

Department of Health Promotion and Community Health

Chairperson:	Abdulrahim, Sawсан
Professors:	Afifi, Rima; Makhoul, Jihad
Associate Professors:	Abdulrahim, Sawсан; Kabakian-Khasholian, Tamar; Nakkash, Rima
Assistant Professor:	Bardus, Marco
Assistant Professor of Public Health Practice:	Sieverding, Maia
Senior Lecturer:	^P El Kak, Faysal
Instructor:	Kanj, Mayada
Instructors of Public Health Practice:	Kalot, Joumana; Najem, Martine

Departmental courses are designed to introduce students to the field of health promotion and community health. Health promotion is the process of enabling people to increase control over and improve their health through a wide range of social and health-related interventions. Community health is concerned with the improvement or maintenance of the health characteristics of communities. Emphasis is placed on the role of health promotion specialists to design, implement and evaluate health-promoting interventions with the participation of the communities and groups. Ethical issues in health promotion and community health are emphasized in all courses.

The following courses are offered by the department:

HPCH 310 Social and Behavioral Foundations of Public Health 2.2; 3 cr.

A course that focuses on the social and behavioral influences on health. Students learn how to challenge the assumptions used in defining, addressing and evaluating health issues. Students are introduced to a selection of social-science theories and the way in which they guide contemporary public health practice and policy. The course also covers the effects of globalization and global environmental issues on health. Throughout the course students use case studies, apply theory, learn analytical and critical thinking, and discuss ethical issues in public health.

HPCH 315 Basics of Health Communication 1.0; 1cr.

A course that provides basic knowledge in health communication. Students learn about the characteristics of effective health communication material. They also develop the needed skills to produce, test, and disseminate health communication messages to various audiences.

HPCH 331 Theory and Practice in Health Promotion 2.0; 2 cr.

This course focuses on theories utilized to understand health behavior and promote individual and community health. Students will critically examine perspectives from health promotion and other social science disciplines through theoretical readings and empirical case studies. They will also discuss the merits and challenges of using theory to mitigate poor health through intervening at multiple levels from the individual to the policy levels.
Prerequisite: HPCH 310 or consent of instructor.

^P Part time

HPCH 332 Community Health and Development 2.0; 2 cr.

A course in which students learn concepts and acquire skills that are necessary for successful community health promotion and development programs. Students look critically at current trends of community development practices using relevant literature on development and community organization. Students also investigate alternative approaches necessary to improve community development practices through applications in the field. *Prerequisite: HPCH 310 or consent of instructor.*

HPCH 333 Health Communication 2.0; 2 cr.

A course in which students gain skills to analyze critically a range of technologies, methods, and media for health communication for use with diverse groups. Students demonstrate proficiency in identifying an at-risk population and tailoring a culturally sensitive message to meet their specific needs, solicited through the population's participation in all stages of the health communication campaign. This course includes a "service learning" component through which students will engage with a predetermined organization to identify and address a public health problem. This opportunity will allow students to "share" and "receive" knowledge and expertise leading to enhanced learning among students and benefit to the chosen organization. *Prerequisite: HPCH 315 or consent of instructor.*

HPCH 334 Qualitative Health Research 2.0; 2 cr.

A course in which students advance their qualitative social research methodology and methods for public health research. Students revisit the underlying paradigms and use of qualitative methodology. Throughout this course students refine their interviewing skills, train on how to manage qualitative data, apply systematic data analysis, and produce a rigorous account of qualitative research findings through practical applications in Arabic and English. *Prerequisite: PBHL 310 or similar research design course or consent of instructor.*

HPCH 335 Evaluation of Health Programs 2.2; 3 cr.

In this course, students will learn how to evaluate a health program. Using a program being implemented in the community by a governmental, non-governmental or international organization, students go through the process of identifying objectives, and developing an evaluation plan for the program. Students will also learn to read the evaluation literature in a critical way, assess the robustness of program evaluations described in the literature, and present evaluation results effectively. *Prerequisite: HPCH 310 or consent of instructor.*

HPCH 336 Advocacy for Health 1.0; 1 cr.

In this course, students are exposed to the art and science of advocacy in public health. The course covers the basic elements of an effective evidence based advocacy process, including defining the issue, defining the audiences and crafting advocacy messages. Field trips expose students to the context of decision making and case studies from Lebanon provide tangible examples of advocacy processes. Students work in groups to develop an advocacy tool, such as a newspaper article, a letter of complaint, or a policy statement for an advocacy project addressing a public health issue of relevance to Lebanon or a country of the region. *Prerequisite: HPCH 310.*

HPCH 339 Tutorial in Health Promotion and Community health 1-3 cr.

A guided study in particular topics in health behavior and health education as defined by instructor and student.

HPCH 340 Seminar 1.0; 0 cr.

A seminar that serves as a forum for discussion among all faculty and students in the Department of Health Promotion and Community Health regarding current issues in the field. In this seminar students critique state-of-the-art education programs in Health Promotion and Community Health. Students also discuss their professional role in policy formation, as well as the importance of a code of ethics in professional practice. Finally, each student develops a personal plan for professional growth. *Prerequisite: HPCH 310.*

HPCH 341 Special Topics in Health Promotion and Community Health - Special Populations 1-3 cr.

A course in which students explore the personal, social, and community determinants that influence the health of special populations such as women, children, and adolescents, or an aging population. Issues of assessment as well as design, implementation, and evaluation of interventions at a variety of levels to promote the health of such special populations are discussed.

HPCH 342 Special Topics in Health Promotion and Community Health - Exploring the Context of Intervention 1-3 cr.

A course in which students explore social and political determinants affecting health and health behavior in Lebanon generally, and in rural and urban contexts, among others. Through group projects and investigations students learn how culture, laws, policies, economics, kinship, and communal ties interact and produce health inequalities in Lebanon today. By the end of this course students build up case studies analyzing social and political forces surrounding a contemporary health issue of their choice within a particular context.

HPCH 344 Workshop Development 1.0; 1 cr.

A course in which students gain skills in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of continuing education workshops for professionals working in health and development.

HPCH 345A Research Project 1 0.2; 1 cr.

The course involves the development of a complete research proposal that is relevant to the student's area of concentration or interest, as an individual or as part of a group. The research proposal may focus on one or more of the qualitative and quantitative methodologies introduced in Research Design, Principles of Epidemiology and Basic Biostatistics. In this course, students develop the research idea, complete the literature review, develop the proposal for the research they want to conduct, and submit a completed application for IRB approval to conduct the research. *Corequisites: PBHL 310, EPHD 300, and EPHD 310. Prerequisite: Completion of all, or all but one, of the concentration courses.*

HPCH 345B Research Project 2 0.2; 1 cr.

The course involves the implementation of the research that was developed in the Research Project 1 and analyzing and writing up its findings as an individual or as part of a group. It gives the student the chance to apply background knowledge and master research skills in an area of interest. *Prerequisites: Research Project 1 (HPCH 345A).*



HPCH 365

Practicum in Health Promotion and Community Health

0.30; 2 cr.

A practicum in which students gain field experience in the assessment, development, implementation, and/or evaluation of interventions for health promotion at the individual, interpersonal, organizational, community, or policy levels. Students integrate knowledge and theory learned in the classroom setting with the realities of public health practice. Sites for practicum can include community health centers, hospitals, local or international NGOs, governmental organizations, schools, or academic field projects. *Prerequisites: PBHL 355 and completion of all, or all but one, of the core and/or concentration courses.*