

## Department of Biological & Health Sciences Public Health Education Minor

The **Public Health Education Minor** in the Department of Biological and Health Sciences is an **introduction to public health and public health education**. It provides students with a population-based focus for improving health.

The minor **is relevant to many health professions** that may practice in a public health setting. These professions include, but are not limited to: health education specialists, physicians, physician assistants, pharmacists, nurses, epidemiologists, health communication specialists, health administrators, social workers, psychologists, sociologists, athletic trainers, exercise physiologists, dietitians, biostatisticians, environmental scientists, medical librarians, sanitarians, emergency management professionals, occupational health and safety professionals, and international health professionals.

Many courses within the **Public Health Education Minor** serve as a foundation for students seeking certification as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES®). The minor, however, does not fulfill all requirements for the certification exam. Please see information regarding certification eligibility on the following page.

**Total hours required for the Public Health Education Minor: 18 semester hours**

### **Required Courses: 9 semester hours**

HLSC140: Introduction to Public Health	3.0	Meets GE: Citizenship
HLSC204: Principles of Health Education and Promotion	3.0	
HLSC340: Epidemiology	3.0	Meets GE: Critical Reasoning

**Elective Courses: Select at least 9 semester hours from this list**  
**(The minor requires at least 6 credits at the 300/400 level. Select at least 3 additional credits from the 300/400 level from the list below.)**

HLSC211: Public Health, Social Justice, and Advocacy	3.0	Meets GE: Citizenship
HLSC212 Global Health Promotion	3.0	Meets GE: Global Perspectives
HLSC218: Public Health & the Environment	3.0	Meets GE: Citizenship
HLSC225: Comparative Healthcare	3.0	
HLSC307: Cultural Aspects of Health	3.0	Meets GE: Diversity
HLSC335: Community-level Health Ed Methods and Strategies	3.0	
HLSC336: Health Literacy and Patient Education	3.0	
HLSC430: Planning & Evaluating Health Promotion Programs	4.0	HLSC204 is a prerequisite for this course.
HLSC401: Current Health Issues	3.0	Meets GE: Critical Reasoning
HLSC465: Rural Health Issues	3.0	
NUTR300: Cultural Nutrition	3.0	Meets GE: Global Perspectives

NUTR320: Community Nutrition	3.0	
POLI266: Politics of Global Health	3.0	Meets GE: Global Perspectives
POLI330: Intro to Public Administration	3.0	
POLI431: Public Policy	3.0	
STAT446: Biostatistics	3.0	STAT141 is a prerequisite for this course.
SPMG234: Grant writing and Partnership Building	3.0	
COMM315: Health Communication	3.0	

### **Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES®) Certification Eligibility Information**

Individuals completing at least 25 semester hours of course work with specific preparation addressing the Areas of Responsibility for Health Education Specialists are eligible to sit for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES®) exam.

Health education specialists (also known as health educators) are professionals who design, conduct, and evaluate activities that help improve the health of all people. These activities can take place in a variety of settings that include health departments and other governmental agencies, voluntary health organizations, hospitals and other health care facilities, businesses, schools, and universities.

Health education specialists are employed under a range of job titles such as patient educators, health education teachers, health coaches, community organizers, public health educators, and health program managers. Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES®) are those who have met the standards of competence established by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing Inc. (NCHEC) and have successfully passed the CHES examination. The CHES® designation after a health educator's name is one indication of professional competency and commitment to continued professional development.

Source: National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. <http://www.nchecc.org>  
For a complete listing of the Areas of Responsibility and Competencies visit The National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. @ <http://www.nchecc.org>

**For those planning to take the CHES examination:** We recommend the following courses be included in the 25 semester hours required to sit for the CHES® exam:

- HLSC140 Introduction to Public Health
- HLSC204 Principles of Health Education and Promotion
- HLSC211 Public Health, Social Justice, and Advocacy
- HLSC335 Community-level Health Education Methods and Strategies
- HLSC340 Epidemiology
- HLSC307 Cultural Aspects of Health
- HLSC430 Planning & Evaluating Health Promotion Programs
- SPMG234 Grant Writing and Partnership Building