The Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)/Master of Public Health (MPH) Dual Degree at Touro University California prepares osteopathic physicians for leadership roles in community education and public health. 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 behaviors on a large scale. Solutions to health problems such as heart disease, obesity and diabetes increasingly rely on both individual treatment and community-wide interventions. Touro’s DO/MPH interdisciplinary academic program facilitates this shared approach by combining public health/health promotion and clinical practice. Students enrolled in the College of Osteopathic Medicine are encouraged to pursue the MPH concurrently in the College of Health Sciences.

Why a dual degree?

- Increased knowledge of and sensitivity to the political, historical, economic and social environments of health promotion and health services delivery
- Capacity to incorporate preventive practices into care of individual patients
- Skills to develop health programs that assess the health status and risk factors of populations
- Greater knowledge in the area of health service administration provides opportunities for physicians to initiate change in managed health care, hospitals, and acute care centers
- Planning, implementation, and evaluation of interventions to improve the health of a population
- Ability to investigate outbreaks of disease or symptoms in a population
- A focus on biostatistics and epidemiology which provides skills for clinical, health services, and public health research and evaluation of health outcomes

Physicians with MPH degrees enjoy a wide range of career choices:

- Holding leadership positions with health departments, federal and international agencies, managed care organizations and healthcare providers, schools of medicine and public health
- Planning and managing health systems
- Performing clinical research
- Planning and implementing disease prevention and control strategies
- Developing policy grant-writing
- Consulting in global health research and programs

Curriculum

The MPH degree requires a 42-unit course of study, encompassing the five core areas of public health: Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, Environmental Health Science, and Social and Behavioral Sciences. DO/MPH students complete 30 units of MPH coursework. The remaining 12 units are transferred from the DO curriculum. Students will gain depth through coursework in a chosen specialized public health track (Community Health or Global Health). In addition to the courses in the core areas of public health, the Community Health and Global Health programs of study are designed from the following track core courses:

Community Health Track

- Health Education and Promotion
- Health Disparities and Community Organizing
- Program Evaluation and Needs Assessment
- Research Methodology

Global Health Track

- Essentials of Global Health
- Emerging Health Threats
- Global Reproductive Health
- Research Methodology

"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 II
DO/MPH Candidate 2014
**DO/MPH Sample Course Sequence**

**Summer Academic Session I (CHT & GHT)**  
(*Prior to Start of DO Program*)

- PH 606: Health Education & Promotion (3 — CHT)
- PH 607: Biostatistics (3)
- PH 608: Behavioral & Social Aspects of Public Health (3)
- PH 614A: Essentials of Global Health (3 — GHT)
- PH 648: Environmental Health (3)

**Total: 12 Units**

**Summer Academic Session II (CHT)**

- PH 604A: Health Policy & Management (3)
- PH 618: Epidemiology (3)
- PH 619: Research Methodology (1)
- PH 620: Health Disparities & Community Organizing (3)
- PH 647: Program Evaluation & Needs Assessment (3)

**Total: 13 Units**

**Summer Academic Session II (GHT)**

- PH 602A: Emerging Health Threats (3)
- PH 604A: Health Policy & Management (3)
- PH 618: Epidemiology (3)
- PH 619: Research Methodology (1)
- PH 622A: Global Reproductive Health (3)

**Total: 13 Units**

**Year 3 or 4**

- PH 623: Public Health Field Study (2)
- PH 645: Capstone (3)

**Total: 5 Units**

---

**The Culminating Experience**

This essential part of the curriculum is comprised of the Public Health Field Study and Capstone courses.

The purpose of the field study is for students to participate in the application and integration of the skills and knowledge acquired during their graduate didactic coursework. Community Health Track students conduct their field studies under the guidance of site preceptors and course coordinators at affiliated public health organizations, hospitals, managed care organizations, government agencies, health departments, community organizations, and advocacy programs. Global Health Track students conduct their field studies at sites in either Bolivia or Ethiopia under the guidance of site preceptors and course coordinators at governmental and United Nations agencies, universities, non-governmental organizations, and public and private health facilities. The field study also satisfies the COM research elective rotation requirement in the DO curriculum.

The field study is followed by the Capstone Course -- the integration of coursework and field experience. Students may choose a singular applied project, consisting of a formal written manuscript and public presentation; or a comprehensive exam that demonstrates the student's mastery of and ability to integrate core public health principles and to apply this understanding to issues that may confront public health professionals.

**Contact Information:**

- [http://tu.edu](http://tu.edu)
- Email: publichealth@tu.edu
- 707/638.5827