

**WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM**  
**COMMUNITY HEALTH CONCENTRATION GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING SHEET**  
 Rotation and Course Format Changes Effective Fall Semester 2025  
 (Revised January 31, 2025)

**MPH CORE COURSES (28 Credits)**

Course	Online Format	In Person Format (4:25-7:10 PM)	Credits	Grade
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health	Fall/Spring	----	1	
HEA 516 Health Care Management	Fall/Spring	----	3	
HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology*	Spring	Fall (Thursday)	3	
HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health	Spring	Fall (Monday)	3	
ENV 530 General Environmental Health	Fall/Spring	----	3	
HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking in Public Health	Fall/Spring	----	1	
HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	Fall/Spring	----	3	
HEA 632 Social and Behavior Aspects of Public Health	Fall/Spring	----	3	
HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice in Public Health	Spring	----	1	
HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health	Fall/Spring	----	3	
HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (Preparatory course for practicum)	Fall/Spring/Sum	----	1	
HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hour practicum)	Fall/Spring/Sum	----	3	

\*Course prerequisite: MAT121 or equivalent, \*\*Prerequisites: HEA520 & HEA526, \*\*\*Prerequisite: HEA649

**COMMUNITY HEALTH CONCENTRATION COURSES (18 Credits)**

Course	Online Format	In Person Format (4:25-7:10 PM)	Credits	Grade
HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health*	Fall	----	3	
HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs	Spring	----	3	
HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies	Spring	----	3	
HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity	Fall	----	3	
HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services	Spring	----	3	
HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy	Fall	----	3	

\*This course incorporates community-engaged learning to fulfill our program's community service requirement.

**Total Credits for the MPH Program: 46**

## ADVISING TIPS

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### Recommended Course Rotations

Refer to the recommended course sequencing tables to plan your schedule based on your start semester (Fall or Spring) and whether you are pursuing the program full-time (2 years) or part-time (3 years). The Health Care Management concentration is offered fully online in an asynchronous format. However, two core courses - HEA 520 Epidemiology and HEA 526 Biostatistics – are also offered in-person during the Fall semester.

### Course Registration

Course registration takes place in October for Spring courses and in March for Fall courses in RamPortal ([RamPortal registration tutorials](#)). Registration details are shared by email from the WCU Registrar and in our MPH Student Announcements. If you are experiencing issues registering for HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology in RamPortal, but you have met the prerequisite at another university or at WCU but by a different course number, please request enrollment, including your WCU ID, by emailing our department admin Tammy Wyatt ([twyatt@wcupa.edu](mailto:twyatt@wcupa.edu)).

### Advising

Schedule regular advising appointments to stay on track with course sequencing, explore career goals, and address any academic concerns. For advising, contact your Community Health Concentration Advisor, Dr. Ramona Stone ([rstone@wcupa.edu](mailto:rstone@wcupa.edu)). For inquiries during the summer or winter breaks, contact MPH Program Director and Community Health Faculty Member Dr. Stacie Metz ([smetz@wcupa.edu](mailto:smetz@wcupa.edu)). Virtual group advising sessions are also held during Fall and Spring semesters. Details about our February and October virtual group advising sessions will be shared by the MPH Program Director via the MPH Student Announcements.

### Undergraduate Statistics Course Prerequisite for HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology

An undergraduate statistics course (MAT 121 or equivalent) is a prerequisite for HEA 520 Epidemiology. If your admission letter indicates that you need to complete this prerequisite, enroll before the program to avoid disruptions in course sequencing. Options include MAT 121 at WCU, an equivalent course at a community college, or BYU's STAT-121 online independent study ([BYU STAT-121](#)).

### Maintain Academic Standing

Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 to remain in good standing. For details on academic probation and dismissal policies, refer to the Graduate Catalog and MPH Program Handbook or contact Dr. Stacie Metz ([smetz@wcupa.edu](mailto:smetz@wcupa.edu)).

### MPH Program Resources and Professional Development Opportunities

Access the MPH Program's D2L site for essential resources such as the student handbook, advising sheets, Applied Learning Experience (ALE) guidelines, recorded alumni/partner speaking engagement events, and professional/internship opportunities. To request access, contact Tammy Wyatt ([twyatt@wcupa.edu](mailto:twyatt@wcupa.edu)). To get the most of your WCU MPH experience, join the WCU MPH LinkedIn Community ([WCU MPH LinkedIn](#)) for job/internship opportunities, trainings, events, as well as alumni accomplishments. Attend events hosted by the MPH program, partners, and professional organizations to expand your professional network.

