

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, health policy or public 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 a health 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 long-term care; hospitals; federal, state and community health agencies and other health-related organizations. After graduation, health administration and policy majors have found employment with such organizations as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Blue-Cross/BlueShield, the University of Maryland Medical Center, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Maxim Healthcare and Mercy Hospital. Students also have gone on to graduate study at The Johns Hopkins University, George Washington University, Harvard, University of North Carolina, Virginia Commonwealth University and Yale.

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.

Major Program

Students majoring in health administration and policy must take a concentration in either health services administration (track I), health policy (track II) or public health (track III). 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.

A grade of "C" or better is required in all courses applied to the major. The credit and course requirements for a HAPP program major in track I, track II and track III are as follows:

Core (taken by all tracks)

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

*HAPP 200
Human Development Implications for Health and Disease

HAPP 452
Health Care Organization and Delivery

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 350
Statistics with Applications in the Biological 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

**IS 101
Introduction to Computer Based Systems

IS 295
Introduction to Applications Programming

* Track III students instead must take a natural science course selected from the approved list available from the program upon request.

**Students who have completed previous course work in computer science or computing should talk with a HAPP advisor before registering for the information systems (IS) courses.

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)

ECAD 210
Practice of Management

ECON 122
Principles of Accounting II

ECON 101
Principles of Economics I

ECON 467
Health Economics

Track I students also must complete three (3) courses selected from a list of approved electives available upon request from the program.

Track II: Health Policy

HAPP 411
Health Quality and Regulation

108 HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY

HAPP 412
Research Methods in
Health

POLI 250
Introduction to Public
Administration

POLI 353 Governmental
Budgeting and Financial
Administration

SOCY 420
Social Epidemiology

Track II students also must complete four (4) courses selected from a list of approved electives available upon request from the program.

Track III: Public Health

HAPP 354
Social Basis of Public and
Community Health

HAPP 380
Global Issues in Health
and Disease

HAPP 411
Health Quality and
Regulation

HAPP 412
Research Methods in
Health

SOCY 420
Social Epidemiology

Track III students also must complete four (4) courses of approved electives. Two (2) of the electives may come from the approved list of natural sciences choosing additional courses not used as a required science course in the core. Approved lists of electives are available upon request from the program.

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

The major can be effectively combined with the B.A./M.A. opportunities in the applied sociology and public policy programs at UMBC.

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.

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 hospitals, nursing care centers, government and voluntary health organizations.

Student Organizations

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