Public Health
Undergraduate
Handbook
Fall 2017
Revised Oct 10, 2017

Inside:
Program Information
Career Resources
Scholarship Guide
Faculty Contacts
FAQs
and more.
ABOUT THIS HANDBOOK

The primary purpose of this undergraduate handbook is to provide new and transfer undergraduate students with content and process information that are needed to successfully complete the Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree. It is also expected that the information provided within this handbook about school faculty, student support activities, and various components of the program will result in a rich experience for each student and the belief that positive contributions can be made by every student in the field of public health.

We are so happy you have chosen the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Community Health Sciences for your selected degree. You are invited to join the dynamic and progressive student body at this fine institution.

The first step towards academic success begins with our Division of Health Sciences Advising Center. We are here to assist you, so please stop by our office in WHA 1 or give us a call at 702-895-5448. You may also email us at healthsciencesadvisngcenter@unlv.edu. We encourage you to visit with us at least once a semester.

Again, congratulations on your acceptance. We are certain you will find UNLV to be an encouraging environment in which to pursue your education and career goals.

Vaune Kadlubek
Director of the Division of Health Sciences Advising Center

Welcome to Nevada, Las Vegas, UNLV, the School of Community Health Sciences and the undergraduate public health program!

You have made a great career choice. As you already know, or will soon find out, Las Vegas offers an incomparable experience in the public health field for those who want to become involved.

What you will also discover over time is that you will interact with public health professionals throughout the degree program all of whom desire the same outcome for you - a successful completion of the degree requirements and a satisfying and productive career in public health. Many people can help you along the way, if you need it.

Best of luck! Hope to see you in class!

Chuck Regin, PhD
Undergraduate Public Health Program Coordinator

WELCOME

Welcome to the UNLV School of Community Health Sciences and the undergraduate program in Public Health!

With a public health degree you will learn the skills needed to advance and safeguard the health of populations, especially the most vulnerable, which includes children, the elderly, the economically disadvantaged, and minority and marginalized populations. These skills will be learned through not only classroom exercises but in collaboration with our faculty, staff, centers, research projects, volunteer opportunities and extensive community partnerships.

We believe that a multidisciplinary approach and education is the key to solving the complex problems that face today's society. We encourage you to take every opportunity to engage in the diverse activities and learning opportunities that the program, school and university have to offer. Get ready to go make a difference, we expect you to.

Shawn L. Gerstenberger, PhD
Dean, School of Community Health Sciences

It is an eventful time to be in public health. You have heard about the emergence of Ebola Virus and Zika Virus. We are still in the midst of the AIDS pandemic, the obesity epidemic and the opioid epidemic in the U.S.

We are also faced with critical public health threats including antibiotic-resistant superbugs, ecosystem degradation and climate change, high prevalence of teen suicide and homicide, child abuse, physical assaults and gun shootings in various communities nationwide.

All these major public health problems require close collaboration and teamwork of diverse public health professionals including epidemiologists, health educators, environmental health specialists, social and behavioral science experts and health policy makers.

Francisco Sy, M.D., DrPH
Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

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Best of luck! Hope to see you in class!

Chuck Regin, PhD
Undergraduate Public Health Program Coordinator
Hello incoming public health students!

The Public Health Student Association (PHSA) welcomes you to a tight knit community that brings together faculty and staff, researchers, volunteer organizations, outside public health professionals, and undergraduate and graduate level students.

Through the PHSA you will be able to work along side those already in your desired fields and make meaningful connections within the Las Vegas community and beyond.

Along with volunteer opportunities and making professional connections you will be able to get to know the public health faculty and staff better and have a chance in providing feedback about the degree program and opportunities for students in the School of Community Health Sciences.

Congratulations on becoming a part of our program and welcome to the public health community.

Taylor Cobb
Public Health Student Association President

Welcome!

As a fellow alum, new HCA/MHA instructor, president of the SCHS alumni chapter, and community member, I would like to offer a warm welcome to all of the new and transferring students. The journey you are about to embark on at UNLV will challenge you, hopefully evoke passion and purpose in your future/current career, and prepare you for post college life.

It is our goal to not only give you the skills needed for success but also act as mentors, challenge you to think in new ways, and help you to grow both personally and professionally. Our desire is to extend a gracious and inclusive welcome to all of you.

