Guide for Master of Public Health degree program  
with a specialization in 
CLINICAL TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

Students admitted to the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program are assigned faculty advisers who will provide guidance throughout the program. This document serves as a resource to be used by the student and the adviser in planning a program with a specialization in Clinical Translational Science (CTS). For additional information about requirements, students are directed to the College of Public Health (CPH) Student Handbook (available online at http://cph.osu.edu/academic/handbooks.cfm) and to the Graduate School Handbook (available online at http://www.gradsch.ohio-state.edu/).

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The curriculum consists of a minimum of 45 semester credits organized into five curricular domains:

1. Core courses in areas of knowledge basic to public health (16 semester credits)
2. Courses required for a specialization in CTS (21 semester credits)
3. Elective courses approved for the specialization (3 semester credits)
4. Practicum (2 semester credits)
5. Culminating project (3 semester credits)

Public Health Core Courses (16 credits)
Every student in the MPH program must take the following courses in areas of knowledge basic to public health:

- **Biostatistics**
  - PUBHBIO 6210 Design and Analysis of Studies in the Health Sciences I 3 cr

- **Environmental Health Sciences**
  - PUBHEHS 6310 Principles of Environmental Hlth Sci 3 cr

- **Epidemiology**
  - PUBHEPI 6430.01*Epidemiology I 3 cr
  - PUBHEPI 6430.02 Epidemiology I Lab 1 cr

- **Social and Behavioral Sciences**
  - PUBHHBP 6510 Preventing Disease & Promoting Health through Behavior Science 3 cr

- **Health Services Administration**
  - PUBHHMP 6610 Intro to Health Care Organization 3 cr

*Students who pass a waiver examination for PUBHEPI 6420 may substitute an elective.

Required Courses in the Specialization (21 credits)

- PUBHBIO 6211 Design Analysis Studies Hlth Sci II 3 cr
- PUBHBIO 6212 Regression Methods Hlth Sciences 3 cr
- PUBHEPI 7412 Princ & Proc for Human Clin Trials 3 cr
- PUBHEPI 7410.01 Epidemiology II 3 cr
- PUBHEPI 7410.02 Epidemiology II Lab 1 cr
- PUBHEPI 7430.01 Epidemiology III 3 cr
- PUBHEPI 6413.01 Basic Principles in CTS 2 cr
- PUBHEPI 6413.02 Conducting & Communic Res in CTS 2 cr

Recommended Electives (3 credits minimum)

Choose a minimum of 3 credits from the following:
- PUBHHBP 7544 Fundamental Determinants of Pop Hlth & Implications for Pub Hlth 3 cr
- PUBHHBP 7558 Social Ecological Strategies in Prevention 2 cr
- PUBHHBP 7532 Program Evaluation in Pub Hlth 3 cr
- PUBHHBP 7520 Community Health Assessment 3 cr
- PUBHHBP 7522 Prog Planning & Implementation 3 cr
- PUBHHMP 7678 Approaches to Health Services Res 3 cr

Practicum (2 credits)

- PUBHLTH 7189 Practicum in Public Health 2 cr

Culminating Project (3 credits)

- PUBHLTH 7998 Culminating Project in Pub Hlth 3 cr

PRACTICUM

The College requires two semester credits of field experience in public health (practicum) for all students in the MPH degree program. Students must spend at least 120 hours on site in the practicum to meet the minimum requirement. For the MPH/CTS, the practicum represents an opportunity for the student to work closely with a research mentor who serves as the preceptor to guide the student through a series of experiences. The student’s academic adviser collaborates in designing and approving the learning content.

Because of the special nature of the Clinical Translational Science program, many students begin their practicum earlier than would be typical in other specializations, engaging in a
research apprenticeship experience. Ideally this will allow
the student to participate in all aspects of the topic
selection, study design, planning, and implementation of
an appropriate research project. In addition, the student
should be exposed to the public health issues and ethical
concerns that arise in the research. Students should be
active participants in the arrangements for a practice
placement, working closely with their advisers and other
CPH faculty.

The practicum is graded S/U. The evaluation is based on
the preceptor’s and adviser’s assessment of the experience
and the final report. Complete details on the process for
seeking and confirming the placement, as well as the
expectations for the practice placement, are found in the
CTS Integrated Practicum and Culminating Project
Guidelines (available online at http://cph.osu.edu/
academic/handbooks.cfm).

CULMINATING PROJECT/MASTER’S
EXAMINATION

The Graduate School requires that each master’s student
complete a Master’s Examination. Students specializing in
Clinical Translational Science satisfy this requirement by
completing a combined practicum and culminating project.
The culminating project will flow from the research
process begun during the practicum, continuing on to
complete the appropriate statistical analysis and prepare a
manuscript in scientific journal format describing and
interpreting the findings. Completion of the culminating
project is contingent upon review and approval of the final
report by a committee of the faculty adviser and a second
CPH faculty member; other OSU faculty may serve as
additional readers. Though students may collaborate with
others on the project, the final report must represent the
student’s own work.

Students should begin planning the practicum project with
their faculty advisers at least one semester in advance of
the expected semester of completion. More detailed
descriptions of the culminating project requirements are
available in the CTS Integrated Practicum and
Culminating Project Guidelines online at http://cph.osu.edu/academic/handbooks.cfm.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

To remain in good academic standing, graduate students
must maintain a minimum 3.0 overall GPA. In addition, a
B- or higher must be earned in the specialization courses
and the core courses (with the exception of a C or C+ in
one core course). No course in which a grade of C- or
below is earned may count toward the degree. For more
details, see Section 11.2 of the CPH Student Handbook.

TIME LIMIT

The MPH degree must be completed within five years
from the date of matriculation. The responsibility for
academic progress and fulfillment of the time limit rule
rests with each student. Students who fail to complete the
program in five years must re-apply to the program by
written petition to the Graduate Studies Committee.
Approval may be contingent upon completion of
additional course work. No further registration will be
permitted in the absence of an approved petition. For
additional information, see Section 5.5 of the CPH Student
Handbook.

GRADUATE NON-DEGREE & TRANSFER CREDIT

The transfer of credit depends on where it was earned. For
OSU graduate non-degree credits, a maximum of seven
semester credits may be transferred into the degree-
granting program with approval of the faculty adviser. For
transfer credit from another institution, a maximum of nine
semester credits (20% of the total credit hours required for
the degree) may be transferred into the program with
approval of the faculty adviser. Students must petition the
Graduate Studies Committee to transfer credits; the
petition must be supported by the Division Chair. For
more information, see Section 10.3 of the CPH Student
Handbook.

GRADUATION

Students must be enrolled for a minimum of three graduate
credits during the semester or term in which they plan to
graduate. An "Application to Graduate" form, which is
available on the Graduate School’s Web site or in the
Office of Academic Programs (OAP) must be completed
by the student, signed by the adviser, and returned to OAP
for processing. The deadline for submitting the signed
application to OAP is the first Friday of the semester or
term of graduation. Students should make arrangements
for a faculty member with a primary appointment in CPH
to serve as the second reader on the master’s examination
committee at least two months prior to the semester of
graduation. Since the signed Master Exam Report Form
is due in the Graduate School prior to finals week, students
generally must finish their culminating projects by the
middle of the semester. Prior to graduation, students are
asked to complete an Exit Survey, as explained in Section

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Counselors are available in the Office of Academic
Programs to provide assistance regarding College or
University policies and procedures. Questions regarding
the student’s program should be directed to the faculty
adviser or instructor.