College of Health

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Mission and Goals
The mission of the College of Health at Lehigh University is to understand, preserve, and improve the health and well-being of populations and communities through excellence and innovation in education, research, and service. This mission includes constant innovation to connect all of our activities to make the greatest impact on improving population health outcomes.

The goals of the College of Health focus on three areas: education; research and scholarship; and service and partnerships. The pursuit of these goals creates an integrated and continuous cycle of learning, research, and impact for the faculty, staff, students, and external partners of the College. Through this approach we constantly innovate and link our activities together to make the greatest impact on population health outcomes.

Education
Leveraging the university’s interdisciplinary strengths and global perspectives, the College offers a rigorous classroom and online curriculum, as well as out-of-the-classroom experiences, to equip students with the skills they need to take advantage of the myriad of opportunities after graduation.

Research
Through creative inquiry and the design and adoption of health technology, the College is advancing research in population health. State-of-the-art resources such as data visualization, artificial intelligence, and virtual reality labs are available to faculty, students, and partners as they conduct cutting-edge research and projects.

Service
Improving the lives of communities (locally and globally) is at the heart of the College of Health’s efforts in preparing the next generation of population health leaders. It is through service learning that theoretical concepts not only come to life but also have an impact on the health of millions around the world.

“If not you who? If not now, when?”
As of today, the globe and the human race in it are faced with unprecedented challenges. We, as Population Health practitioners, have the choice to 1) do nothing; 2) contribute to worsening the issues; or 3) become an agent of improvement.

The College of Health welcomes its first cohort of students in the Fall of 2020 and becomes Lehigh’s 5th college and the nation’s first institution to offer an undergraduate degree and certificate programs in population health with a focus on health innovation and technology. The launch of the new College of Health comes at an exciting time in population health with a focus on health innovation and technology.

The College of Health leverages a systems-based approach understanding the underlying determinants of health. Such a cell-to-society view enables us to develop impactful solutions.

Undergraduate Programs
The College of Health offers a Bachelor of Science in Population Health as well as certificate programs in Population Health and Global Population Health. The Bachelor of Science in Population Health degree requires 124 credit hours and prepares students to investigate the determinants of health using data science and identify novel and effective avenues for disease prevention, health promotion, diagnosis, and intervention. The program combines courses in population health with foundation courses in mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences and computer science. Students gain knowledge and skills through coursework, experiential learning opportunities, research projects and engagement with traditional and nontraditional partners in pursuit of a healthier world. Certificate programs in Population Health (16-17 credits) and Global Population Health (14-16 credits) compliment undergraduate studies and prepare students to learn and apply introductory-level Population Health concepts and methodology.

Many students who pursue a BS in Population Health or certificate programs in the College of Health plan to continue graduate-level work in a health-related discipline. Pre-health students at Lehigh have the opportunity to major in any area, provided they also complete the prerequisite coursework set forth by the medical, dental, or other professional program in which they are interested. Students interested in attending medical school or other health related school should contact the The Center for Career & Professional Development (https://careercenter.lehigh.edu/) (careercenter@lehigh.edu) and ask to be enrolled in the Health Professions Advisory Committee Course Site.

Graduate and EXECUTIVE CERTIFICATION Programs
Beginning in the Fall of 2021, the College of Health will offer graduate programs including a Master of Science in Population Health (MSc), Master of Public Health (MPH), Doctor of Philosophy in Population Health (PhD) and a suite of undergraduate and graduate certificate programs. Executive education programs will be tailored to the needs of working professionals. In addition to onsite programs, graduate students and professionals can take courses and complete certificates and degrees online and through distance education programs.

careers in population Health
As population health is a convergent science, career pathways within this field are extremely abundant and wide-ranging. Alumni from the College of Health may pursue careers in the private sector, nonprofit organizations, or local, state, federal and international governmental institutions, or go on to obtain graduate-level research or clinical training. They may work in fields including epidemiology, medicine, data science, biostatistics, global health, health economics, health policy, community health, health promotion, and health technology and innovation.

For students who are interested in attending a professional graduate school to pursue a career in healthcare, such as Medicine, Dentistry, and Pharmacy, the College of Health has mapped out the undergraduate program to ensure that students who are enrolled in the BS in Population Health are able to complete the pre-health requirements along with the BS in Population Health requirements within four years. Furthermore, students who pursue advanced clinical
degrees after graduation will be well-equipped with the education, experience and skills to address specific population health challenges that exist within health care systems.