Sarah Bussman, MHA, RN, CRNI - President
School of Community Health Sciences Alumni Association
5: CONTACTS

The School
The Department
The Undergraduate Public Health Program
The Program’s Advising Center
Current Semester Teaching Faculty
OVERVIEW

Mission & Vision

The School’s vision - contributions that the school would like to make to society - is to be a “vibrant center of excellence for public health teaching, research, and community action and to be a magnet for state, national, and international students”.

The mission of the School of Community Health Sciences - how the school will move forward toward reaching the vision - is to “advance the science of public health, improve the health and quality of life of people in our communities, and work to eliminate health disparities in Nevada, the nation, and the world by providing leadership in quality education, research, and service”.

School History

The School of Community Health Sciences was established on the UNLV campus in 2004 and is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of people worldwide. It was composed of two departments - Environmental and Occupational Health and Health Care Administration with degree offerings at the bachelor's and masters levels.

At that time, there were 18 faculty and staff members in the School. The initial efforts of the faculty in public health to improve the quality of all academic offerings in the school focused on the masters program, culminating with the degree program (MPH) receiving national accreditation in 2013.

Current Status

Since its establishment, the number of personnel in the school has grown by 67% and it currently employs over 30 faculty, part time instructors and professional staff who contribute to and oversee bachelors, masters and doctorate academic programs, five research centers, four labs and three programs / initiatives.

In 2016, the faculty published 1010 articles (the most per faculty member on campus) and received $5.5 million in grant awards (again, the most per faculty member on campus). The school also has over 70 agreements with surrounding health agencies, almost all of which can be important sources of volunteering / internship opportunities for undergraduate students.

ACADEMIC APPEALS

About Academic Appeals

There are two categories of actions that are resolved external to the School of Community Health Sciences. The two are:

Petition: These are issues (e.g. grade change, class withdrawal, etc.) that require forms from the list of options provided at https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/forms. Assistance in filling these forms out correctly can be found through the Division of Health Sciences' Advising Center.

Grievance: These are issues that can be personal in nature (e.g. sexual harassment, discrimination, etc). The appropriate initial step is to contact either the Director of Student Conduct and / or the Director of the Office of Compliance directly.

Appeals Process

• Make an appointment to meet with a member of the Health Sciences Advising Center staff.

• Explain your issues with an advising center staff member to determine the official category of the academic appeal.

• Secure the correct Faculty Senate appeals form from the campus website.

• Review the requested information on the form with the advising center staff member.

• Complete all areas (supportive documentation may be requested).

• Return all forms to the Division of Health Sciences' Advising Center.

• Based on the type of appeal, the Advising Center staff member will secure all appropriate signatures and forward the form to the appropriate university committee for deliberation and a decision.

Notification to the student of the committee’s decision regarding the appeal is usually 30 days.
The faculty, staff, and administrators of the School of Community Health Science are united in their support of the American Public Health Association’s 12 Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health. In addition, the members of the school adhere to the UNLV Code of Ethics and Conduct for all university employees. Finally, members of the School of Community Health Sciences embrace the university’s Student Code of Conduct.

To Submit a Commendation

To submit a supportive statement about the undergraduate public health program, its faculty / staff, or the advising center that is positive in nature, select a submission route from the options listed below:

- Supportive statements about an administrative assistant: send the documents directly to the dean, the EOH department chair, the dean’s assistant, or the administrative assistants’ supervisor.
- Supportive statements about a faculty member: Send the documents directly to the chair of the EOH department.
- Supportive statements about a school’s professional staff member who is not an administrative assistant: Send the documents directly to the dean and the EOH department chair.
- Supportive statements about the school’s associate dean: send the documents directly to the dean.
- Supportive statements about the school’s dean: send the documents directly to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.
- Supportive statement about an event, program, or situation: Send the documents directly to the dean and the EOH department chair.
- Supportive statements about a member of the Division of Health Sciences advising staff: Send the documents to the Director of The Division of Health Sciences Advising Center.

The School of Community Health Sciences also offers two additional formal avenues for recognition: The Rebel Spirit Award and Rebels With A Cause Award.

To Submit an Academic Appeal / Petition / Complaint – Student Generated

Unfortunately, there may be a time when an academic situation is experienced by a student that is “unacceptable” to the student. While a complete list of alleged incidences is beyond the scope of this document, the following is provided to help guide your steps to a satisfactory resolution within the department / school. Simply put, to achieve a resolution to the situation within the school is, in this order:

1. Talk to the faculty or staff member first
   • Attempt to resolve the situation with a face to face meeting with the faculty member. Bring all documents to the meeting that pertains to the disagreement. Once completed, compose a written summary of what was said – especially important if the situation was not resolved to your satisfaction.

