredited by the Western Association the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The WASC Commission reaffirmed Institutional Accreditation on July 13, 2010 after a three stage review which demonstrated core commitments to Institutional Capacity and Educational Effectiveness. The next accreditation review is scheduled for October 2014.

Curriculum

The MPH Degree Program requires a 42-unit curse of study, encompassing 15 units in the five core disciplines of public health: Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health Science, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavioral Sciences. Students gain depth through:

- 10 units of coursework in a chosen specialized public health track (Community Health or Global Health);
- an additional 10 units of elective coursework;
- 4 units of the Public Health Field Study and;
- 3 units of the Capstone Course.

The MPH can be completed within approximately two years of full-time study and five years via part-time study. Classes are offered Monday through Thursday during the evenings.
Community Health Track

The Community Health Track of the MPH Program at Touro University California provides students with a broad-based foundation in the fundamentals of public health. The Community Health Track is designed for those who are most interested in working for organizations that support and promote public health, including state public health departments, hospitals, managed care organizations, local and federal government agencies, community health organization, research and academic institutions, philanthropic and voluntary health agencies, and non-profit organizations.

The main objectives of the Community Health Track are to:

- Prepare individuals for careers in community and public health organizations, within the framework of legal, ethical, moral and professional standards.
- Prepare students to identify the environmental, psychological, social, biological, and public policy factors that shape the health of individuals and populations.
- Prepare students to take action to ameliorate the factors that negatively influence health status and promote those that are health-enhancing.
- Prepare students to respond to the health needs of communities, especially those communities that face unique vulnerabilities.

These core components of public health are complimented with the following courses that provide specialized tools for assessing and addressing the health needs of the public:

- Health Education and Promotion;
- Health Disparities & Community Organizing;
- Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment;
- Research Methodology
COMMUNITY HEALTH CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A number of rewarding career opportunities are available for graduates of the Public Health Program Community Health Track. Graduates complete the program with knowledge and skills that are adaptable to many settings including:

**Government Agencies:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, and State, County, and City Departments of Health.

**Voluntary Health Agencies:** Voluntary health agencies include such major organizations as the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, and the American Lung Association, as well as other, community-based health advocacy organizations.

**Health Care Settings:** Graduates may work in a variety of settings, such as community health clinics and hospitals focused on disease prevention and health promotion.

“The Community Health Track in the MPH Program at Touro University California provided me with the knowledge and resources necessary for working in low income communities in regard to preventative health, inducing behavior change and advocating for healthy built environments.”

Julie Tolentino, MPH, Community Health Track, Class of 2012
Network for a Healthy California, Los Angeles Region
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Global Health Track

The Touro University Public Health Program Global Health Track prepares students to be effective leaders and advocates for global health. Our curriculum reflects the current realities of health around the world and reinforces the links between countries at different stages of economic development. Through practical work in complex international settings, students gain an understanding of global health including the challenges, the complexity of the solutions, and the role of global health professionals as agents of change.

The main objectives of the Global Health Track are to:

• Build capacity by ensuring that students who graduate from the global health concentration have the understanding, knowledge and ability to work on global health issues;
• Enable students to produce high quality collaborative research with partners in middle and low income countries to identify possible solutions to health problems in these settings;
• Study the international community, local government and civil society contribution to global health solutions and to raise awareness and promote global health perspectives.
GLOBAL HEALTH CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Industrialization, global trade, urbanization, migration, and environmental modifications have ecological impacts which are changing our planet profoundly. As a result, global disease trends are changing rapidly in many countries and new opportunities in national and international health agencies will be created to respond to these profound changes.

JOB SETTINGS

- Federal agencies: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States Agency for International Development;
- Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs);
- State agencies;
- Immigrant and migrant health services;
- Philanthropic organizations;
- Research & academic institutions

PRINCIPLE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Plan international health programs;
- Design intervention strategies for disease prevention;
- Supervise health intervention;
- Design evaluation strategies;
- Provide consultative services;
- Guide strategic planning
Culminating Experience: Public Health Field Study

For the Culminating Experience, MPH students are required to complete a 400-hour field study in a public health setting that integrates core skills and knowledge acquired during the Program’s didactic phase. The Public Health Program has successfully developed collaborations with local departments of health, community organizations and non-governmental organizations engaged in public health activities. These partnerships provide our students many sites from which to gain field study experience.

MPH students in the Community Health Track are required to conduct their field studies domestically under the guidance of site preceptors and course coordinators at affiliated organizations. The field study provides students with an enhanced understanding about how ideas concerning the promotion of health and well-being are translated into programs of action that benefit communities.

