



# Master of Public Health

M.P.H.



**B**enedictine University's Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) program is built on a base of core courses that teach the foundations of public health concepts and processes. Each course has a conceptual, factual and skill base. Students are taught by acknowledged experts in the field. Students learn the disciplines by acquiring the knowledge and competencies to perform professional functions.

The M.P.H. program prepares students to be public health practitioners who draw on knowledge and skills from a variety of disciplines. The foundation (core) coursework in biostatistics, epidemiology, management, policy, behavioral and social aspects of public health, environmental health and biology provides a scientific and practical base for public health practice. Elective courses may be taken in a variety of areas such as health education, finance, law and information technology.

The M.P.H. degree can be applied in a variety of settings and positions, including: administration of private health organizations, social service or public health agencies at

the local, state, national and international levels; managers, planners, evaluators or practitioners in community or workplace health promotion programs; and epidemiologists working on cancer surveillance or in the pharmaceutical industry. Current and future health professionals in medicine, nursing, dentistry or pharmacy find the M.P.H. degree provides them with a broader perspective and additional skills to complement their primary discipline.

The M.P.H. degree requires 66 quarter hours which includes 48 quarter credit hours of foundation (core) courses, 12 quarter credit hours of elective courses, and an internship/capstone experience of six quarter credit hours (240 contact hours).

The academic calendar is organized into four 10-week quarters. Students may be admitted any time prior to the start of any of these quarters. It is possible to follow either a full- or part-time program. Classes are taught during evenings, weekends and online.

# M.P.H.

Benedictine University's Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) program is the second largest in Illinois. It combines the foundation disciplines of public health with a high degree of responsiveness to local needs and changing circumstances. Throughout its offerings, the M.P.H. program seeks to produce graduates who will contribute to meeting the public health and health care needs of tomorrow. To that end, we support the qualifications of our students academically, professionally and personally.

## ▲ Program Overview

### ▼ Certificates

Certificates are offered to those who are interested in acquiring a specialized set of skills and may or may not choose to continue in a degree program.

Certificates, which are offered in Disaster Management, Health Management and Policy, and Health Education and Promotion, appeal to mid-career professionals and to students new to the field of public health.

*"My M.P.H. degree continues to provide benefits in more ways than I can imagine. Thanks to the great mentorship provided by the Benedictine faculty, I am better able to stay abreast of health care system reform efforts and be involved in those efforts. I serve as a student delegate to the American Association of Public Health Physicians, and was one of the few students selected to attend President Obama's address to the American Medical Association in Chicago. These issues are second nature to me because we discussed them often in my classes at Benedictine."*

- Ibrahim Shamsi  
Medical school student  
M.P.H. program graduate

## Dual Degree Options

Combining an M.P.H. degree with a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Master of Science (M.S.) in Management Information Systems, M.S. in Management and Organizational Behavior or an M.S. in Nutrition and Wellness prepares students to take leadership roles and pursue a myriad of career opportunities.

- The M.P.H./M.B.A. dual degree adds to the M.P.H. program the comprehensive business core of the M.B.A. program.
- The M.P.H./M.S. in Management Information Systems combines the generalist M.P.H. curriculum and the M.S. in Management Information Systems for professionals who will be responsible for managing information resources and providing decision support in health organizations.
- The M.P.H./M.S. in Management and Organizational Behavior dual degree program enhances the M.P.H. curriculum with coursework focusing on organizational management and human resource skills.
- The M.P.H./M.S. in Nutrition and Wellness dual degree integrates an applied foundation in nutrition and health risk assessment, motivation and intervention with community health processes.

Dual degree programs generally require 96 quarter credit hours, separate application and admission to each degree program and the completion of all requirements for both degrees.