2. Talk to the EOH department chair
   • If the face to face meeting with the faculty member is unsatisfactory, ask to meet face to face with the faculty member’s department chair. Bring your summary of the face to face meeting and any other pertinent documents (e.g. official summary forms provided by the Office of Student Conduct) to this meeting.

3. Talk to the dean of the school
   • If the meeting with the department chair is unsatisfactory, ask to meet face to face with the school’s dean. Bring summary documents about previous meetings and any other information applicable to the issue.

4. Follow the university posted guidelines provided by the Office of Student Conduct.
   • If the meeting with the dean is unsatisfactory, the protocol detailed on the Office of Student Conduct website should be followed.

The following considerations are recommended, not required:

- Write / keep a chronology of the events in a dedicated file.
- If the issue is course-related, address the standards that were set for the work in your narrative - avoid comparisons with other students.
- If the issue is directly about a person’s alleged behavior, be as precise as possible in your description.
- If any meetings / discussions take place, write a brief summary of the interaction as
soon after the meeting as possible and save in your dedicated file.

If the issue is resolved internally, the student will be contacted via university email sent by the school / department. The email will verify the outcome of the meeting and summarized the procedure. The school / department will retain a copy of the email.

If the issue is unresolved, the student will have the opportunity to submit a university approved form that details the disagreement. The student will then submit the correct form to the appropriate office. The final review and resolution of the issue will be conducted by a university committee and the student will be notified of the outcome within 30 days of submission.

To Submit a Complaint about Faculty / Staff Behavior Towards a Student / Group of Students – Student(s) Generated

• Initially, consult / meet with the Director of Student Conduct and / or the Academic Director of the Office of Compliance.

• Ask to meet with the Department Chair. Bring all pertinent information to the meeting.

NOTE: The chair may ask to have the meeting with others present (e.g. the School of Community Health Sciences’ dean).

• If the meeting with the department chair is unsatisfactory, ask to meet with the school’s dean. Bring summary documents about previous meetings and any other information applicable to the issue.

If the meeting with the dean is unsatisfactory, contact the Executive Director of the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs for an appointment.

Complaint – Faculty / Staff Generated

If a situation needs to be reported by a faculty or staff member in the school of Community Health Sciences about a student, the faculty / staff member follows the guidelines as detailed on the Office of Student Conduct’s website and here.
STUDENT SUPPORT

UNLV has identified nine key measures academic commitment as it evolves into a Top Tier institution. One of the nine is “Student achievement of learning outcomes.” The faculty within the School of Community Health Sciences enthusiastically provides professional growth opportunities for all undergraduate public health students. To assist this growth, numerous undergraduate programs have been created within the School.

JOBS

In 2017, the U.S. Department of Labor listed healthcare occupations as a growth industry “adding more jobs than any other group of occupations.” Within the healthcare category are occupations in public health. The field of public health offers careers in over 50 distinct areas. For example, in environmental health, a graduate can be hired as an Industrial Hygienist.

In Epidemiology and Biostatistics, a graduate can be hired as a biostatistician. In Social and Behavioral Health a graduate can be hired as a Health Promotions Program Coordinator. Salaries for these entry-level positions range from $39,000 to $72,000. (Jobs in public health requiring masters or doctoral degrees can command salaries as high as $140,000 or higher.) A career guide overview is here.

Job Listings

A detailed summary of public health jobs, job duties, working conditions, earning potential, and job growth possibilities can be found here. Current public health jobs from a national perspective can be found here.

In addition, the American Public Health Association (APHA) provides current job listings on their homepage.

Las Vegas-specific public health related job listings can be found here and here.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The application for and the awarding of financial support packages is an important financial strategy that allows students to complete their undergraduate degree requirements in a timely manner. Scholarships and grants are awarded yearly to deserving students based on application practices employed by various sponsoring agencies.

List of Scholarships

Current SCHS-based scholarships are found here.

UNLV-based scholarship descriptions can be found here.

Nationally-based public health scholarship listings can be found here.

