

Health Administration and Policy

The Health Administration and Policy Program (HAPP) is designed for career-oriented students who recognize that health and health care in America are major public concerns and who plan to seek employment in one of a variety of administrative, supportive, planning and policy positions. Students may choose an undergraduate emphasis in health services administration or public and community health.

Students in the health administration and policy program can expect to achieve the following objectives: a comprehensive understanding of health care issues and the health care system that will underpin various educational and career goals; training in basic administrative, managerial and methodological skills; preparation for entry-level employment in the community's health and health care organizations and in support systems in the private and public sectors; and preparation for a graduate program leading to an advanced degree in health services administration or a related field.

Health administration and policy majors study with instructors who are working in the health care field or who have had many years of applied experience before joining the academic arena. Each instructor brings this practical understanding of the industry into the classroom.

Career and Academic Paths

Upon completion of the Health Administration and Policy Program, students will be prepared for careers in managed-care settings; long-term care; hospitals; federal, state and community health agencies; and other health-related organizations. After graduation, health science and policy majors have found employment with such organizations as the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Blue-Cross/BlueShield, the University of Maryland Medical Center and Prudential Health Plan. Students also have gone on to graduate study at The Johns Hopkins University, George Washington University, Harvard and University of North Carolina.

Academic Advising

Completion of the Health Administration and Policy Program requires careful coordination of track selection with internship placement. Additionally, a student's post-baccalaureate plans for either graduate education or immediate employment are important influences on his or her overall academic program and course selections. With these considerations in mind, early and continuous contact should be established with a program advisor. Students should call the department office to arrange an appointment.

Major Program

Students majoring in health administration and policy must take a concentration in either health services administration (Track I) or public and community health (Track II). Course work on campus is supplemented with an internship placement in a cooperating agency or organization in the community. All students registering for the internship must participate in a professional liability insurance plan for which they will be billed separately. To the extent possible, the placement will be related to the student's track concentration and career interests, thereby providing an effective combination of academic and practical training.

The credit and course requirements for a HAPP program major in Track I or Track II are as follows:

Core

HAPP 100
Survey of the U.S.
Health Care System

HAPP 200
Human Development
Implications for Health
and Disease

HAPP 495*
Health Administration
and Policy Internship

HAPP 496
Internship Seminar

ECON 121
Principles of Accounting I

STAT 121
Introduction to Statistics
for the Social Sciences

OR
STAT 351
Applied Statistics for
Business and Economics

OR
SOCY 301
Analysis of
Sociological Data

ENGL 393
Technical Writing

OR
ENGL 391
Intermediate Exposition

CHEM 100
The Chemical World

IS 201
Introduction to
Computer-Based Systems

IS 295
Introduction to
Applications Programming

Select two courses from the following:

(Track I students select HAPP 452 and one other)

HAPP 358
Bioethics (Also PHIL 358)

HAPP 390
American Health Care
System and the Black
Community (Also AFST 390)

HAPP 403
Introduction to International
Field Research
(Also SOCY 403)

HAPP 405
Contemporary Issues
in Long-Term Care

HAPP 411
Health Planning
and Regulation

HAPP 452
Health Organization
and Delivery
(Also SOCY 452)

SOCY 351
Medical Sociology

GEOG 329
Geography of
Disease and Health

POLI 452
Politics of Health

*The Health Administration and Policy Program allows majors who also are completing a certificate in public administration or who are double-majoring in social work to substitute POLI 458: Administrative Internship or SOWK 382: Advanced Field Placement for HAPP 495: Health Administration and Policy Internship if the placement is done in a health

agency. However, the student must take HAPP 496: Internship Seminar concurrently with POLI 458 or SOWK 382.

Track I

Health Services Administration

HAPP 497
Health Planning
and Administration

HAPP 498
Financial Management and
Decision Support for Health
Services Organizations
(also EHS 498)

EHS 200
Concepts of Emergency
Health Services

HAPP 401
Occupational Health
Policy and Practice

OR
HAPP 402
Environmental Health
Policy and Practice

ECAD 210
Practice of Management

ECON 122
Principles of Accounting II

ECON 101
Principles of Economics I

ECON 467
Health Economics

Track II

Public and Community Health

HAPP 401
Occupational Health
Policy and Practice

HAPP 402
Environmental Health
Policy and Practice

SOCY 354
Sociology of Public
and Community Health

SOCY 420
Social Epidemiology

SOCY 300
Methodology of
Social Research

POLI 250
Introduction to
Public Administration

HAPP 411
Health Planning
and Regulation

POLI 353
Governmental Budgeting
and Financial Administration

A grade of "C" or better is required for major credit for all courses in the program.

Health Administration and Policy/Social Work Double Major

A course of study leading to a double major with social work has been designed specially for students interested in pursuing careers that combine both areas of study. Students interested in pursuing such a program should discuss the specifics with both a HAPP program advisor and a social work advisor.

Evening and Part-time Options

Although many courses are available in the evening, some program courses only are offered during the day. To complete the major, students must have the flexibility to include these courses in their academic schedules.

Special Opportunities

Graduates of UMBC's Health Administration and Policy Program remain actively involved with the program, providing current students with internship placements and job opportunities in managed care, hospitals, nursing care centers, government and voluntary health organizations.

The program offers those with an interest in having an international experience an introductory course in international field research that is linked to a week-long travel experience in Switzerland.

Student Organizations

The Health Administration and Policy Council of Majors supports and initiates programs of interest to majors.