Students in the Global Health track are required to conduct their field studies at one of the following three international sites under the guidance of site preceptors and course coordinators: Bolivia, Cambodia, and Ethiopia.

**CULMINATING EXPERIENCE: CAPSTONE COURSE**

The Public Health Field Study is followed by the Capstone Course — the integration of coursework and field experience. Students may choose either an applied research project, consisting of a formal written manuscript and an oral presentation, or a comprehensive exam demonstrating their mastery and ability to integrate and apply core public health principles to issues that may confront public health professionals.
Admissions Requirements

In addition to a Bachelor's Degree from a regionally accredited college or university, candidates for admission to the Public Health Program are required to submit an Application for Admission, official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended showing proof of a Bachelor's Degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75, three letters of recommendation, and a C.V./resume. No GRE is required. International graduates must submit official transcript evaluations. The 2013-2014 tuition fees (42 Credit/Units) are $735/unit. For more details visit http://cehs.tu.edu/publichealth/prospective.

Summer Application Deadline: April 15
Fall Application Deadline: July 15

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available for qualified students. Students begin the process of applying for financial assistance by completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA application is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. The nature and type of financial aid available will vary according to individual needs. For additional information on financial aid, please visit http://studentservices.tu.edu/financialaid/.

“My experience with the MPH Program at Touro University California has been instrumental in my decisions to continue with academic ambitions to become a physician and to pursue clinical/translational research opportunities. The faculty understands the importance of a solid educational foundation and real world practicum by motivating students to engage in efforts and experiences outside of the university. With a foundation from courses like health disparities in the community and health promotion and education, and collaborations with the local community, students leave the program prepared to contribute and affect positive change.”

Lan Doan, MPH, Community Health Track, Class of 2012
Clinical Research Coordinator, Stanford University
The Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Dual Degree at Touro University California trains students concurrently enrolled in the College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) to assume leadership roles in population-based care and to incorporate prevention in their clinical practices. The discipline of osteopathic medicine – with its traditional emphasis on treating the whole person, education, and prevention – is particularly well-suited to complement public health in its mission to improve knowledge and change behavior and environments on a large scale.

**WHY A DUAL DEGREE?**

- Increased knowledge of and sensitivity to the political, historical, economic and social environments of health promotion and health services delivery;
- Increased capacity to incorporate preventive practices into care of individual patients;
- Greater knowledge in the area of health policy and management;
- Opportunities for physicians who want to initiate change in managed health care, hospitals, and acute care centers;
- Skills in planning, implementation, and evaluation of interventions to improve the health of a population;
- Ability to investigate outbreaks of disease or symptoms in a population

As I am now at the start of my practice as a resident physician, my combined DO/MPH degree from Touro has given me the skills, knowledge, and experience to not only deliver health care to individuals, but to also incorporate promoting health and providing services at the community level. Further, the faculty and overall learning environment at Touro constantly encouraged me and supported me in working towards achieving my goals.

Mayron Lichterman
DO/MPH (Class of 2010)
PHYSICIANS WITH MPH DEGREES ENJOY A WIDE RANGE OF CAREER CHOICES:

- Leadership positions with health departments, federal and international agencies, managed care organizations and healthcare providers, schools of medicine and public health;
- Performing clinical research;
- Planning and implementing disease prevention and control strategies;
- Consulting in global health research and programs

CURRICULUM

DO/MPH students complete 30 units of MPH coursework. The remaining 12 units are transferred from the TUC DO curriculum and cover related cross-over content. For the Public Health Field Study, DO/MPH students are granted automatic waivers that reduce the number of required hours for the Public Health field study from 400 to 200 field training hours. The field study also satisfies the research elective rotation requirement in the TUC DO curriculum.

“My courses in public health take a broader, population-based approach to healthcare. Thus, I have been challenged to apply the principles of medicine meant for individual patients toward real-world programs and policies that impact various populations, both in the community setting and abroad. The wider perspective I have gained will undoubtedly enhance my future practice as an osteopathic physician.”

Patrick Wu, OMS IV
DO/MPH Candidate 2014

“My experience as a DO/MPH student has broadened my perspective on the field of medicine, such that when it becomes time for me to practice I will be able to treat, not only the person sitting before me, but the larger community of which we are all a part.”

Kyle Stephens, OMS IV
DO/MPH Candidate 2014
The Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Dual Degree at Touro University California bridges the complementary strengths of the College of Pharmacy (COP) and the College of Education and Health Sciences. It provides students currently enrolled in the PharmD Program with an integrated curriculum focusing on the knowledge and ingenuity of the delivery of pharmaceutical care within a population-based public health framework. The dual degree is designed for students interested in working in divisions of pharmacy with an emphasis in epidemiologically-based research, evaluation of community-based health programs, and needs of populations and issues affecting their health.