EVENTS

Throughout Clark County / Southern Nevada health and health-related organizations sponsor and present information to the public regarding public health topics. These events vary from lecture / workshop(s) presented at the sponsoring agency’s work-site to large rallies of interested people meeting in a park or large conference center. In addition, UNLV provides numerous opportunities for student involvement and professional growth, many of which are related to the field of public health and frequently sponsored by the staff of the Rebel Wellness Zone.

List of Events

School sponsored events are found here.

Other volunteer opportunities can be identified by typing in “volunteer” in the UNLV home page search function.

The All Voices Heard series is a School of Community Health Sciences program offering a framework for thoughtful public health topic discourse among event participants.

More specifically, select members of diverse populations can meet with at least one unifying outcome - to enhance the quality of life among the event participants. In addition to these personal enhancements, the participants can ultimately improve / positively affect the communities they serve through the series’ educationally-sound information delivery strategies.
All Voices Heard series participants may include:

- Current undergraduate students
- Current graduate students
- Faculty and staff members
- SCHS program alumni
- Community public health organization / agency representatives

Times, topics and locations vary. Please see the undergraduate handbook for an overview of the Series’ events in the future.

VOLUNTEERING

The field of public health is both diverse and dynamic. With sub-specialties within the public health field (i.e. epidemiology and biostatistics, social and behavioral health, and environmental and occupational health), it is important that undergraduate students have an opportunity to gain and expand upon first-hand experiences in one, some, or all of these areas.

Finding Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities vary from assisting with simple public health event tasks (e.g. setting up tables, distribution of participation gear, etc.) to being a part of the planning, delivery and evaluation of a public health workshop team. The current list of public health volunteer opportunities is found here. Other volunteer opportunities can be identified by typing in “volunteer” in the UNLV home page search function. Finally, volunteer opportunities are posted on the Public Health Student Association’s website and Facebook page.

DELTA OMEGA HONOR SOCIETY

The Delta Omega Society is a national honors organization designed to “encourage and recognize excellence in practice, research, education, and academic achievement in the field of public health”. The Delta Theta Chapter of the Delta Omega Honor Society at UNLV was formed in the School of Community Health Sciences in July 2016. 21 new members were inducted in May 2017 - two of whom were undergraduate public health students.

Delta Theta Chapter

Nominations for inclusion into the society come from the local chapter president. For the undergraduate student, nominations are based on current overall GPA value and are calculated at the end of a student’s degree program. Nominations and selections are made during the spring semester. No more than 10% of the current number of graduat-
ing public health undergraduate students is eligible for inclusion.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

The UNLV campus provides undergraduate students with as many opportunities as possible for academic success through its numerous courses and degree offerings. In addition, the campus community provides personnel resources and makes them available to each student.

Health Related University Resources

Academic Success Center (https://www.unlv.edu/asc)
Career Services (https://www.unlv.edu/hirearebel)
Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (https://www.unlv.edu/csun/about)
Disability Resource Center (https://www.unlv.edu/drc)
Jean Nidetch Women’s Center (https://www.unlv.edu/womenscenter)
Military and Veterans Service Center (https://www.unlv.edu/veterans/contact)
Office of Student Conduct (https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct)
Student Counseling and Psychological Services (https://www.unlv.edu/srwc/caps)
Student Engagement and Diversity Office (https://www.unlv.edu/getinvolved/about)
Student Health Center (https://www.unlv.edu/srwc/health-center)
Student Recreation and Wellness Center (https://www.unlv.edu/srwc)
UNLV Writing Center (http://writingcenter.unlv.edu)

STUDENT TO STUDENT

School of Community Health Sciences faculty and the PBH prefix courses they teach, along with individual “life” experiences of all undergraduate students in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health program have helped create, shape, and refine student views of various component parts of the dynamic field of public health. Reflecting on and verbalizing these views is an important assessment tool for both the student, as well as the faculty members in the undergraduate public health program.

Designated Mentor

The purpose of the designated mentor program is to support public health majors by connecting electronically end-of-program public health students (mentors) with incoming freshmen who have declared public health as their major. The mentors are volunteers from the PBH 495 Capstone in Public Health class. Incoming freshmen / new students are contacted at the beginning of a semester via email originating from the SCHS’ dean’s office - this is done to maintain student privacy. It is believed that this outreach strategy will assist new-to-the-program students in their transition from high school / work-life to a university-based academic life. Assistance is offered in areas ranging from academic insights to recreational opportunities in Southern Nevada. The current list of Designated Mentors is here.