### Applied Learning Experience (ALE) Practicum

The ALE includes two courses which are taken in sequence during the final two semesters of your program. These include HEA 649 ALE I preparatory course (1 credit) and HEA 650 ALE II Practicum (200 hours, 3 credits). We empower you to identify the site; hence, we recommend that you think about your career goals; preferences for agency setting, location, population, and practicum responsibilities; and seek professional development opportunities to assist in increasing your marketability when you interview with the site. Watch for the emails announcing virtual MPH ALE Poster Sessions held at the end of Fall/Spring/Summer semesters; attend as many of these sessions as possible. HEA 650 ALE II (200-hr practicum) is designated by the Graduate School as a Financial Aid Exemption Course since it is a practicum which requires 200 hours. Contact the Office of Financial Aid to remind them of its exemption status if you wish to secure financial aid for your final semester with fewer than 4.5 credits. For ALE advising, contact ALE Coordinator Dr. Ramona Stone ([rstone@wcupa.edu](mailto:rstone@wcupa.edu)) after completing 25 credits, including HEA 520 and HEA 526.

### Support Resources

A comprehensive list of WCU resources can be found through the [WCU Student Support Center](#) or [Ram Resources](#). For course-specific or advising questions, contact your professor, advisor, or Concentration Coordinator Dr. Ramona Stone ([rstone@wcupa.edu](mailto:rstone@wcupa.edu)). For program and university policy/procedure guidance, please reach out to Dr. Stacie Metz ([smetz@wcupa.edu](mailto:smetz@wcupa.edu)).

## RECOMMENDED COURSE PLANS

*Courses are offered in the 100% online asynchronous format unless otherwise noted with an in-person day/time meeting and as 3 credits unless noted as 1 credit. Italicized courses are concentration specific.*

### FALL START, FULL-TIME (2 YEARS) COURSE PLANS

#### FALL START, FULL-TIME (2 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous

All courses are delivered 100% online asynchronous.

Fall Year 1	Spring Year 1	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 2	Summer Year 2
10 credits	10 credits	12 credits	11 credits	3 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology*	ENV 530 General Environmental Health	HEA 516 Health Care Management	HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hr practicum)
<i>HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity</i>	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health	<i>HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health</i>	<i>HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs</i>	
HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	<i>HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies</i>	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	<i>HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services</i>	
HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)	<i>HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy</i>	HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)	
			HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

#### FALL START, FULL-TIME (2 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous with In-Person Option for Two Analytical Core Courses

All courses are delivered 100% online asynchronous, with an optional in-person format available for two core courses of HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology (Fall, Thursdays 4:25-7:10pm) and HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health (Fall, Mondays 4:25-7:10pm).

Fall Year 1	Spring Year 1	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 2	Summer Year 2
10 credits	12 credits	10 credits	11 credits	3 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	<i>HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies</i>	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health (Mon 4:25-7:10pm)	ENV 530 General Environmental Health	HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hr practicum)
HEA 516 Health Care Management	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	<i>HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health</i>	<i>HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs</i>	
HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology* (Thu 4:25-7:10pm)	HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)	<i>HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services</i>	
<i>HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity</i>	HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health	<i>HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy</i>	HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)	
			HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

\*Course prerequisite: MAT121 or equivalent, \*\*Prerequisites: HEA520 & HEA526, \*\*\*Prerequisite: HEA649

## SPRING START, FULL-TIME (2 YEARS) COURSE PLANS

### SPRING START, FULL-TIME (2 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous

All courses are delivered 100% online asynchronously.

Spring Year 1	Fall Year 1	Spring Year 2	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 3
10 credits	10 credits	10 credits	10 credits	6 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	<i>HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity</i>	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health	HEA 516 Health Care Management	ENV 530 General Environmental Health
HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology*	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)	<i>HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs</i>	<i>HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health</i>	HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hr practicum)
<i>HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies</i>	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	<i>HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services</i>	<i>HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy</i>	
HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health	HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)	HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

### SPRING START, FULL-TIME (2 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous with In-Person Option for Two Analytical Core Courses

All courses are delivered 100% online asynchronously, with an optional in-person format available for two core courses of HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology (Fall, Thursdays 4:25-7:10pm) and HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health (Fall, Mondays 4:25-7:10pm).