**WHY A DUAL DEGREE?**

- Design and provide disease management and pharmacy-based immunization programs;
- Participate in pharmacotherapy, health promotion, and disease prevention;
- Conduct epidemiologic investigations;
- Participate in health outcomes research;
- Contribute to the development and implementation of policy to provide safer medications to patients;
- Participate in disease surveillance of adverse drug events, potential drug interactions and patterns of over/underuse;
- Shape policy regarding inclusions/exclusions from drug formularies;
- Participate in program planning, implementation and evaluation, such as appropriateness of prescribed treatment regimens, medication refill reminders and other compliance programs;
- Participate in public health programs sponsored by health departments, for example, disaster preparedness, and administering vaccinations;
- Design benefit programs, reimbursement systems, and prescription drug plans
PharmD/MPH students complete 30 units of MPH coursework. The remaining 12 units are transferred from the TUC PharmD curriculum and cover related cross-over content. For the Public Health Field Study, PharmD/MPH students are granted automatic waivers that reduce the number of required hours for the Public Health field study from 400 to 200 field training hours.

Hugh Ngo, PharmD, MPH photographed at the Ho Chi Minh City School of Pharmacy in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in Spring 2012 where he presented lectures to local pharmacy students about the complementary strengths of pharmacy and public health. Ngo is currently conducting his Post Graduate Pharmacy Year 1 at the Veterans Administration in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

“The MPH is the perfect complement to any health professional degree. Mine has given me an opportunity to work with disadvantaged populations, compelled me to analyze and dissect research in a more meaningful way, and broadened my understanding of the forces that impact human health and behavior. My PharmD provides me the knowledge to optimize patient drug therapy but my MPH reminds me that I need to treat the patient as a whole, not just a set of signs and symptoms.”

Hugh Ngo, PharmD, MPH – Class of 2013
The Joint MSPAS/MPH Program is committed to training clinicians, integrating the physician assistant and public health disciplines to improve the health of individuals and communities with a focus on serving underserved populations. Graduates of the Joint MSPAS/MPH Program are awarded two degrees — a Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MSPAS) degree and a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree.

Physician assistants (PAs) are health care professionals licensed to practice medicine in collaboration with a supervising physician. PA education includes instruction in basic medical science including anatomy, physiology and pharmacology, and in clinical medicine and clinical skills. PAs also receive clinical education through rotations in each of the major areas of medicine: internal medicine, family medicine, surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, emergency medicine, and geriatric medicine. They are trained to diagnose and treat medical problems, assist in surgery, and write prescriptions in most states.

**CURRICULUM**

Joint MSPAS/MPH students complete 30 units of MPH coursework. The remaining 12 units are transferred from the PA curriculum and cover related cross-over content. For the Public Health Field Study, Joint MSPAS/MPH students are granted automatic waivers that reduce the number of required hours for the Public Health field study from 400 to 200 field training hours.

Essential to the Joint MSPAS/MPH Program’s mission is to increase access to quality healthcare. In pursuit of that goal, it includes student training at clinical sites that serve medically underserved populations. These sites include Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs) Indian Health Service sites, Rural Health Clinics, and National Health Service Corps loan repayment sites. A significant number of Joint MSPAS/MPH graduates currently work in these types of clinical sites, which include Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas (PC-HPSAs) and Medically Underserved Areas/Populations (MUA/Ps). Seventeen percent of all TUC Joint MSPAS/MPH Program graduates of the first five classes (2005-2009) FQHCs and 45% of the 2005-2009 alumni work in PC-HPSAs or MUA/Ps.

Applications to this joint degree are processed entirely through the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA), and the TUC Office of Admissions and Joint MSPAS/MPH Program.
Our Campus

Touro University California is part of the Touro College and University System, a system of non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. TUC is located in Vallejo, California on historic Mare Island in the San Pablo Bay, approximately one hour north of downtown San Francisco and minutes away from the Napa/Sonoma Wine Country.

Why attend TUC’s Public Health Program?

• We are fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).
• TUC has an established track record of graduating competent, highly-trained health professionals working in a variety of health positions.
• TUC offers an affordable and convenient evening program that provides the flexibility you require to obtain your Master of Public Health degree through full or part-time study in a diverse, supportive and respectful learning environment.
• Students have the opportunity to work on community grants and research projects with faculty, in which they design public health interventions to target underserved populations in surrounding and global communities.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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tu.edu

For admissions questions please call the Office of Admissions toll-free 888.652.7580 or email admit@tu.edu. Campus tours are conducted by the Office of Admissions.