Public Health Student Association

The Public Health Student Association at UNLV offers public health students a way to evaluate their respective programs and implement changes when needed. Additionally, the Association provides information and opportunities for students to communicate with professionals in the private and public sectors of the public health field with the overall goal of promoting and protecting the health of individuals in our society. To join or interact with current members, click here.

Rules of Acquisition

The overall goal of these student generated rules, observations, and recommendations is to assist all undergraduate students in acquiring their degree as soon as possible, with as few detours / miss-steps / delays as possible. Theis ist offers the "sage" advice based on experiences of those students who have preceded current students:
General – Self:
• Register for classes on time because some classes will fill up quick
• For transfer students keep an eye on the transfer credits to make sure you don’t go over the credit limit and then have to pay the excess credit fee
• Talk to your advisor for both your major AND your minor
• Don’t stay in program if you are not comfortable with it
• Consider working on campus and visit career services

General – Program:
• Examine carefully the required set of courses and what your options for electives are
• Check the course rotation to see if it will conflict with your other courses and/or graduation semester
• Join the public health student association and be active in extracurricular activities
• Check the list of upcoming events students can attend in order to engage with others in the public health major

General Education Suggestions:
• See if any courses overlap and substitute other required courses (with the help of the advising staff)

Graduation Suggestions:
• Know the graduation application deadlines
• If you are interested in grad school make sure to take the GRE on time
• If you want letters of recommendation - get to know the faculty

Each semester, students submit work to professors that is of unusually high quality and truly worth others seeing / reading. As part of the national accreditation in public health process, copies of student work are selected and displayed as examples of the acquisition of knowledge and skills in the public health field.

Exemplary Student Work
With the permission of each student author, the attached work samples provide a tangible “glimpse” as to the level of quality students in the undergraduate public health program are capable.

NOTE: The samples provided herein are displayed for educational purposes only. These works are protected from being partially or wholly copied, reproduced, or transmitted in any way. Violations of university policy regarding the unauthorized use of these works will be referred to the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.
THE PROGRAM

Public health professionals in the School of Community Health Sciences, in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, and the staff of the Division of Health Sciences advising center work together to offer:

• A Bachelor of Science degree in public health: 120 credits
• An undergraduate minor in public health: 24 credits
• An undergraduate minor in sustainability and health: 24 credits

The degree is designed to prepare individuals for an entry-level position in public health or prepares students to continue their education at the masters and doctoral levels.

History / Foundations

The current Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree was launched on the UNLV campus during the fall, 2014 semester. Although this version is relatively new, the roots of this degree originated in the Community Health Education degree program offered on the UNLV campus over 40 years ago.

Capstone Experience

Designed as the concluding class in the degree program, the Capstone in Public Health course (PBH 495) offers senior-level students the opportunity to act on their next step in their professional development and involvement within the field of public health while remaining a student in the degree program. Students are allowed to choose the essential format of the culminating experience from three options.

The Initial Capstone Process

All students are required to complete the Permission to Enroll Application form the semester BEFORE the capstone class is taken. This step is part of the “permission to enroll” protocol for the class. Once completed, it is submitted to the undergraduate public health program coordinator for review and approval.

The Capstone Options

1. Professional / Senior Paper: Using the guidance of a student-selected SCHS professor (aka the paper’s sponsor), the student constructs a final paper following the basic guidelines of a research paper. The topic is selected by the student. All aspects of the paper’s format (e.g. writing style, length, etc.) is provided by the sponsoring faculty member. The willingness to work with and guide a student’s work is at the discretion of the sponsoring faculty member.
2. Internship: The student selects, interviews with, and, if agreed to by the site, volunteers to be a part of a pre-approved public health community site. A minimum of 120 hours must be completed at the site in order to fulfill one of the requirements of the capstone class.
3. Research Team Member The Pre-GA program (Part 3 Pre GA.docx) is designed to provide a graduate level-like experience to the student, class members can apply for and interview with the faculty member(s) in charge of the research project. If selected after an application and interview process, the student agrees to dedicate 120 hours of volunteer time to the project. A list of potential Pre-GA sites (Pre GA sites.docx) and the application form are posted.

