Did you know careers in public health are projected to grow 16% nationally, adding 50,000 jobs by 2024? (EMSI).

In western Pennsylvania alone, public health jobs are projected to grow 14% compared to the regional average of 5.4% for all other jobs. The MPH program will focus on health promotion and wellness and environmental and occupational health to address workforce needs. The program will be a practitioner-based approach and will require a capstone experience to allow students to further develop relevant experience in an applied setting. The knowledge and skills learned will enable graduates to address public health problems at the community, institutional, and societal levels.

In addition, students will develop interdisciplinary competencies: communication and informatics, diversity and culture, leadership, professionalism, program planning, systems thinking, and public health biology. Graduates will be well-prepared to take the Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) examination, or the National Board of Public Health Examiner’s Certified Public Health (CPH) examination.

SRU’s Master of Public Health Program Goals:
1. Prepare graduates to become leaders in applying public health evaluation and behavior change strategies to improve population health and wellness
2. Employ evidence-based practical experiences and interdisciplinary approaches in public health
3. Provide quality education, research, service, and leadership to improve public health and eliminate health disparities
4. Cultivate and identify strategies for marketing innovative, interdisciplinary health promotion programs

SRU’s Master of Public Health offers:
- 100% online courses
- A 42-credit program that can be completed in 21-months
- Practitioner-based focus on health promotion and wellness and environmental and occupational health
- Skills and knowledge to take the MCHES and CPH examinations

Program Options
The MPH program will offer two academic tracks, enabling you to choose the track that best aligns with your career goals.

Upon graduation, a student within the health promotion and wellness track will be able to:
- Explain how wellness is multidimensional and holistic, encompassing lifestyle, mental well-being, spiritual well-being, and the environment.
- Identify effective strategies for communicating with clients in an individual or group to help enhance health and wellness.
- Use written formats and media technology to increase the likelihood of engaging priority populations in health promotion programs.
- Recognize barriers to culturally competent provider-consumer relationships and identify strategies to overcome barriers.
- Analyze ways that a person contributes to their environment and community, and identify how to build better living spaces and social networks that promote wellness.

Upon graduation, a student within the environmental and occupational health track will be able to:
- Describe the role of risk assessment paradigms in creating safe environments, including target populations exposed to hazardous agents.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the regulatory framework and policy at the local, state and federal levels for controlling exposure to or release of environmental contaminants.
- Articulate many of the sources of biological, chemical and physical agents found in environmental matrices of water, air, soil, and food.
- Communicate approaches to the prevention and control of the major diseases caused by environmental hazards.
- Adhere to ethical guidelines regarding environmental and occupational health.
MPH CURRICULUM (42 CREDITS)

Core Courses (30 credits)

Ten Required Core Courses
HLTH 631: Foundations of Public Health
MATH 628: Biostatistics for Public Health
HLTH 604: Social and Behavioral Aspects of Health and Wellness
HLTH 605: Health Services Administration
HLTH 606: Principles of Epidemiology
HLTH 607: Designing and Conducting Health Surveys
HLTH 608: Planning and Implementation of Public Health Strategies
HLTH 609: Practicum in Public Health
HLTH 610: Occupational and Environmental Health Science
HLTH 627: Public Health Culminating Experience (Thesis/Capstone Experience)

Courses for the Health Promotion/Wellness Concentration (12 credits)
HLTH 611: Infectious and Chronic Disease Control
HLTH 616: Health and Wellness Coaching
HLTH 617: Health Marketing and Communication
HLTH 618: Program Evaluation

OR

Courses for the Environmental and Occupational Health Concentration (12 Credits)
HLTH 623: Foundations of Environmental and Occupational Toxicology
HLTH 630: Environmental and Occupational Exposure Monitoring Analysis and Control
HLTH 625: Occupational and Environmental Health Management and Leadership
HLTH 626: Assessment and Communication of Occupational and Environmental Health Risk

Admissions Requirements
All applicants must submit the following materials along with the completed application form and non-refundable application fee:

1. A completed online application (all prerequisite courses must be completed with a C or better)
2. A current or final official transcript sent directly from the institution that the student is currently enrolled or that conferred the applicant’s undergraduate degree as well as official transcripts from any other undergraduate or graduate coursework completed.
3. A minimum of a 3.0 cumulative GPA in an undergraduate major
4. GRE not required
5. Previous completion of a statistics course and a social or natural science course
6. A written statement indicating career goals and personal philosophy related to interest in Public Health.
7. One letter of recommendation that addresses the applicant’s capacity for graduate level work and suitability for the intended program area.

International students should check with SRU’s Office for Global Engagement office to review all international documents and visa status. Please visit the Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate for more information.

Tuition & Assistantships
Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate.

Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office www.sru.edu/FinAid

*The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and it is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.