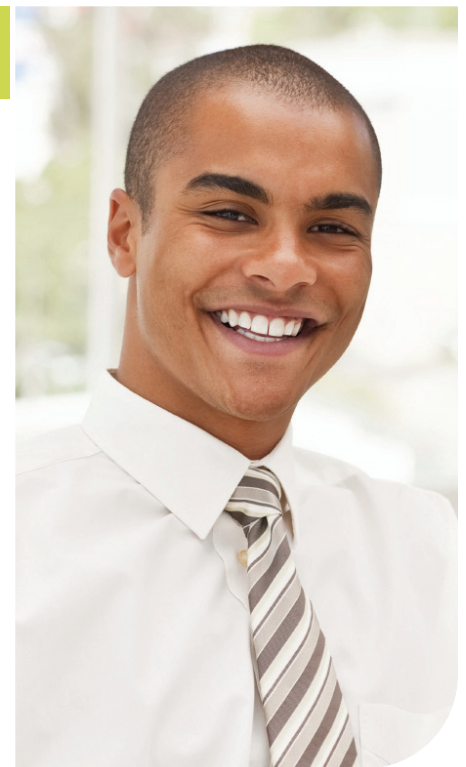
## ▲ Dual Degrees

### ▼ Curriculum

#### Public Health Competencies

*The required core courses in the M.P.H. program are designed to provide students with a broad range of competencies. The M.P.H. degree is designed to enable students to:*

- Apply statistical reasoning and methods in addressing, analyzing and solving problems in public health, health care, and biomedical, clinical and population-based research.
- Specify approaches for assessing, preventing and controlling environmental hazards that pose risks to human health and safety.
- Apply the study of patterns of disease and injury in human populations to the control of health problems.
- Apply the principles of program planning, development, budgeting, management and evaluation in organizational and community initiatives.
- Apply principles of strategic planning and marketing to public health.
- Apply quality and performance improvement concepts to address organizational performance issues.
- Apply evidence-based approaches in the development and evaluation of social and behavioral science interventions.
- Use informatics and communication methods to advocate for community public health programs and policies.
- Develop public health programs and strategies responsive to the diverse cultural values and traditions of the communities being served.
- Create and communicate a shared vision for a changing future, champion solutions to organizational and community challenges, and energize commitment to goals.
- Plan for the design, development, implementation and evaluation of strategies to improve individual and community health.
- Incorporate the biological and molecular context of public health into practice.
- Recognize system level properties that result from dynamic interactions among human and social systems and how they affect relationships among individuals, groups, organizations, communities and environments.
- Apply the core functions of assessment, policy development and assurance in the analysis of public health problems and their solutions.





## ▼ Faculty

### Full-Time Faculty

**Alan Gorr, Ph.D.**

*Dean, College of Education and Health Services;  
Professor, Public Health*  
Ph.D., University of Iowa  
M.P.H., University of Illinois at Chicago  
M.A., University of Toronto  
B.A., University of Iowa

**Georgeen Polyak, Ph.D.**

*Department Chair and Assistant Professor,  
Public Health (2007)*  
Ph.D., University of Illinois  
M.S., University of St. Francis  
M.S., Northern Illinois University;  
B.A., Lewis University

**Susan Bailey, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor, Public Health (2009)*  
Ph.D., M.A., University of North Carolina  
B.A., University of Vermont

Date in parenthesis indicates the year person joined  
Benedictine University faculty.

### Adjunct Faculty

Barbara Bellar, M.D., J.D.  
Elizabeth Bormann, M.P.H.  
Julia Dyer, M.D., M.P.H.  
Michael Fagel, Ph.D.  
Shannon Homolka, M.B.A.  
Bette Lawrence-Water, M.S.  
Suzet McKinney, M.P.H.  
Shefali Mookencherry, M.P.H.  
Sharon Miller, M.P.A., A.R.R.T., N.M.T.  
Judith Munson, J.D.  
Alisa Ostebo, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.  
Lisa Rinehart, J.D., B.S.N.  
Joseph Roche, M.Ed.  
Steven Seweryn, M.P.H.  
David Szablewski, M.P.H.  
Jewell Thompson, M.A.



**Benedictine University** is located in Lisle, Illinois, just 25 miles west of Chicago. Founded in 1887 by the Benedictine Monks of St. Procopius Abbey, the University offers 50 traditional undergraduate majors, seven adult accelerated undergraduate majors, 13 graduate programs, 33 graduate certificate programs and four doctorate programs. Benedictine has consistently been named one of the top schools in the Midwest Region and ranked sixth in Illinois for Racial Diversity by U.S. News & World Report® for 2011. For more information, call the Enrollment Center at (630) 829-6300, email [admissions@ben.edu](mailto:admissions@ben.edu) or visit [www.ben.edu](http://www.ben.edu).

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