Bachelor of Arts

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Public Health is the interdisciplinary science of preventing disease and injury to improve the health of communities and populations. Public health professionals work to identify solutions to address complex issues as wide ranging as air pollution, chronic disease, gun violence, infectious diseases, tobacco control and mental health.

The School of Public Health offers a major and summer minor that includes epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, and health policy. The curriculum prepares students to become changemakers in public health, for a more equitable and just world.

I knew I was extremely passionate about health and healthcare, but I didn’t know exactly what role I wanted to pursue....The major allows you to explore and get a feel for what best fits you.

– Mia Salvini, Class of 2020

THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Undergraduate students in the College of Letters & Science can apply to the Public Health major after completing the lower division requirements. It is highly recommended to apply by the end of sophomore year. Students should also take steps to declare an alternate major, as Public Health is a capped major with limited capacity. Visit publichealth.berkeley.edu/admissions/undergraduate/ for more information about admission to Public Health. Be sure to also check in with a peer advisor.

Admissions rate ~81.5%
Average GPA of accepted students (2017 - 18)
Prerequisite 3.44 Overall 3.43

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# PUBLIC HEALTH
Bachelor of Arts

## DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

### FIRST YEAR
- **Explore your major**
  - Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
  - Review major and college requirements. Check out sample plans for intended public health majors.
  - Talk to Public Health peer advisors for coursework advice and to learn about the major.

### SECOND YEAR
- **Connect and build community**
  - Get involved with Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program.
  - Join the Public Health Facebook page.
  - Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center (SLC).
  - Join a Public Health student group such as the Cal Undergraduate Public Health Coalition.

- **Discover your passions**
  - Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar. Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.
  - Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URAP, UROC, and SMART.
  - Get inspired by research taking place in the School of Public Health.

- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
  - Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.
  - Check out volunteer opportunities in health and medicine.

### THIRD YEAR
- **Review your major**
  - Complete lower division prerequisites and apply to the major at the end of your sophomore year.
  - Look for courses that can satisfy both college requirements and major prerequisites.
  - Explore the different electives in Public Health.
  - Review major guidelines for study abroad.

### FOURTH YEAR
- **Connect and build community**
  - Follow the Public Health newsletter and start attending department events.
  - As a rising junior, consider the Fung Fellowships for Wellness and Technology Innovations.
  - Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.

- **Discover your passions**
  - Explore ethical issues in health and medicine with the Health and Medical Apprenticeship Program.
  - Find research and funding opportunities in the OIRS database.
  - Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program. SURF, or do a Public Health honors thesis as your capstone.
  - Ask professors about opportunities in Public Health.

- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Experience life at another UC or college on a gap year program.
  - Study and intern in Washington D.C. with the Berkeley Study Abroad program.
  - Consider being a UHS Health Worker or Berkeley Free Clinic volunteer.
  - Plan your study abroad with academic resources and programs in Public & Global Health.

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

The Public Health major is primarily intended to prepare students for graduate study in a variety of fields. Students who work after obtaining their degree are employed by government, private and nonprofit organizations.

### Jobs and Employers
- **Asst. Clinical Research Coordinator, UCSC**
- **Ass't Language Teacher, JET**
- **Community Worker, Alameda Health Consultant, Kaiser Permanente**
- **Data Scientist, Euclid Analytics**
- **Disaster Preparedness Mgr., AmeriCorps**
- **Emergency Planning Aide, City of SF**
- **Family Advocate, YMCA**
- **Fellow, Congress: Hispanic Caucus Health Educator, Marin City**
- **HIV Counselor, AIDS Healthcare Member Advocate, Collective Health Policy Analyst, The City Project Program Coordinator, Civ: for Care**
- **Public Health Advisor, CDC, Research Asst., MD Anderson Cancer Research Analyst, UCSC**
- **Strategy Consultant, Accenture**
- **Volunteer, Peace Corps**

### Graduate Programs
- **Biological Sciences, Masters**
- **Biostatistics, PhD**
- **Education, Masters**
- **Epidemiology, Masters**
- **Biological Sciences, Masters**
- **Graduate Programs**
- **Medicine, MD**
- **Nursing, Masters**
- **Optometry, OD**
- **Pharmacy, PharmD**
- **Public Health, Masters, MPH**

Examples gathered from the Career Destinations Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.