**Professors.** Christine Daley, PhD (University of Connecticut); Whitney P. Witt, PhD (Johns Hopkins University)

**Associate Professors.** Hyunok Choi, PhD (Columbia University); Eduardo Gomez, PhD (Brown University); Halcyon Gerald Skinner, PhD (Johns Hopkins University); Fathima Wakeel, PhD (University of California Merced)

**Assistant Professors.** Thomas McAndrew, PhD (University of Vermont)

**Assistant Professors.**

**Professors Of Practice.** Sean Daley, PhD (University of Connecticut)

**B.S. IN POPULATION HEALTH**

Lehigh University's Bachelor of Science in Population Health degree prepares students to investigate the determinants of health using data science, and to identify novel and effective avenues for disease prevention, health promotion, diagnosis, and intervention. The program combines courses in population health with foundational courses in mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences and computer science. Students gain knowledge and skills through coursework, experiential learning opportunities, research projects and engagement with traditional and nontraditional partners in pursuit of a healthier world.

The BS degree requires a minimum of 124 credits and provides students with a strong conceptual background in Population Health as well as extensive methodological expertise in data science and epidemiology. All majors take POPH 001, an introduction to Population Health, plus core courses in Population Health Research Methods, History of Population Health, Biological Basis of Population Health, Population Health Data Science, and Epidemiology. They also complete a minimum of three 1-credit varying topics seminars in Population Health, in addition to 1-credit seminars in Research Ethics, Design Thinking and Writing about Science. Students then pursue their individual interests by selecting an area of concentration that includes completing at least four electives, in consultation with their adviser. At least two of these courses are required to be at the 300-level or above. The population health capstone integration occurs in the required two-semester project (POPH 301 and POPH 302) in which students plan, implement and evaluate a population health project.

Note: A number of major courses have pre-requisites. Students considering this major should check pre-requisites and plan accordingly. A preliminary meeting with an adviser may be useful.

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN POPULATION HEALTH**

**Distribution Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 001 or ENGL 003</td>
<td>Critical Reading and Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 005</td>
<td>Composition and Literature I for International Writers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 002 or ENGL 005</td>
<td>Research and Argument</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Composition and Literature II for International Writers</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Social Science Requirement (2 courses designated in the course catalog as SS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPH 001</td>
<td>Population Health Data Science I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 002</td>
<td>Introduction to Population Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 101</td>
<td>History of Population Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 103</td>
<td>Biological Basis of Population Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 301</td>
<td>Population Health Data Science II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 302</td>
<td>Population Health Data Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTA 001</td>
<td>Population Health Data Science I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTA 101</td>
<td>Population Health Data Science II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTA 102</td>
<td>Population Health Data Science III</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPI 304</td>
<td>Methods in Epidemiology I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
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**Seminars**

Students are required to complete a minimum of six 1-credit special topics seminars.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminar Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPH 010</td>
<td>Seminar: Population Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 012</td>
<td>Seminar: Ethics in Population Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 304</td>
<td>Seminar: Writing about Science</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIT 010</td>
<td>Seminar: Design Thinking for Innovation in Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Concentration**

4 courses, a minimum of 12 credits chosen in consultation with an adviser, at least 2 courses must be at the 300 level or above. Areas of concentration may include Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Health Innovation and Technology, Health Policy & Management, Social and Behavioral Health, Global Health, Environmental Health or Community Health.

**Total Credits**

75-83

1. All students in the College of Health pursuing a Bachelor of Science are required to take ENGL 002 Research and Argument special section for College of Health students. Advanced Placement is not accepted for ENGL 002 Research and Argument.
2. ECO 001 Principles of Economics is recommended.
3. For students pursuing a concentration in Global Population Health, foreign language electives are recommended.

**Plan of Study**

The proposed plan of study grid allows flexibility for students to pursue certificate programs within the College of Health or majors and minors in one of Lehigh’s other undergraduate colleges. Students interested in pursuing an additional major/dual degree should talk with their adviser. Students studying within the College of Health are encouraged to engage in international experiential learning through study abroad, internship or research experiences.

