

MPH Context Certificate Roadmap:

Maternal and Child Health (MCH)

For students matriculating in
Fall 2025/Spring 2026

Students must follow certificate requirements relative to the year/semester that they matriculated.

Integrated Core, Foundations, & Career Prep (16 units)

Online course to be taken before classes begin:

- PH700 Foundations of Public Health (0)

Develop a strong foundation in public health through the core courses:

- PH717 Quantitative Methods for Public Health (4)
- PH718 Leadership and Management in Public Health (4)
- PH719 Health Systems, Law, and Policy (4)
- PH720 Individual, Community, and Population Health (4)

Prepare for the Practicum and a career:

- PH746 Career PREP (0)

Additional Courses (20 units)

Students are required to complete one functional certificate (16 units unless otherwise indicated)

- Community Assessment, Program Design, Implementation, & Evaluation
- Health Communication and Promotion
- Environmental Health
- Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Global Health Program Design, Monitoring, & Evaluation
- Health Policy and Law
- Healthcare Management (28)
- Program Management

and general electives (typically 4 units) to reach the 48-unit minimum for degree completion.

A maximum of 4 units may fulfill requirements in any two certificates. These units do NOT count twice toward the overall 48 units needed to graduate.

MCH Certificate Course Requirements (12 units)

Choose one required course:

MC725 Women, Children, and Adolescents: A Public Health Approach (4)

GH881 Global Reproductive and Perinatal Health (4)

Note: Whichever option is not chosen can count as an MCH elective

Choose 8 units of MCH electives:

These courses have been organized into three thematic areas to help you identify courses that will be most useful to your academic and professional goals. Some students may find it useful to choose several courses from the same thematic area in order to build specific expertise, but all students may choose any course in any thematic area.

Reproductive, Perinatal & Women's Health

EP759 Reproductive Epidemiology (4)

GH766 Sexual and Reproductive Health in Disaster Settings (4)

GH881 Global Reproductive and Perinatal Health (4)

MC725 Women, Children, and Adolescents: A Public Health Approach (4)

MC759 Perinatal and Child Health Epidemiology (4)

MC763 MCH Policymaking (2)

MC783 Substance Use Among Minoritized and Marginalized Populations (4)

MC785 Sexual and Reproductive Health Advocacy: From Rights to Justice (2)

MC840 Gender, Intersectionality and Health Policy (4)

SB753 Preventing Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence: A Public Health Perspective (4)

Child & Adolescent Health & Development

GH887 Managing Maternal and Child Health Programs in Developing Countries (4)

MC705 Sexual Health: From Science to Policy (4)

MC725 Women, Children, and Adolescents: A Public Health Approach (4)

MC750 Disability Justice Through the Life Course: Programs, Policies, and Turning Advocacy to Action (4)

MC795 The Health of Adolescents and Emerging Adults (4)

MC800 Preventing Mental Health Concerns: A Life Course Perspective (2)

Cross-Cutting Courses (Focus on Families & Communities or MCH Leadership More Broadly)

GH887 Managing Maternal and Child Health Programs in Developing Countries (4)

MC750 Disability Justice Through the Life Course: Programs, Policies, and Turning Advocacy to Action (4)

MC775 Social Justice and the Health of Populations: Racism and Other Systems of Oppression in the United States (4)

MC786 Immigrant and Refugee Health (4)

MC802 Implementing Community Health Initiatives: A Field-Based Course in Leadership and Consultation (4)

MC820 Managing Public Health Programs and Projects (4)

Students must complete a minimum of 48 units to earn an MPH degree.

Dual degree requirements differ from the roadmap. All Official requirements are in the Bulletin.

MPH Practicum PH976 (240 hours; 0 units)

Gain experience as a public health professional through a Practicum.

- Students can begin a Practicum after having completed at least 16 SPH units.
- More information can be found at <https://www.bu.edu/sph/careers/for-students/practmenu/>
- Questions? Contact sphpract@bu.edu

Integrated Learning Experience PH845 (0 units)

Completed in final semester

- The ILE is tied to the functional certificate.
- Students must be enrolled in, or have completed, the Practicum to be eligible for the ILE.
- The Registrar will enroll a student in PH845 after their graduation application is reviewed.
- One ILE is required per student.

Course Substitutions

Additional MCH elective option permissible via the completion of a Course Substitution Form:

TBD Advanced Methods for Reproductive, Perinatal, and Pediatric Epidemiology (4)

Special Topics courses may count toward the MCH Certificate at the discretion of the Certificate Director. Students will need to fill out a Course Substitution Form.

Certificate Contacts

Certificate Directors:

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