The Pre-GA Program

The School of Community Health Sciences (SCHS) is in full support of the university-wide goal to become a more viable and productive research institution. Masters and Doctoral programs have a long history of contributing to a goal such as this in part through assistantships awarded at the graduate level. These assistantships give a level of training to individual students not normally possible through classroom work. The faculty members of the School of Community Health Sciences are extending that research arm in an innovative and synergistic way to undergraduate students.

The undergraduate volunteer Pre-GA programs are designed to connect SCHS faculty members in need of qualified student assistance on research projects with volunteer undergraduate students who enjoy and are challenged by public health-related faculty research projects. While initially intended as an option for the program’s capstone class, highly motivated and qualified undergraduate students in the Public Health degree program can also be considered. This option can be used as a foundation for either PBH 497 Independent Study in Public Health or PBH 498 Special Topics in Public Health.

Application Process

A current listing of Pre-GA positions is found here. A brief description of each project and the faculty member leading the project are provided. To apply, fill out the Pre-GA Application form and submit it to the undergraduate public health program coordinator. Once screened by the coordinator, the application form will be passed on to the project leader for review. A review of the application form will be made by the project’s lead
faculty member with an introductory interview scheduled based on the application review. If the application form is judged to be incompatible with the project at this time, the project lead faculty member will inform the undergraduate program coordinator who will pass on the decision to the applicant. Notification of a student’s acceptance as a team member will be made by the lead faculty member as quickly as possible. It is best if the form is submitted for review near the end of the semester BEFORE the work is scheduled to start.

Accreditation

Universities and their component parts (i.e. colleges, schools, departments, and programs) are committed to the highest quality experience possible through innovative degree programs for their students, faculty, staff, administrators, and the communities that it serves. UNLV and the School of Community Health Sciences embrace this philosophy, in part, through the voluntary review of its component parts by national and regional accreditation agencies.

The university, and therefore by extension, the undergraduate public health degree program, is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

The School of Community Health Sciences is currently applying (2017) for school-wide accreditation (which includes the Bachelor of Science in Public Health program) from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). A determination of the success of the application will be announced in late 2018.

At this time, the Master of Public Health program within the School of Community Health Sciences was accredited by Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) in June of 2013 for a five year period.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the minimum GPA requirement for the Public Health Program?

2.75

2. Is the BSPH an accredited program?

All UNLV programs are accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The School of Community Health Sciences has submitted an application to a national accrediting organization in public health (Council for Education in Public Health). It is currently seeking school-wide public health program accreditation. A decision on this application will be announced during the fall 2018 semester.

3. Are classes offered for non-traditional students in the BSPH Program?

While most of the classes occur during the day, many online and evening classes are offered for the non-traditional students.

4. How much does the BSPH Program cost?

The cost of the program depends, in part, on the amount of credits you are taking, the type of classes you are taking (online or lecture), and whether you are a resident of Nevada. Please see College Costs for all fees.

5. Who is the advisor for the Public Health bachelors program?

The Health Sciences Division’s Advising Center does all of the advising for the undergraduate program.

6. How do I become a member of the PH Student Association (PHSA)?

Click here for all application forms.

7. When is the last date to drop/withdraw from a class?

Usually it is at the 6th week of the semester. Check here for exact dates.

8. What do I do if I have a complaint about a professor?

The expedited process of resolving a complaint directed toward a faculty member in the SCHS is, in order:

1. Talk to the professor first
2. Talk to the EOH department chair
3. Talk to the dean of the school
4. Follow the university posted guidelines

Elevating the issue from one level to the next is followed if a resolution at a previous
9. What options do I have if I am failing a class?

- Drop / withdraw from the class.
- If a documentable medical rationale is the reason for failing, seek out the course’s professor to explore having an incomplete submitted to the registrar for the class.
- A student may audit a class during a semester to enhance their chance of doing academically better when the course is repeated.

10. How long does it take to complete the BSPH program?

The graduating class of spring 2017 took an average of eight to ten semesters to finish. Those taking longer were those students who transferred into the program.

11. Can I transfer in course work from another institution?

Yes, but to achieve a degree from UNLV, the last 60 credits MUST be taken at UNLV.

12. How do I apply for graduation?

Guidelines for graduation are supplied by the Health Sciences advising center. All graduation applications must be reviewed first by the advising center. Additional information about graduation is found here.