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPH 001</td>
<td>Research and Argument</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 012</td>
<td>Seminar: Population Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 001 or 003</td>
<td>English Language Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 005</td>
<td>Composition and Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPH 101</td>
<td>Research and Argument</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSTA 101</td>
<td>Seminar: Design Thinking for Innovation in Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 010</td>
<td>Seminar: Ethics in Population Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIT 010</td>
<td>Seminar: Design Thinking for Innovation in Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS or HU Elective</td>
<td>Seminar: Social Science or HU Elective</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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**Third Year**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPI 304</td>
<td>Research and Argument</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POPH 010</td>
<td>Seminar: Ethics in Population Health</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Elective</td>
<td>Seminar: Social Science or HU Elective</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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**Fourth Year**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POPH 301</td>
<td>Seminar: Design Thinking for Innovation in Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration Elective</td>
<td>Seminar: Social Science or HU Elective</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

1. All students in the College of Health pursuing a Bachelor of Science are required to take ENGL 002 Research and Argument special section for College of Health students. Advanced Placement is not accepted for ENGL 002 Research and Argument.
2. ECO 001 Principles of Economics is recommended.
3. For students pursuing a concentration in Global Population Health, foreign language electives are recommended.
EPI 306 Life Course Epidemiology 4 Credits
This course provides students a foundation for understanding the terminology and theoretical framework used in life course epidemiology and family health services research; biobehavioral pathways by which early life experiences impact health across the life course; data sources, study designs, and statistical approaches used in life course epidemiology and family health services research; and implications for clinical and public health practice, policy, and health system development with an eye towards development of effective and sustainable life course interventions.
Prerequisites: EPI 304

EPI 404 Methods in Epidemiology I 3 Credits

EPI 450 Special Topics in Epidemiology 3 Credits
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Health Innovation Technology Courses

HIT 010 Seminar: Design Thinking for Innovation in Health 1 Credit
Design Thinking is a human centered design process used to identify problems and create actionable solutions. Students will be exposed to the process, and attitudes needed, to frame and reframe problems, challenge assumptions, access their creativity, and tell compelling stories to communicate their ideas. The emphasis is on learning by doing and focuses on practicing the 5 steps in Design Thinking: Empathize, Define, Ideate, Prototype, Test that can be applied to virtually any area where new solutions are needed.

Population Health Courses

POPH 001 Introduction to Population Health 4 Credits
Despite significant advances in medicine and public health, inequities in health persist. Understanding health on a population level is an approach that seeks to improve the health of the whole population, unravel variations in health outcomes, and to identify effective strategies for reducing or eliminating inequities. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of: 1) how population health defined and measured; and 2) the determinants of population health (from cell to society).

POPH 002 Population Health Research Methods & Application 4 Credits
This course provides students with fundamental principles of research methods relevant to population health and the translation of research into practice. Through this course, we will review a range of study designs, including experimental and observational studies, mixed methods, and comparative qualitative case study methods. In addition, students will obtain the skills needed to translate research into practice for multiple stakeholder groups.
Prerequisites: POPH 001

POPH 010 Seminar: Population Health 1 Credit
This one-credit special topics seminar will focus on the development of Population Health relevant skills in the areas of communication, professional development, mentorship and leadership, proposal development, policy and advocacy and community engagement and coalitions.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 012 Seminar: Ethics in Population Health 1 Credit
This course will introduce students to ethical concepts and critical issues pertaining to the ethical inclusion of human subjects in population health research. This course will provide opportunities for writing about, discussion of, and case-based learning around current and historical perspectives on population health research. During this course, students will complete the necessary training for conducting human subjects research at Lehigh University.
POPH 101 History of Population Health 3 Credits
This course introduces students to the development of population health as a convergent science. Students will learn about the evolution of population health interests, normative beliefs in service delivery, and policy at the international and domestic level. The principles, ethical values and services enforced by law will be learned. Students will explore the initiatives, collectively achieved among various sectors, addressing the determinants of health. We conclude by addressing future population health challenges, such as the environment, non-communicable diseases, and inequalities.

POPH 103 Biological Basis of Population Health 4 Credits
How do social, economic, environmental determinants bring about diseases in groups of human beings? This course will survey the methods of investigating the biological mechanisms underlying human health outcomes. Students will explore investigation of human diseases using emerging and traditional tools in genomic, molecular, immunological, and environmental fields. Students will also be expected to deepen their awareness of individual/group susceptibility, and propose societal approaches to intervention and prevention of human diseases.

