



Global Health Concentration Competencies for the Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree

July 26, 2018

Target Audience

Master of Public Health (MPH) students concentrating in global health upon graduation from a Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited school or program of public health.

Tenets

The concentration competencies below are built upon the following tenets, to:

- Inform curricular planning for CEPH-accredited schools and programs by offering examples to fulfill CEPH's requirements for “at least five distinct competencies for each concentration”
- Serve as a roadmap to improve education for global health
- Prepare students, upon MPH degree completion with a specialization in global health, for a trajectory to assume roles across local, national, regional, and transnational settings

Preamble

ASPPH, through its Global Health Committee, is committed to advancing research, education, and practice in global health. After developing and releasing the [first master’s-level global health competencies in 2011](#), the committee began an evidence-based process in 2016 to review and update these competency recommendations in line with changes both in academe and the practice arena.

Entitled the “ASPPH Global Health Competency Assessment and Development” project, the effort was led by a Global Health Competency Advisory Group, staffed by ASPPH, and supported by a consultant (known collectively as the “project team”).* The enterprise was launched by assessing ASPPH members’ and Consortium of Universities for Global Health members’ use of the ASPPH global health competencies, among other related areas. The survey yielded a 76% response rate from ASPPH members (report [here](#)) and was followed-up by telephone interviews with a sample of non-respondents (report [here](#)) to further inform the project. The final response rate from the combined outreach yielded an 88% overall response rate. This research and consensus process resulted in six global health concentration competencies for consideration by all CEPH-accredited institutions that offer or are seeking to offer a new or updated global health concentration. It is important to note that these competencies are built upon the foundation of both CEPH requirements for foundational knowledge (D1) and foundational competencies (D2) for the MPH degree.

Global Health Concentration Competencies for the MPH Degree

1. **Analyze** the roles, relationships, and resources of the entities influencing global health
2. **Apply** ethical approaches in global health research and practice
3. **Apply** monitoring and evaluation techniques to global health programs, policies, and outcomes
4. **Propose** sustainable and evidence-based multi-sectoral interventions, considering the social determinants of health specific to the local area
5. **Design** sustainable workforce development strategies for resource-limited settings
6. **Display** critical self-reflection, cultural humility, and ongoing learning in global health

Additional sub-competencies, as drawn from the literature, as well as the original 2011 ASPPH master's-level global health competencies themselves ([here](#)), may serve as useful material for additional concentration competencies or sub-competencies, depending on the institution's approach. This additional material is presented below each of the six competencies in a reference companion document (see [Appendix A](#)).

The project team carefully reviewed CEPH's accreditation requirements of 12 foundational knowledge objectives and 22 foundational competencies for the MPH degree in developing these concentration recommendations (see [Appendix B](#)). Further, a deep review of the literature, reports, and competency recommendations across the field assisted in substantiating these concentration competencies.

The project team sought comments from the global health community on a draft of this document in March and April 2018, receiving 155 unique comments. The project team then refined and finalized their recommendations in May and June 2018 before receiving ASPPH Board of Directors' approval for the competencies in July 2018. This report is posted at <https://www.aspph.org/teach-research/models/masters-global-health/>. A toolkit to assist faculty in using the competencies along with a webinar are forthcoming by Fall 2018. Stay tuned to the ASPPH website for details.

Assumptions Linking this Academic Product to Practice

- Public health focuses on the health of populations, and global health is public health for the world
- The health and well-being of individuals across the globe affect the health, safety, and economic security of all nations
- Global health is a universal public good that crosses disciplines, sectors, borders, and settings
- Advancing global population health requires maximizing community and societal assets and resources
- Mutual capacity building that enables innovation and resilience begins with authentic and respectful communication among all participants in global health partnerships
- Career pathways for graduates to gain experience in global health include experiential education and practice in local, national, regional, and/or transnational settings

IMPORTANT NOTE: These global health concentration competencies for the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree recommendations represent the results of a broad national and global consensus and are offered by ASPPH for *voluntary* consideration, use, adaptation, or adoption by all CEPH-accredited institutions and those seeking accreditation.

*ASPPH Global Health Competency Advisory Group

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