Spring Year 1	Fall Year 1	Spring Year 2	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 3
10 credits	10 credits	10 credits	10 credits	6 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)	<i>HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs</i>	HEA 516 Health Care Management	ENV 530 General Environmental Health
<i>HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies</i>	<i>HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity</i>	<i>HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services</i>	<i>HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health</i>	HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hr practicum)
HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology* (Thu 4:25-7:10pm)	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	<i>HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy</i>	
HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health (Mon 4:25-7:10pm)	HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)	HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

\*Course prerequisite: MAT121 or equivalent, \*\*Prerequisites: HEA520 & HEA526, \*\*\*Prerequisite: HEA649

**NOTE:** HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II (200-hr practicum) is designated by the Graduate School as a Financial Aid Exemption Course. If you enroll in fewer than 4.5 credits in the final semester while enrolled in HEA 650, contact Financial Aid Office explicitly stating HEA 650 practicum is designated to qualify for financial aid.

## FALL START, PART-TIME (3 YEARS) COURSE PLANS

### FALL START, PART-TIME (3 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous

All courses are delivered 100% online asynchronous.

Fall Year 1	Spring Year 1	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 2	Fall Year 3	Spring Year 3	Summer Year 3
7 credits	7 credits	6 credits	7 credits	9 credits	7 credits	3 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology*	<i>HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity</i>	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health	ENV 530 General Environmental Health	HEA 516 Health Care Management	HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hr practicum)
HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	<i>HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies</i>	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	<i>HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services</i>	<i>HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health</i>	<i>HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs</i>	
HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)		HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)	<i>HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy</i>	HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

### FALL START, PART-TIME (3 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous with In-Person Option for Two Analytical Core Courses

All courses are delivered 100% online asynchronous, with an optional in-person format available for two core courses of HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology (Fall, Thursdays 4:25-7:10pm) and HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health (Fall, Mondays 4:25-7:10pm).

Fall Year 1	Spring Year 1	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 2	Fall Year 3	Spring Year 3	Summer Year 3
7 credits	7 credits	9 credits	7 credits	6 credits	7 credits	3 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	<i>HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies</i>	HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology* (Thu 4:25-7:10pm)	<i>HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services</i>	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health (Mon 4:25-7:10pm)	HEA 516 Health Care Management	HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hr practicum)
<i>HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity</i>	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)	ENV 530 General Environmental Health	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	<i>HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy</i>	<i>HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs</i>	
HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health	<i>HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health</i>	HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)		HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

\*Course prerequisite: MAT121 or equivalent, \*\*Prerequisites: HEA520 & HEA526, \*\*\*Prerequisite: HEA649

### SPRING START, PART-TIME (3 YEARS) COURSE PLANS

#### SPRING START, PART-TIME (3 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous

All courses are delivered 100% online asynchronous.

Spring Year 1	Fall Year 1	Spring Year 2	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 3	Fall Year 3	Spring Year 4
7 credits	7 credits	6 credits	6 credits	7 credits	7 credits	6 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	HEA 543 Strategic Communication for Health Equity	HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology*	HEA 531 Community as a Basis for Health	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health	ENV 530 General Environmental Health	HEA 516 Health Care Management
HEA 539 Community Health Program Planning and Technologies	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)	HEA 544 Program Administration in Health and Human Services	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs	HEA 645 Global Community Health Promotion and Advocacy	HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II*** (200-hr practicum)
HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	HEA 648 Research Methods in Public Health			HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)	HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

#### SPRING START, PART-TIME (3 YEARS) – 100% Online Asynchronous with In-Person Option for Two Analytical Core Courses

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Spring Year 1	Fall Year 1	Spring Year 2	Fall Year 2	Spring Year 3	Fall Year 3	Spring Year 4
7 credits	7 credits	6 credits	6 credits	7 credits	7 credits	6 credits
HEA 503 Foundations in Public Health (1-cr)	HEA 520 Public Health Epidemiology* (Thu 4:25-7:10pm)	HEA 615 Policy in Public Health	HEA 526 Biostatistics for Public Health (Mon 4:25-7:10pm)	HEA 538 Evaluation of Health Programs	ENV 530 General Environmental Health	HEA 516 Health Care Management
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HEA 632 Social & Behavior Aspects in Public Health	HEA 605 Utilizing Systems Thinking (1-cr)			HEA 647 Interprofessional Practice (1-cr)	HEA 649 Applied Learning Experience I** (1-cr)	

\*Course prerequisite: MAT121 or equivalent, \*\*Prerequisites: HEA520 & HEA526, \*\*\*Prerequisite: HEA649

**NOTE:** HEA 650 Applied Learning Experience II (200-hr practicum) is designated by the Graduate School as a Financial Aid Exemption Course. If you enroll in fewer than 4.5 credits in the final semester while enrolled in HEA 650, contact Financial Aid Office explicitly stating HEA 650 practicum is designated to qualify for financial aid.