POPH 105 Introduction to Maternal and Child Population Health 4 Credits
The course introduces the student to the Maternal and Child Health field. Students will examine the multi-dimensional determinants of maternal and child health issues using a Life Course approach. Students will also explore the roles of research, programs, policy, and advocacy in the reduction of maternal and child health disparities.

POPH 106 Global Environment and Human Welfare 3 Credits
This course investigates the present understanding of multiple pollution agents and their effects on human health and well-being. The students will examine the history, the emergence, the known risks from exposure to specific pollutants through multiple media (e.g. air, water, food) with a particular focus on air pollution. Through readings, discussions, and a project, students are expected to cultivate a critical understanding of the risks posed by environmental pollutants on human health and identify knowledge gaps.

POPH 120 Independent Study or Research in Population Health 1-4 Credits
This course can be directed readings or research in Population Health or an experiential learning experience that puts student's understanding of Population Health into practice. Department permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 130 Internship in Population Health 1-4 Credits
In this introductory course, students will engage in supervised work in Population Health. Placements will be arranged to suit individual interests and career goals. Potential internship sites include government agencies, non profit organizations, and the private sector. A written report is required and preceptor evaluation will be required. Department permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 150 Special Topics in Population Health 3,4 Credits
In this advanced course, students will engage in supervised work in Population Health. Placements will be arranged to suit individual interests and career goals. Potential internship sites include government agencies, non profit organizations, and the private sector. A written report is required and preceptor evaluation will be required. Department permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 201 Population Health Capstone (Proposal) 4 Credits
In this writing intensive course, students will work closely with their academic advisor and site preceptor to develop a detailed proposal for a Population Health project. Department permission required.

POPH 202 Population Health Capstone (Execution) 4 Credits
In this course, students will implement and evaluate the Population Health project proposed in POPH 301. A final capstone report, oral presentation, and preceptor evaluation will be required. Department permission required.
Prerequisites: POPH 301

POPH 304 Seminar: Writing about Science 1 Credit
This one-credit special topics seminar will expose students to the planning, writing, editing and publishing stages of writing about science in various mediums, including journal articles, policy briefs, and mass media.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 320 Independent Study or Research in Population Health 1-4 Credits
This course can be directed readings or research in Population Health or experiential learning that puts the student's understanding of Population Health into practice. Department permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 330 Internship in Population Health 1-4 Credits
In this advanced course, students will engage in supervised work in Population Health. Placements will be arranged to suit individual interests and career goals. Potential internship sites include government agencies, non profit organizations, and the private sector. A written report is required and preceptor evaluation will be required. Department permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 350 Special Topics in Population Health 3,4 Credits
In this course, students will engage in an intensive exploration of a topic of special interest that is not covered in other courses. Topics addressed will be at an advanced level.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

POPH 401 Population Health Concepts and Methods 3 Credits

POPH 403 Biological Basis of Population Health: Concepts and Methods 3 Credits

POPH 405 (EDUC 405) Qualitative Research Methods 3 Credits

POPH 406 Seminar: Cultural Understanding and Health 1 Credit

POPH 407 Seminar: Data-informed Policy Making 1 Credit

POPH 408 Population Health Survey Methods 3 Credits
Prerequisites: POPH 401 and (EPI 404 or EPI 304) and BSTA 402

POPH 409 Social Determinants of Population Health 3 Credits
Prerequisites: POPH 401

POPH 410 Population Health Thesis I (proposal) 1 Credit
Prerequisites: POPH 401

POPH 411 Population Health Thesis II (execution) 3 Credits
Prerequisites: POPH 410

POPH 412 Seminar: Research Ethics in Population Health 1 Credit

POPH 431 Environmental Health Sciences: Concepts and Methods 3 Credits

Public Health Courses
PUBH 401 Health Promotion and Education 3 Credits
PUBH 402 Health Services, Administration, Politics, and Policy 3 Credits
PUBH 403 Health Program Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation 3 Credits
Prerequisites: PUBH 401 and (EPI 404 or EPI 304)
PUBH 404 Seminar: Leadership and Health Practice 1 Credit
Prerequisites: PUBH 401

PUBH 410 Public Health Internship and Capstone I (proposal) 3 Credits
Prerequisites: PUBH 401

PUBH 411 Public Health Internship and Capstone II (execution) 6 Credits
Prerequisites: PUBH 410