

Annual Report on Program Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Program: School of Public Health – MPH, MS, DrPH, and PhD programs

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1. List the learning outcomes for the program (if you are new to program assessment, you might want to begin with 3-5 primary outcomes):

The School of Public Health has clearly defined competencies for each of its degree programs and concentrations:

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

Epidemiology

In addition to meeting the MS in Epidemiology competencies, upon completing the requirements for the PhD in Epidemiology graduates are able to:

- Formulate research hypotheses that can be evaluated through empirical epidemiologic investigation;
- Critically evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of epidemiologic study designs applied to particular etiologic associations;
- Analyze and interpret epidemiologic studies using appropriate methods;
- Explain the theoretical underpinnings of epidemiology, including new and traditional study designs;
- Demonstrate understanding of sources of bias and approaches to evaluating and controlling bias;
- Demonstrate proficiency in data collection, data analysis, and written summaries of statistical analyses;
- Demonstrate expertise in at least one substantive area of epidemiology and apply that expertise to preparation of the dissertation proposal; and,
- Perform all the steps of conducting a hypothesis-driven epidemiologic study, from developing hypotheses, to designing, analyzing, and interpreting results, to writing up findings in the form of a publication-quality manuscript; as demonstrated by the PhD dissertation, which requires three manuscripts judged to be suitable for publication.