13. What do I do if I’m trying to enroll in a class and MyUNLV won’t let me?

Check that all pre-requisites are met. Send an email to the instructor and ask for permission, ccing: admin.schs@unlv.edu

14. What options do I have if the class I need to enroll in is full?

Send email to the instructor and ask for permission to add if full, ccing: admin.schs@unlv.edu

15. What qualifications do I need in order to work in an entry level position within a public health setting?

The core degree requirements will prepare you for a “generalist’s” job in public health. If you take electives in one of the suggested concentration area, you will qualify for positions in that area as well.

16. Do I need a master’s degree in the public health field?

If you enjoy the challenge of a leadership position, then almost every occupation in public health will require a graduate degree. In the spring of 2017, 30% of the graduating seniors indicated they were going on directly to graduate school.

17. What is the typical class size of PBH courses?

The average size of upper division public health courses is 22.

18. What is the graduation rate of the degree program?

The graduation rate of the BSPH degree program between the fall semester of 2014 and the summer semester of 2017 is estimated at over 60%. This number is nearly 50% higher than the graduation rate for all undergraduate programs across the UNLV campus.

19. How diverse is the student body at UNLV?

UNLV has been identified as the second most diverse campus in the United States. In 2012, The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) achieved designation from the Department of Education as a Title III & Title V Minority Serving Institution (MSI). In 2015, UNLV achieved designations as an Asian-American and Native-American, Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI), and as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). Students in the undergraduate program reflect that diversity.

Public Health Concentrations

Three of the public health sub-categories offered at UNLV at this time include:

- **Social and Behavioral Health** - emphasizing community-based programs in health promotion and diseases prevention (e.g. smoking cessation program worker / director, diabetes awareness program team member / manager)
- **Epidemiology / Biostatistics** - emphasizing 1) the distribution and determinants of disease e.g. infectious disease epidemiologist, fitness and nutrition epidemiologist) and 2) statistical methods as they apply to human health and disease (e.g. behavioral risk factor team member, infectious disease survey member)
• Environmental and Occupational Health - emphasizing how the built and natural environments impact individual and community health. (e.g. sanitarian, risk management assistant manager)

• Generalist - a broad spectrum approach in public health for those students unsure of their “content / preference future” in public health.

In addition, a limited number of classes can be taken at the graduate level during an undergraduate student’s final semester of enrollment in the undergraduate program. UNLV Graduate College permission is required.

Degree Requirements

To complete the Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health a student will complete:

• a minimum of 120 credits

• 37 to 40 of the total credits are general education required courses

• 58 of the credits are major-specific courses

• 22 - 25 of the credits are electives (guidance for selection provided by the advising center staff)

The selection of a public health concentration is encouraged. Meeting frequently with the advising center staff is highly recommended.
FACULTY

One of the strengths of the faculty associated with the School of Community Health Sciences is the diversity represented among its membership. To illustrate, the current faculty and staff grew up in ten different countries representing four continents, the members are from eight different states and possess degrees in medicine, public health, law, and education. Together, this group itself is a microcosm of the dynamic field of public health.

Organizational Chart

All organizations are structured to best serve their clientele. In the case of the School of Community Health Sciences, the structure of the school involves faculty, staff, labs, centers, departments, and administrators.

Faculty Profiles

Specific information about each faculty member can be found here.
While this handbook is designed to provide verifiable / accurate information and assistance in a student’s pursuit of a bachelor’s degree, there is still much that can be asked - and may not be found - in this document. As such, the following list of contacts is made available to all undergraduate students to assist in clarifying program-related issues and policies (perhaps) not covered in this handbook.

NOTE: University policy states that all university-related email communiques’ between the student and a faculty or staff member or a unit MUST use RebelMail.

### Current Contacts - School of Community Health Sciences
- **Administrative Assistants & Dean’s Assistant**: Valearia Clark, Alison Laney and Sherri Gorter; Connie Correia
- **Dean**: Shawn Gerstenberger
- **Associate Dean**: Jay Shen

### Current Contacts - Department
- **Administrative Assistant**: Alison Laney

### Current Contacts – Undergraduate Public Health Program
- **Coordinator of the Public Health Undergraduate Program**: Chuck Regin

