

Health Education PhD Curriculum

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Leveling Courses:

HLTH 630 Program planning

HLTH 632 Program evaluation

HLTH 639 Behavioral foundations of health education

HLTH 605 Research methods

EPSY 640 Intro stats (or equivalent)

NOTE: Courses must be taken in addition to the minimum 67 credit hours in Health Education PhD curriculum; maintain a 3.0 minimum GPA on all leveling courses

Theoretical Core (9 hours)

- HLTH 649 Advanced theory
- HLTH 690 - Systems theory section/course
- Theory course from outside discipline

Research Core (18 hours)

Foundation Research Methods (12 hours)

- Quantitative methods course
- Quantitative analysis course
- Qualitative analysis/methods course
- Complex systems methods course
- Complex systems analysis course
- Systematic review course (ERHD 628 course)

Advanced Research Methods (6 hours)

Cognate Area (19 hours)

Content

- Lifespan
- Chronic disease

Methods

- Systems methods & analysis
- Community & organizational level change & analysis

History

- Theoretical developments

Professional Development (6 hours)

HLTH 659 Writing for health educators*

HLTH 669 Professional skills

HLTH 684 Teaching internship

Grant writing

DISSERTATION (15 hours)

**Required*

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Advisor Guidance and Curriculum Notes

Leveling Courses

Purpose: Leveling courses are meant to ensure that all HLTH PhD students begin with basic health educator skills.

- Advisors are responsible for checking to see if a student has taken these courses, prior to entering the PhD program. If student has not taken all of the courses, advisors will make sure the students take whatever courses are needed at the beginning of the program.
- Hours for leveling courses do not count towards the minimum 67 hours required for the PhD degree.
- Students must receive a *minimum of a 3.0 average* on leveling courses.

Health Education Theoretical Core

Purpose: This core is meant to ensure that HLTH PhD students are knowledgeable about health theory, systems thinking, and other theory that may influence their content area (from an outside discipline).

- There are two HLTH courses required in this core—Advanced Theory and Systems Thinking.
- One outside theory course is required, which is up to the advisor's discretion.

Research Core

Purpose: The research core is meant to ensure that HLTH PhD students have a foundational grasp on methods and analysis from multiple paradigms, as well as specialized knowledge related to a methodology of choice.

- Students must take a total of 18 hours of methods and/or analysis courses.
- 12 hours of methods/analysis courses should provide students a basic knowledge in multiple approaches (quantitative, qualitative, or systems). A list of foundational courses is provided.
- 6 additional hours should be advanced methods in one approach, according to the students' interest.

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Content Areas

Purpose: The content area is determined by the student and advisor. The 19 hours of courses should build on one another towards a common topic (i.e. chronic disease, policy etc.).

- The degree plan has three main areas of interest, as defined by the Health Division Faculty. Additional areas can be agreed upon with a student and their advisor as needed.
- A excel file is available to help an advisor direct a student in content courses. This file has a list of all the course offerings that are related to each of the three listed areas. It is an iterative document and should be updated as new courses are introduced.

Dissertation/Professional Development

Purpose: The final step in the HLTH PhD degree plan is dissertating and professional development. These hours are meant to prepare the student to finish their degree and enter the professional environment.

- While students are conducting dissertation research, they can take 6 hours of professional development courses.
- A list of courses options are provided. It is up to the advisor and student to determine which courses are appropriate. Furthermore, if the advisor deems necessary, they can direct a student to take one or more of the courses before they begin the dissertation phase of their program.