### Current Contacts – Advising
- **Division of Health Sciences Advising Center - Main Office**: 

### Current Contacts – Teaching Faculty by Semester
Refer to the embedded table on the following page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Faculty, Faculty-in-Residence, Part Time Instructors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBH 165</td>
<td>Personal Health Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>Chuck Regin <a href="mailto:chuck.regin@unlv.edu">chuck.regin@unlv.edu</a>, Aaron Hunt <a href="mailto:aaron.hunt@unlv.edu">aaron.hunt@unlv.edu</a>, Chad Cross <a href="mailto:chad.cross@unlv.edu">chad.cross@unlv.edu</a>, Jose Melendez <a href="mailto:jose.melendez@unlv.edu">jose.melendez@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 200</td>
<td>Multicultural Health</td>
<td>Erika Marquez <a href="mailto:erika.marquez@unlv.edu">erika.marquez@unlv.edu</a>, Semiu Gbadamosi <a href="mailto:semiu.gbadamosi@unlv.edu">semiu.gbadamosi@unlv.edu</a>, Ray Rodriguez <a href="mailto:ray.rodriguez@unlv.edu">ray.rodriguez@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 202</td>
<td>Introduction to Epidemiology</td>
<td>Lung-Wen Chen <a href="mailto:lung-wen.chen@unlv.edu">lung-wen.chen@unlv.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBH 205</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Health</td>
<td>Jennifer Pharr <a href="mailto:jennifer.pharr@unlv.edu">jennifer.pharr@unlv.edu</a>, Sheniz Moonie <a href="mailto:sheniz.moonie@unlv.edu">sheniz.moonie@unlv.edu</a>, Sheila Clark <a href="mailto:sheila.clark@unlv.edu">sheila.clark@unlv.edu</a>, Kathleen Lauckner <a href="mailto:klauckner@unlv.edu">klauckner@unlv.edu</a>, Brian Labus <a href="mailto:brian.labus@unlv.edu">brian.labus@unlv.edu</a>, Charles Regin <a href="mailto:charles.regin@unlv.edu">charles.regin@unlv.edu</a>, Ge Kahn <a href="mailto:gekahn@unlv.edu">gekahn@unlv.edu</a>, Rachelle Rodriguez <a href="mailto:rachelle.rodriguez@unlv.edu">rachelle.rodriguez@unlv.edu</a>, Amanda Morgan <a href="mailto:amanda.morgan@unlv.edu">amanda.morgan@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 275</td>
<td>Injury Prevention and Control</td>
<td>Courtney Coughenour <a href="mailto:courtney.coughenour@unlv.edu">courtney.coughenour@unlv.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBH 330</td>
<td>Global Health</td>
<td>Jennifer Pharr <a href="mailto:jennifer.pharr@unlv.edu">jennifer.pharr@unlv.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBH 360</td>
<td>Research Methods for Public Health</td>
<td>Amanda Haboubah-Deloye <a href="mailto:amanda.haboubah@unlv.edu">amanda.haboubah@unlv.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBH 365</td>
<td>Applied Biostatistics for Public Health</td>
<td>Lung-Chang Chien <a href="mailto:lung-chang.chien@unlv.edu">lung-chang.chien@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 407</td>
<td>Stress Management</td>
<td>Charles Regin <a href="mailto:chuck.regin@unlv.edu">chuck.regin@unlv.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBH 424</td>
<td>Teaching Elementary School Health</td>
<td>Carissa Wolf <a href="mailto:carissa.wolf@unlv.edu">carissa.wolf@unlv.edu</a>, Jennifer Shaps <a href="mailto:jennifer.shaps@unlv.edu">jennifer.shaps@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 429</td>
<td>Education for Sexuality</td>
<td>Amanda Morgan <a href="mailto:amanda.morgan@unlv.edu">amanda.morgan@unlv.edu</a>, Raymond Rodriguez <a href="mailto:raymond.rodriguez@unlv.edu">raymond.rodriguez@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 435</td>
<td>Health Studies on Dangerous Drugs</td>
<td>Sheila Clark <a href="mailto:sheila.clark@unlv.edu">sheila.clark@unlv.edu</a>, MacKenzie Burns <a href="mailto:mackenzie.burns@unlv.edu">mackenzie.burns@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 445</td>
<td>Food access and health</td>
<td>Charles Regin <a href="mailto:charles.regin@unlv.edu">charles.regin@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 495</td>
<td>Capstone in Public Health</td>
<td>Sheila Clark <a href="mailto:sheila.clark@unlv.edu">sheila.clark@unlv.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 497</td>
<td>Independent Study in Public Health</td>
<td>As needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PBH 498</td>
<td>Special Topics in Public Health</td>
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